

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 17TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020

The Caddo Parish Commission met in a Regulars Session, on the above date, at 3:30 p.m., in the Government Chambers, 505 Travis Street, Shreveport, with Mr. Chavez, presiding, and the following members in attendance constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1).

The invocation was given by Mr. Taliaferro, and Mr. Cawthorne led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

- It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to expand the agenda and Resolution No. 71 of 2020, a resolution proclaiming September as "Sickle Cell Awareness Month" in Caddo Parish* be added under Resolutions.

At this time, the President of the Commission opened the floor to allow anyone to speak in favor or against adding the resolution to the agenda.

Jon Glover came before the Commission and wanted to know what month would be Sickle Cell Awareness Month. Mrs. Gage-Watts answered that it is September.

There being no one else to speak in favor or against the agenda addition, the President closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Jackson, and Johnson (3). ABSTAIN: None (0).

- It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mr. Lazarus, *to expand the agenda and include Clinical Pathology Laboratories, Inc. as an additional testing entity for the program funded by the Ordinance No. 5967 of 2020, current entities listed as LSU and Ochsner* be added under New Business.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that she will be abstaining from this motion due to her employment with Ochsner Health.

At this time, the President of the Commission opened the floor to allow anyone to speak in favor or against adding the resolution to the agenda. There being no one to speak in favor or against the agenda addition, the President closed the public hearing.

At this time, Mr. Cawthorne's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Jackson, and Johnson (3). ABSTAIN: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1).

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Will James came before the Commission and asked if the Commission could expedite the relocation of the Confederate Monument. He also announced that every Saturday from sundown to 11:30 p.m., there will be protests standing against the gun violence in the community as well as standing against symbols of racism. He encouraged all to attend. Mr. James also asked what are the elected officials doing to stop the violence.

**COMMISSION SITS AS THE TAX BOARD OF REVIEW
FOR THE YEAR 2020**

At this time, in keeping with State law, the Commission would designate itself as a Board of Review to hear protest, if any, of the 2020 tax assessments. During the next two weeks, the Board would hear any protests received. He then asked Mr. Charles Henington, Assessor for Caddo Parish, to come forward.

Mr. Henington presented the following letter:

Dear Members of the Board of Review:

As Assessor in and for the Parish of Caddo, this is to certify that the assessments on property located in and/or assessable in Caddo Parish have been listed and assessed in accordance with Title 47; Section 1992.

It is further certified that the said assessments have been exposed for public review for 15 calendar days beginning August 27, 2020 and ending September 10, 2020.

Said certification of the above is hereby given to the Board of Review as required by Title 47; Section 1992.

Thus done and officially signed on this 17th day of September, 2020.

*/s/Charles R. Henington, Jr., C.L.A.
Assessor Caddo Parish*

Mr. Henington said that there are currently two appeals, and the deadline for those appeals is Monday, September 28, 2020. He will provide more information as it becomes available.

ADOPT REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

It was **moved by Mr. Hopkins**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobo and adopt the following Regular Session and Special Session minutes:*

- *Regular Session Minutes July 9, 2020*
- *Special Session Minutes July 14, 2020*
- *Special Session Minutes July 21, 2020*
- *Special Session Minutes August 3, 2020*
- *Regular Session Minutes August 6, 2020*
- *Special Session Minutes August 6, 2020*
- *Special Session Minutes August 18, 2020*
- *Special Session Minutes August 20, 2020*
- *Regular Session Minutes August 20, 2020*
- *Special Session Minutes August 25, 2020*
- *Regular Session Minutes September 3, 2020*

At this time, Mr. Hopkins' motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *to englobo and adopt the following Special Resolutions:*

- *Special Proclamation proclaiming August 2, 2020 as Abduhl Temple #94 Charter Day*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition & Remembrance for Mr. Louis "Luigi" Avallone*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition on the retirement of Shreveport City Council Clerk Arthur Thompson*
- *Special Resolution of Recognition for El Cabo Verde on being named the Best Mexican Restaurant in Louisiana for 24/7 Tempo's "Best Mexican Restaurant in Every State" list*
- *Special Resolution of Remembrance for Pastor Odell Ross*

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATION ABDUHL TEMPLE CHARTER #94 DAY

WHEREAS, Abduhl Temple #94 is the local Prince Hall Shriners organization and is very

active within Caddo Parish and the Shreveport community to serve the citizens of this area.

WHEREAS, Abduhl Temple #94 was chartered in Shreveport, Louisiana on August 2, 1921; and

WHEREAS, their mission is to be the premier fraternal organization for men of good character. They are committed to providing attractive, quality programs and services for its members, their families, and friends in the spirit of fun, fellowship, and social camaraderie. The members also foster self-improvement through leadership, education, the perpetuation of moral values and community involvement, and they serve mankind through the resources of its great philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, Shriners are a brotherhood of men who are committed to family, engage in ongoing personal growth, and dedicated to providing care for children and families in need. It is an appendant body to freemasonry; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Ramon Washington, this Shrine Temple donates a minimum of \$500 a year to the National Diabetes Institution to improve awareness about diabetes, including its prevention, detection, and treatment can greatly improve the lives of all citizens while improving the lives of those affected by diabetes; and

WHEREAS, aside from donating financially, Abduhl Temple #94 hosts an Annual Diabetes Walk to promote awareness and raise funds for the fight against diabetes; and

WHEREAS, this Shrine Temple has also served the community in different ways, such as partnering with the Providence House, provide a yearly school supply drive for E 81st Early Childhood Care Center, conduct voter registration drives, and many more.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, it does hereby proclaim August 2, 2020 as:

'ABDUHL TEMPLE #94 CHARTER DAY'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

**RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION & REMEMBRANCE
LOUIS "LUIGI" AVALLONE**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with sadness and regret to reflect upon the passing of Mr. Louis "Luigi" Avallone who went to meet his heavenly Father after a lengthy illness on Tuesday, July 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Luigi was a native of Scalea, Italy, and immigrated to the United States in 1964 to pursue the American Dream; and

WHEREAS, after coming to America, Luigi went to Baton Rouge High School at night where he learned to speak English. He mailed audio tapes back to his family in Italy, narrating how he was making the most of the opportunities America was offering him. He made the most of those opportunities in the construction industry starting as a painter, quickly rising to estimator, then opening his own construction company; and

WHEREAS, through the Junior Chamber of Commerce, "The Jaycees," Luigi grew as a leader, became civically engaged and developed a strong belief that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life, and that service to humanity is the best work of life, itself. Avallone's leadership in the Jaycee's award him the honor of being named Jaycee of the Year and he carried that same leadership to other organizations like the Exchange Club & the Construction Specifications Institute; and

WHEREAS, Luigi is known by many current and past associates and friends, as a man with a warm, compassionate heart who is ready to serve. He has been a blessing to all he has come in contact with and has left his footprints all around; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Luigi is survived by his wife of 51 years, Mrs. Rosie Avallone; son, Thomas; son Louis R. and wife, Colleen; grandchildren, Anna and Nicholas; sister, Gemma, and brother Vincent. A devout Catholic and a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, throughout his life he was a devoted servant to God, his family and his country, never taking his freedoms and liberties for granted. Luigi Avallone was both the epitome and product of the American Dream, a formula of faith, hard work and a desire to succeed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its deepest sense of sorrow and loss upon the passing of Louis "Luigi" Avallone

conveying its sincerest expressions of sympathy and consolation, and the prayer that they will be comforted in the knowledge of the eternal rewards that will be his.

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
RETIRING SHREVEPORT CITY CLERK OF COUNCIL
ARTHUR G. THOMPSON**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission ruefully acknowledges that the passage of time brings forth regrettable inevitabilities, among those being the necessity of saying goodbye to cherished friends who have chosen to walk the paths and live the dreams of retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson, the beloved and respected City of Shreveport Clerk of Council, has now made that choice, ending a career of public service that has spanned 35 years; and

WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. Thompson has endeared himself to untold hundreds of citizens and colleagues by the many attributes of loyalty, dependability, leadership, and commitment; and

WHEREAS, his extensive knowledge of government and organizations, combined with his desire to assist, made him an invaluable counselor, advisor, mentor and friend to numerous elected and appointed officials and employees throughout the City of Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, now that his retirement is upon us, we pray the days are plentifully filled with spending time with his family and enjoying life in general; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, that it does hereby express its deep and sincere appreciation to Mr. Arthur G. Thompson for his invaluable contributions rendered on behalf of his service, calling upon all citizens to note this occasion with a sense of appreciation and gratitude.

**RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION
EL CABO VERDE**

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Caddo Parish Commission to give appropriate acknowledgment and recognition to individuals and institutions that have rendered invaluable service to the citizens of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, El Cabo Verde and its proprietor, Chef Gabriel Balderas have shared with the community their unbelievably delicious, unique style of carefully sourced Mexican food these past few years; and

WHEREAS, El Cabo Verde was deemed 2020's No. 1 Mexican Restaurant in the State of Louisiana by 24/7 Tempo for their article, "The Best Mexican Restaurant in Every State;" and

WHEREAS, El Cabo Verde has always strived to make sure the citizens of Caddo Parish are provided a premium product by making their inventive, Oaxacan influenced Mexican food using Chef Gabriel Balderas' skill to craft everything from flavorful vegan dishes to dishes featuring the finest cuts of locally sourced meats. El Cabo Verde's menu has been complimented for its variety & quality as well as its use of non-GMO, gluten free, seasonal, organic and locally sourced ingredients; and

WHEREAS, El Cabo Verde's passion for high quality food is enhanced by the Balderas family's dedication to their community. Gabriel and wife, Brooke, haven't rested on the success of El Cabo Verde, they've expanded their business to include their latest concept, Zuzul Coastal Cuisine. Whether participating in Society of the Golden Fork/Prizefest or supporting North Louisiana Slow Foods, raising money for Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights, or by taking the extra step to design menu items around locally available products, the Balderas family shows they care about their community and the Parish of Caddo is better off for it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal session convened this 17th day of September, 2020, that it does hereby convey its deepest and most sincere congratulations and recognition to EL CABO VERDE.

**RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION & REMEMBRANCE
PASTOR GILBERT ODELL EDWARDS ROSS**

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission pauses with sadness and regret to reflect upon the passing of Pastor Gilbert Odell Edwards Ross who went to meet his heavenly Father after a lengthy illness on Saturday, August 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Ross was a native of Texarkana, Arkansas, where he was born to the

late Morris and Ruby Ross on June 10, 1944; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Bethune High school, continued his studies at Southern University, Commercial Business College and ultimately United Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Ross' life was marked by a call to service, starting in the US Military where he served nearly 5 years in the Navy Special Forces; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Ross' call to service grew as he accepted the calling to the Ministry in 1970. His journey began as a Pastor at Cornerstone Baptist in Dixie, LA in 1972 where he pastored for 16 years before accepting the Pastorate at St. Mark Baptist Church in Hollis, LA in 1988, then at Corinth Baptist Church in Mansfield, LA in 1994; before becoming Pastor at Little Canaan Missionary in Belcher, a Church family that he has served for 23 years starting in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Family was another calling for Pastor Ross who was blessed by his 44-year marriage to Mrs. Ethel Frances Smith and their 8 children, 13 grandchildren and a host of God children; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby express its deepest sense of sorrow and loss upon the passing of Pastor Gilbert Odell Edwards Ross conveying its sincerest expressions of sympathy and consolation, and the prayer that those grieving Pastor Ross will be comforted by the indelible impact that he had on our community and in the knowledge of the eternal rewards that will be his.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Update on the Confederate Monument

Attorney Frazier said that they are drafting the RFPs and should have it finished within a week and a half. There is a minimum of 45 days for persons to submit their proposals and be graded per certain criteria prior to selecting the contractor to perform the work.

Mr. Jackson appreciates the comments made by Mr. James, but asked that they be patient during this process. He advised that this does take time and does not want to have to start the process over based on a technicality.

Mr. Johnson agreed and said that they are ensuring that all of the appeals have been extinguished as well. He also mentioned that this process has taken awhile, but it is being done carefully and correctly.

Mr. Jackson also explained that the monument belongs to the Daughters of the Confederacy, so that complicated the process. He said that the monument sits on Parish property, but belongs to the Daughters.

Dr. Wilson pointed out that the ZBA just approved the temporary wall around the monument.

Mr. Chavez agreed with Mr. Jackson and said that the process does take a little longer, but it does not mean that it is not being worked on. He also commended everyone involved in the relocation of the monument for their hard work and compromising attitudes.

- Update on storm damage caused by Hurricane Laura

Dr. Wilson said that the Veterans Service Center was declared completely destroyed. The estimated replacement cost is \$1.4M. They are in the process now to look at a different building to house that service. The Veterans Service Center is temporarily housed in the former Regional Lab Center.

- Charter Review Presentation
Tom Arceneaux, Chairperson

Mr. Arceneaux provided the Charter Review Committee's report to the Commission:

CADDO PARISH CHARTER STUDY REVIEW COMMISSION REPORT TO PARISH COMMISSION

This is the official report of the Caddo Parish Charter Study Review Commission ("**Committee**") serving pursuant to the provisions of Section 9-12 of the Caddo Parish Charter ("**Charter**").

Pursuant to the Charter, the President of the Caddo Parish Commission

("Commission"), Honorable Mario Chavez, the Parish Administrator, the Honorable Dr. Woody Wilson, and the Parish Attorney, the Honorable Donna Frazier, served on the Committee. In addition, pursuant to the Charter, the Commission appointed Tom Arceneaux, Rolland J. Coleman, RJ Johnson, Kenneth Krefft, Calvin Ben Lester, and Randall Liles to serve on the Committee. The Committee selected Tom Arceneaux to serve as Chairman, and the Commission Clerk, Honorable Jeff Everson, served as Secretary for the Committee.

The Committee met on July 7, July 23, August 3, August 11, and August 25, 2020, to consider suggested amendments to the Charter.

The Committee voted to recommend to the Commission the following amendments to the Charter:

Amendment No. 1 - Virtual Mooting Authority

Amend Section 3-07(A) of the Charter by adding the underlined language below:

- A. The commission shall meet regularly at least once in every month at such times and places as the commission may prescribe. Special meetings may be held on the call of the president of the commission or in the absence of the president, the vice-president, or a majority of the membership of the commission with such notice as may be required by state law. To meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or public safety, the commission may meet upon call of the parish administrator, the president of the commission or in the absence of the president, the vice-president, or a majority of the commissioners at whatever notice it shall be convenient to give. The call convening a special or emergency meeting of the commission shall state the objects of the meeting. The power of the commission to act at a special or emergency meeting shall be limited, under penalty of nullity, to the objects specifically enumerated in the call. In the event of a national declaration of disaster or emergency, a state declaration of disaster or emergency, or a local declaration of disaster or emergency, that includes all or any part of Caddo Parish, the Commission shall meet via teleconference, video conference, or any technical digital means, to the extent allowed by law, to conduct all Caddo Parish Commission business, until it is declared to be safe for all to return to in- person meetings by a majority of the commissioners.

Amendment No. 2 - Authority of the President of the Commission

Amend Section 3-07(H) of the Charter to add the language underlined below:

- H. The president shall be the head of the parish government for ceremonial purposes ~~and for purposes of military law,~~ and for purposes of The Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance And Disaster Act, but shall have no administrative duties with regard to the parish administration.

Amendment No. 3 - Removing the Department of Fleet Services from the Charter

Amend the Charter by deleting Section 5-05.2, the deletion to be of the following struck-through language:

~~**Section 5-05.2. Department of fleet services.**~~

- ~~A. The head of fleet services shall be the director of fleet services.~~
~~B. The director of the department of fleet services shall direct and be responsible for the following activities:-~~
~~(1) Operation of a central facility for the repair and maintenance of parish government vehicles and equipment.~~
~~(2) operation of a central signage facility for the creation, repair, and maintenance of parish government signs.~~
~~(3) other such activities as may be directed by the administrator.~~

The Committee considered and voted not to recommend to the Commission the following suggested amendments to the Charter:

1. Adding the ability of the Commission to hire counsel independent from the Parish Attorney.
2. Adding assistant department heads and directors to the persons whomust be

confirmed by the Commission.

3. Changes relating to constables and justices of the peace.
4. Changes to domicile and residency requirements for Commissioners.
5. Changes related to historic preservation.
6. Changes related to means of educating citizens about Parish finances.
7. Changes permitting the Commission to submit propositions not requiring voter referendum to a voter referendum.
8. Adoption of an amendment requiring a mandatory minimum (130%) operating reserve in the Parish budget.
9. Alteration of requirements for public bids.
10. Changes to the structure of the Committee.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,
/s/Tom Arceneaux, Chairman
August 26, 2020

Mr. Young asked for an explanation regarding the recommended change when it comes to meeting in person. Mr. Arceneaux clarified that the recommended change is if an emergency is declared, the Commission could meet via teleconference and return to meeting in person once it is declared safe.

Mr. Epperson was the Commissioner who recommended this changed. He said that it was vetted through Legal is not to circumvent State law. He said that this is only to add an option to meet via any means necessary in accordance with State law.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know what the legal ramifications with people not wearing masks in the Chambers. Attorney Frazier said that is for the Commission to decide in accordance with the mask mandate that is statewide.

Mr. Young wanted to know the benefit of adding this language to the Charter. Attorney Frazier explained that the Commission would not have to “fly by the seats of their pants” because it would be established in the Charter. She explained that the Commission would not have to wait for an executive order.

Mr. Chavez wanted to know if this would apply to the Parish having an emergency. She said that it would have to be a gubernatorial declared emergency.

Mr. Jackson asked Mr. Arceneaux his thoughts on the Charter Review Committee process. Mr. Arceneaux said that it was pretty forward thinking to periodically review the Charter.

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Young
- Mr. Epperson said that Mr. Linn is to be given credit for the swing vote in approving the relocation of the monument.

He also commended the National Guard for all of their hard work during the pandemic, as well as all of the natural disasters that are happening around the country.

As of 1:00 p.m., there are over 6 million corona virus cases throughout the United States, with almost 200,000 deaths. Caddo Parish has 8,001 cases with 337 deaths.

He also announced that on this date, the Constitution was signed. The Constitution is 233 years old today. Tomorrow is the USAF’s 73-year-old birthday.

Tomorrow is also POW-MIA Day. He said that the USS Golet had 82 men on it, and was presumed lost on July 26, 1944. One of those lost at sea was Mr. James Bickham, a Vivian native, who lied about his age so he could fight in the war.

He announced that the Veterans Celebration Committee will be recognizing veterans via teleconference.

Mr. Epperson said that General Electric is considering expanding the plant. He asked that they provide an update to the Commission when they have all of their information gathered.

- Mrs. Gage-Watts announced that Tuesday, September 23 is National Voter Registration Day. She said that there will be several voter registration drives throughout Caddo Parish. She encouraged all citizens to plan out the way they are going to vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

Mr. Chavez said that there was an Animal Control vehicle chasing several dogs in front of his office. He went to give the person a hand, and Mr. Travis Clark stepped out of the vehicle. He complimented Mr. Clark who is the director of Animal Services on working in the field.

He also said that there is a need for blood donors. He encouraged all who can to donate blood.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

The President of the Commission opened the public hearing for the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 5963 of 2020, an ordinance to set the General Purpose and Special Purpose Millages providing for millage rate adjustments, as allowed by Article VII, Section 23 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705 (B), levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2020 on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5964 of 2020, an ordinance setting the assessment of property classified as timberlands and to instruct the Assessor to include said assessment on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5965 of 2020, an ordinance to adopt the values fixed, or to be fixed by the Louisiana Tax Commission on all assessments for railways and other public services corporations, and to instruct the Assessor to extend such assessments and values on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5966 of 2020, an ordinance setting the Parish Millage for the purpose of paying principal and interest, due in 2020 on outstanding Parish bond issues and to instruct the Assessor to include said millage on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5976 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for a mental health hotline and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5977 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for Providence House Emergency Rental Assistance Program and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5978 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5979 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for childcare centers for COVID-19 related expenditures and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

There being no one to speak in favor or against the ordinance, the President closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCES (final passage)

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, to englobe and adopt the following ordinances:

- *Ordinance No. 5963 of 2020, an ordinance to set the General Purpose*

and Special Purpose Millages providing for millage rate adjustments, as allowed by Article VII, Section 23 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705 (B), levying and imposing taxes and assessments for 2020 on all the property subject to taxation in the Parish of Caddo, and to otherwise providing with respect thereto

- *Ordinance No. 5964 of 2020, an ordinance setting the assessment of property classified as timberlands and to instruct the Assessor to include said assessment on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5965 of 2020, an ordinance to adopt the values fixed, or to be fixed by the Louisiana Tax Commission on all assessments for railways and other public services corporations, and to instruct the Assessor to extend such assessments and values on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5966 of 2020, an ordinance setting the Parish Millage for the purpose of paying principal and interest, due in 2020 on outstanding Parish bond issues and to instruct the Assessor to include said millage on the tax roll of the Parish of Caddo for the year 2020, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 5963 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO SET THE GENERAL PURPOSE AND SPECIAL PURPOSE MILLAGES PROVIDING FOR MILLAGE RATE ADJUSTMENTS, AS ALLOWED BY ARTICLE VII, SECTION 23 OF THE LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION OF 1974 AND LA R.S. 47:1705 (B), LEVYING AND IMPOSING TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS FOR 2020 ON ALL THE PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Caddo Parish Commission (the "Commission") acting as the governing authority of Caddo Parish, Louisiana (the "Parish"), to levy various taxes for the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to adjust the Parish millages as a result of the quadrennial reappraisal and valuation of the property subject to taxation within the Parish, in proportion to the increase in the 2020 taxable assessed valuation of the Parish;

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held by the Commission on the subject of the proposed millage adjustment in accordance with the open meetings law and the additional requirements of Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705(B).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal and regular session convened, that the following general purpose and special millages (that is, fractional mills on the dollar) on the assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation in the whole of Caddo Parish, Louisiana be and the same are hereby levied at the following adjusted rates for the year 2020, in accordance with Article VII, Section 23(C) of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 and LA R.S. 47:1705, as applicable:

	<u>2020 Levy Rate</u>	<u>Maximum Authorized Rate</u>
General:		
General Alimony - For all property lying outside of cities and towns, as described below	6.13 mills	6.13 mills
Exempted Municipalities - For all property lying within the confines of incorporated cities and towns having a population in excess of		

1,000 and which maintain a system of street paving and those being Shreveport, Vivian and Bossier City	3.06 mills	3.06 mills
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Special Purpose:

Public Health:

For the creation and support of public health centers in the parish	.88 mills	.88 mills
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For the maintenance and operation of public health centers in the Parish and portion rededicated for payment of mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	1.29 mills	1.29 mills
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Shreve Memorial Library:

For the acquiring, equipping, construction, improving, maintaining and operating the public library system	4.71 mills	4.71 mills
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For the maintenance and operation of parish library facilities and portion rededicated to payment of mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	4.63 mills	4.63 mills
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Juvenile Court:

For the maintenance and operation for the juvenile court, and juvenile detention home facilities	2.00 mills	2.00 mills
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Detention Facilities:

For the maintenance and operation of detention facilities and portion rededicated for payment of mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	5.48 mills	5.48 mills
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Courthouse Maintenance:

For the maintenance and operation of parish courthouse and other buildings	2.76 mills	2.76 mills
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Public Works:

For the maintenance and operation of road, bridge, drainage, garbage collections, and mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	5.92 mills	5.92 mills
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Public Facilities:

For the maintenance and operation of public facilities, specifically road and bridge, parks and recreation, garbage collection and drainage	.84 mills	.84 mills
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Biomedical Research:

For the promotion of economic development through the Biomedical Research Foundation of Northwest Louisiana and portion rededicated to mandatory costs of the criminal justice system	1.73 mills	1.76 mills
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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Commission Clerk shall give notice of this ordinance to the Assessor of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and instruct him to levy and assess each tax as set forth herein for the year 2020, and the tax collector of Caddo Parish, Louisiana shall collect and remit the same to said taxing authority in accordance with law.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the

provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 5964 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY CLASSIFIED AS TIMBERLANDS AND TO INSTRUCT THE ASSESSOR TO INCLUDE SAID ASSESSMENT ON THE TAX ROLL OF THE PARISH OF CADDO FOR THE YEAR 2020, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened, that the Tax Assessor of Caddo Parish be authorized and instructed to assess property in Caddo Parish, classified as timberlands at eight cents (\$.08) per acre for the year 2020.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that, the Commission Clerk shall give notice of this ordinance to the Assessor of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and instruct him to levy and assess the applicable tax, at the above stated rate, upon these values as set forth herein for the year 2020.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions; items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 5965 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE VALUES FIXED, OR TO BE FIXED BY THE LOUISIANA TAX COMMISSION ON ALL ASSESSMENTS FOR RAILWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS, AND TO INSTRUCT THE ASSESSOR TO EXTEND SUCH ASSESSMENTS AND VALUES ON THE TAX ROLL OF THE PARISH OF CADDO FOR THE YEAR 2020, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission hereby adopts any and all assessments covering property owned by railways, tank car lines, and other public service corporations, and that the values named, fixed and reported be accepted and adopted as the values for all Parish purposes.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Commission Clerk shall give notice of this ordinance to the Assessor of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and instruct him to levy and assess each applicable tax millage upon these values as set forth herein for the year 2020.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 5966 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE PARISH MILLAGE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, DUE IN 2020 ON OUTSTANDING PARISH BOND ISSUES AND TO INSTRUCT THE ASSESSOR TO INCLUDE SAID MILLAGE ON THE TAX ROLL OF THE PARISH OF CADDO FOR THE YEAR 2020, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2007, the Parish of Caddo issued general obligation bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$10,000,000; and

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2008, the Parish of Caddo issued general obligation bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$10,000,000; and

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2009, the Parish of Caddo issued general obligation bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$10,000,000; and

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2015, the Parish of Caddo sold Refunding Bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$6,850,000; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2015 the Parish of Caddo sold Refunding Bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$6,345,000; and

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2016 the Parish of Caddo sold Refunding Bonds in the total aggregate sum of \$7,250,000; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to levy a millage tax for the year 2020 in order to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, which will fall due in the year 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal, and regular session convened, that a special tax of 1.5 mills on the dollar on assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation within the whole of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, be and the same is hereby levied for the year 2020, for the purpose of paying principal and interest which will become due in the year 2020 on the aforesaid public improvement bonds and refunding bonds.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Commission Clerk shall give notice of this ordinance to the Assessor of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and instruct him to levy and assess each tax as set forth herein for the year 2020.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after publication in the official journal.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Ordinance No. 5976 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for a mental health hotline and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mrs. Barnett said that the Oil & Gas Fund is in good standing, but the oil and gas revenues have declined since last year.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 5976 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE OIL AND GAS FUND FOR THE YEAR 2020 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR A MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo residents have incurred irreparable harm to mental health and well-being due to COVID-19, thus creating a mental health public emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo residents have suffered business closings and economic hardship; and

WHEREAS, the national civil and racial unrest has caused increased anxiety and stress; and

WHEREAS, if the mental health of Caddo Parish residents remains unaddressed, the symptoms can lead to depression, drug abuse, violence and suicide; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to establish a confidential hotline through United Way's 211 network, as soon as possible, to connect residents to participating provider networks to add; and

WHEREAS, National hotlines do not connect residents to local providers and the best treatment is local assessment and treatment from trained mental health rehabilitation agencies; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the funds shall be used for marketing and outreach; and WHEREAS, eligible expenses will be requested for reimbursement from the CARES Act funding; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2020 Budget to provide an appropriation of \$120,000 to fund the confidential hotline; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Oil and Gas Fund for the year 2020 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Oil and Gas Fund</u>	
United Way 211 – Confidential Hotline	\$120,000
Fund Balance	(\$120,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that these funds are the same funds passed by emergency ordinance on August 25, 2020-this is not an additional appropriation.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Jackson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Ordinance No. 5977 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for Providence House Emergency Rental Assistance Program and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Jackson said that this ordinance is much needed, and the Providence House is ready to work to try and fill that gap for the citizens. He asked that the Commissioners support this ordinance.

Mr. Atkins said that the Oil & Gas Fund will more than likely be reimbursed by CARES Act.

At this time, Mr. Jackson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 5977 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE OIL AND GAS FUND

FOR THE YEAR 2020 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PROVIDENCE HOUSE EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has suffered an economic downfall due to COVID-19;
and

WHEREAS, many residents of the Parish of Caddo currently have lost jobs due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Moratorium for evictions expired on July 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, because the Federal Moratorium for evictions has expired, citizens need emergency assistance to avoid evictions.

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to provide rental assistance through the Providence House if a citizen of Caddo Parish can provide a letter notifying of lay-off or reduced hours and is not participating in another rental assistance program; and

WHEREAS, the rental assistance program is for Caddo Parish residents only; and

WHEREAS, the participant is capped at two months of rental assistance; and

WHEREAS, priority is given if lay-off is due to company going out of business; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2020 Budget to provide an appropriation of up to \$112,000 to provide rental assistance; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Oil and Gas Fund for the year 2020 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Oil and Gas Fund</u>	
Providence House – Rental Assistance	\$112,000
Fund Balance	(\$112,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that these funds are the same funds passed by emergency ordinance on August 25, 2020-this is not an additional appropriation.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Chavez**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Ordinance No. 5978 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the General Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Chavez explained that this was adopted via an emergency ordinance to provide a streamline process for the MPC. He asked that the Commissioners support this ordinance.

At this time, Mr. Chavez's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: Commissioner Johnson (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 5978 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE GENERAL FUND FOR

THE YEAR 2020 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION (MPC) AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, national, state and local emergencies have been declared due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo currently has over 7,100 cases and 310 deaths due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, due to the increase in COVID-19 cases, the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) would like to offer citizens a digital application process in order to preserve the safety of the MPC staff and the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to provide and appropriation of \$25,000 to the MPC to help with the purchase of this digital application; and

WHEREAS, the digital application will decrease the need for citizens to come to Government Plaza for zoning and other applications with the MPC, thus reducing the potential spread of COVID19; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the General Fund for the year 2020 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>General Fund</u>	
Metropolitan Planning Commission	\$25,000
Fund Balance	(\$25,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that these funds are the same funds passed by emergency ordinance on August 25, 2020-this is not an additional appropriation.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Young**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, *that Ordinance No. 5979 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Oil & Gas Fund for the year 2020 to provide an appropriation for childcare centers for COVID-19 related expenditures and to otherwise provide with respect thereto* be adopted.

Mr. Young said that this ordinance was also approved via emergency ordinance. He asked that the Commissioners support this ordinance. He also said that it is likely CARES Act reimbursable.

At this time, Mr. Young's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (10). NAYS: Commissioner Johnson (1). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

ORDINANCE NO. 5979 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE OIL AND GAS FUND FOR THE YEAR 2020 TO PROVIDE AN APPROPRIATION FOR CHILDCARE CENTERS FOR COVID-19 RELATED EXPENDITURES AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has had over 7,200 COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, many residents of the Parish of Caddo must return to work during this pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the residents depend on local childcare centers to care for their children; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission would like to provide childcare centers assistance with COVID-19 related expenses; and

WHEREAS, the assistance for each childcare center is up to \$5,000; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the 2020 Budget to provide an appropriation of \$200,000 to provide assistance to childcare center; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Oil and Gas Fund for the year 2020 is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
<u>Oil and Gas Fund</u>	
Childcare Center Assistance	\$200,000
Fund Balance	(\$200,000)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

ZONING ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 5980 of 2020, in regards to Zoning Case 50-5-P, an ordinance to amend Volume II of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo, as amended, the Caddo Parish Unified Development Code, by amending the zoning of property located on the south side of South Lakeshore Drive and three hundred and sixty feet east of Jolly Napier Road, Caddo Parish, LA, from R-1-7, Single-Family Residential Zoning District to R-A, Rural Agricultural Zoning District, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*

ORDINANCES (for introduction by title)

- *Ordinance No. 5981 of 2020, an ordinance amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues & Expenditures for the Capital Outlay Fund and the Oil & Gas Fund to provide an appropriation for the construction and improvement of Blanchard water lines that serve unincorporated areas within Caddo Parish and the Bel-Di-Gil Water System, and to otherwise provide with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5982 of 2020, an ordinance proposing an amendment to the Caddo Parish Home Rule Charter relative to Section 3-07. Commission Meetings & Rules for presentation to the electorate, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5983 of 2020, an ordinance proposing an amendment to the Caddo Parish Home Rule Charter relative to Section 3-07. Commission Meetings & Rules for presentation to the electorate, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*
- *Ordinance No. 5984 of 2020, an ordinance proposing an amendment to the Caddo Parish Home Rule Charter relative to Section 5-05.2 Department of Fleet Services for presentation to the electorate, and otherwise providing with respect thereto*

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, to englobo and ratify the Work Session Minutes of August 3, 2020, August 17, 2020, and August 31, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Jackson, that Resolution No. 51 of 2020, a resolution to authorize the Caddo Parish Administrator to request and authorize the Louisiana

State Mineral & Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources to accept nominations and advertise for oil, gas, and mineral leases, accept bids, and award and execute oil, gas, and mineral leases on certain mineral interests owned by the Parish of Caddo, and otherwise providing with respect thereto be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 51 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CADDO PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO REQUEST AND AUTHORIZE THE LOUISIANA STATE MINERAL AND ENERGY BOARD AND THE OFFICE OF MINERAL RESOURCES TO ACCEPT NOMINATIONS AND ADVERTISE FOR OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASES, ACCEPT BIDS, AND AWARD AND EXECUTE OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASES ON CERTAIN MINERAL INTERESTS OWNED BY THE PARISH OF CADDO, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo may own certain mineral rights underlying the following described property, to-wit:

Those certain road dedications located in Section 15, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, known as Alvin York Lane, King Lane, Pleasant Grove Drive, Pleasant Grove Road, Hill Top Lane, Lacy Lane, Jones Drive and Ebony Avenue, all located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and containing 11.04 acres, more or less and those certain adjudicated properties described as Lot 21, Pleasant Grove Estates, with a Geo #181515-001-0021, containing .57 acres, and the S 208.71 FT W. of 104.35 ft of NW/4, with a Geo #181515-000-0027 containing .50 acres, and Lot 27, Pleasant Grove Estates, with a Geo #181515-001- 0027 containing .57 acres, said adjudicated property total acreage being 1.64 acres, more or less, within Section 15, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, containing a total of 12.68 acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

That certain Adjudicated Property located in Section 22, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, described as all that part of NE/4 of SE/4 of Section 22 lying north and above the 172 contour line, with a Geo #181522-000-0053, located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and containing 1.25 acres, more or less within Section 22, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Those certain road dedications located in Section 23, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, known as Mallard Bay Drive and Mallard Bay Circle, all located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and containing 4.24 acres, more or less, within Section 23, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Those certain road dedications located in Section 5, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, known as Angus Drive, Pruett Road and McKneely Road, all located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and containing 5.22 acres, more or less and that certain adjudicated property described as Lot 15, McKneely Acres, with a Geo #181505-001-0015, containing 1.24 acres, more or less, within Section 5, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, containing a total of 6.46 acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Those certain road dedications located in Section 8, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, known as Pathway Trail, Pathway Loop, Rusty Road, Gosnell Road and Blanchard Mobile Villa, all located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and containing 14.19 acres, more or less and those certain adjudicated properties described as Lots 4 & 5, Blanchard Mobile Villas, Second Filing with a Geo #181508-004-0004, containing .29 acres and Lots 51 & 52, Blanchard Mobile Villas, Second Filing with a Geo #181508- 004-0102, containing .42 acres, within Section 8, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, containing a total of 14.9 acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

Those certain road dedications located in Section 20, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, known as Hinkle Street, Hidden Harbor Way, Hidden Harbor Circle and Cypress Knee Blvd, all located in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and containing 3.47 acres, more or less and that certain adjudicated property described as Lot 5, Hidden Harbor Estates, Unit No. 2 with a Geo #181520-004-0005, containing .76 acres, within Section 20, Township 18 North, Range 15 West, containing a total of 4.23 acres, more or less, all in Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a written request from USG Properties Haynesville, LLC, that the Parish seek public bids for an oil, gas and mineral lease covering said property; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo does not have the knowledge or resources available to determine if it owns the mineral rights and the Parish of Caddo will rely on the expertise and experience of the lessee in determining ownership; and

WHEREAS, it is expressly agreed that any lease granted by the Parish of Caddo and accepted by lessee is without any warranty of title and without any recourse against the Parish of Caddo whatsoever, either express or implied, and it is expressly agreed that the Parish of Caddo shall not be required to return any payments received or be otherwise responsible to lessee therefore; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources, is available upon the request of Caddo Parish to lease the aforesaid property for oil, gas and other minerals if requested to do so by Caddo Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that the Louisiana State Mineral and Energy Board and the Office of Mineral Resources, be and it is hereby requested and authorized to accept nominations and advertise for oil, gas and mineral leases, accept bids and award and execute oil, gas and mineral leases on the aforesaid properties of certain mineral interests owned by the Parish of Caddo.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a no surface operations provision as follows: Lessee, its successors or assigns, may produce oil, gas and other minerals from the leased premises by drilling from a surface location on other lands, but notwithstanding any other provision of this lease, Lessee, its successors or assigns, shall not use the surface of the Lessor's property for drilling or any other operations without prior written permission of Lessor, which permission may be withheld at Lessor's discretion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a horizontal pugh provision as follows: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein contained, at the end of the primary term or any extension thereof by operations, if the Commission of Conservation of the State of Louisiana establishes a drilling unit which includes a part of the land herein leased, the production of oil, gas and other minerals from such unit shall maintain this lease in full force and effect only as to such portions of the leased land embraced in said pooled unit; and this lease shall expire as to that part of the land herein leased not included in such unit; and lessee, its successors and assigns agrees to relinquish by formal instrument any portion of the leased land not included in a unit created by the Commission of Conservation while this lease is in effect

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a vertical pugh provision as follows: Upon the expiration of the primary term hereof or any extension thereof by operations, this lease shall automatically terminate and be of no further force or effect except as to all that part of the leased premises then included within the geographical boundaries of a producing unit duly established by governmental agency or authority having jurisdiction, from the surface of the earth to a depth of 100 feet below the deepest depth from which any well commenced during the primary term hereof on the leased premises or on lands pooled therewith is completed and from which there is production in paying quantities, such depth determination to be made on a unit by unit basis. In the absence of units so established, this lease shall terminate except as to 40 acres around each producing oil well and 160 acres around each producing or shut-in gas well located on the leased premises, in as near the form of a square as is practicable, from the surface of the earth down to a depth of 100 feet below the deepest depth from which said well or wells are completed and from which there is production in paying quantities, such depth determination to be made on a well by well basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a minimum royalty provision as follows: Royalty of not less than 1/5th or 20%.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a minimum bonus provision as follows: Bonus of not less than \$1,500.00 per acre.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a hard or solid mineral exclusion provision as follows: This lease shall exclude free sulphur, potash, lignite, salt and any other hard or solid mineral. Lessee shall not have any rights to explore, drill for, mine, produce or take any action whatsoever in regard to any such hard or solid mineral deposits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such lease contain a maximum term provision as follows: Primary term of lease shall not exceed three (3) years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Johnson, *that Resolution No. 60 of 2020, a resolution urging and requesting the United States Senate to pass the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion failed, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Cawthorne, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Jackson, and Johnson (5). NAYS: Commissioners Atkins, Chavez, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (6). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Gage-Watts, *that Resolution No. 68 of 2020, requesting the Louisiana Legislature and the Secretary of State to authorize adding three additional early voting locations throughout Caddo Parish and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 68 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

REQUESTING THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO AUTHORIZE ADDING THREE ADDITIONAL EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT CADDO PARISH AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes that early voting is an important part of elections; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Caddo Parish Commission to ensure that early voting is as convenient as possible for citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission believes that adding early voting locations in addition to the Registrar of Voters' Office will increase convenience to the citizens, thus increasing voter participation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby request the Louisiana Legislature and the Louisiana Secretary of State to authorize adding three additional early voting locations throughout Caddo Parish.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Resolution No. 70, a resolution supporting a request for Capital Outlay funding to upgrade Walter B. Jacobs Parks, and otherwise providing with respect thereto* be adopted. Motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 70 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A REQUEST FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY FUNDING TO UPGRADE WALTER B. JACOBS PARK, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Caddo Parish's Walter B. Jacobs Memorial Nature Park is a local treasure familiar to many students, families, and nature lovers throughout the Ark-La-Tex.; and

WHEREAS, the park receives over 40,000 guests per year from across our region; and
WHEREAS, the current park visitor center is a log-cabin style structure of 3,000 square feet, built in 1976, with a small conference room, several offices and a few glass cases with

displays of local wildlife ,and is much smaller than needed to handle the volume of visitors to the park and to put on the spectrum of programming the Parish would like; and

WHEREAS, funding from the State would allow the Park to build a new, sustainably designed, 15,000 square foot visitor center; and

WHEREAS, the Parish Administrator recommends the Parish match funds received from the State of Louisiana, up to 20%, to make the improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission, in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Caddo Parish Commission does hereby support the request to the State of Louisiana for capital outlay funding to improve Walter B. Jacobs park.

BE IF RUTHER RESOLVED that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items, or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect within ten days of publication.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

It was **moved by Mrs. Gage-Watts**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *that Resolution No. 71 of 2020, a resolution proclaiming September as "Sickle Cell Awareness Month" in Caddo Parish* be adopted.

Mrs. Gage-Watts asked that the courthouse be red for the remainder of September.

Mr. Epperson mentioned that Ms. Lilly Bradford was running the Sickle Cell organization, but she passed. Mrs. Gage-Watts said that it will be 2021 before an executive director is selected.

At this time, Mrs. Gage-Watts' motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

RESOLUTION NO. 71 OF 2020

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSSION

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER AS "SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH" IN CADDO PARISH

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission desires to recognize events that impact the Parish on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, Sickle cell anemia is an inherited blood disorder that mostly affects people of African ancestry, but also occurs in other ethnic groups, including people who are of Mediterranean and Middle Eastern descent.; and

WHEREAS, sickle cell disease is a complex genetic disorder characterized by chronic anemia, episodes of debilitating pain and damage to vital organs; and

WHEREAS, early identification of a child with sickle cell disease coupled with antibiotic prophylaxis by 3 months of age and early intervention services, helps those with sickle cell disease while researchers continue to search for a cure; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana remains dedicated to the provision of sickle cell screening, education, and medical care for individuals and families living with sickle cell disease through its support of the Louisiana Department of Community Health's Newborn Screening Program and the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 18th day of September, 2020 that it does hereby proclaim September 2019 as,

'SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH '

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

NEW BUSINESS

It was **moved by Mr. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Atkins, *to englobo and confirm the following appointments:*

- *Reappointment of Thomas Michael Irving to Communications District No. 1. Term to expire September 25, 2024*
- *Reappointment of Lasonya Hayley to Sewerage District No. 2 Board. Term to expire September 11, 2024*

At this time, Mr. Johnson's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Gage-Watts, Hopkins, Jackson, Johnson, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (11). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioner Burrell (1). ABSTAIN: None (0).

It was **moved by Mr. Cawthorne**, seconded by Mr. Chavez, *to include Clinical Pathology Laboratories, Inc. as an additional testing entity for the program funded by the Ordinance No. 5967 of 2020, current entities listed as LSU and Ochsner be adopted.*

Mr. Cawthorne said that this would allow for testing on dates that LSU Ochsner cannot. He said that Clinical Pathology Laboratories could have the results in 24 hours. He also said that there will be no additional funding from the original approved amount.

Mrs. Gage-Watts said that she will be abstaining from this motion due to her employment with Ochsner Health.

At this time, Mr. Cawthorne's motion carried, as shown by the following roll call votes: AYES: Commissioners Atkins, Cawthorne, Chavez, Epperson, Hopkins, Lazarus, Taliaferro, and Young (9). NAYS: None (0). ABSENT: Commissioners Burrell, Jackson, and Johnson (3). ABSTAIN: Commissioner Gage-Watts (1).

COMMUNIQUES/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Epperson suggested to consider a zoo at Walter B. Jacobs. Mr. Jackson suggested looking at the prison in Keithville for a possible site for a zoo.

He also recognized Mr. James Simon and Mr. Billy Prelow who are Purple Heart recipients.

- Mr. Young presented a mosquito trap to the Commissioners. He said that it was created by a group of young people in Caddo Parish who have a 3D printer. Mr. Young would like to talk to the Commission more about it at another date.

- Mr. Jackson said that the Caddo Parish Commission, staff, administration, and the Commissioners worked during the pandemic. He cautioned that the pandemic is still ongoing and encouraged all to wear masks and practice social distancing.

Mr. Jackson also asked that Administration provide an update on the disparity study at the next meeting.

He also wanted to know if federal prisoners are held at CCC, and if so, who would be responsible for paying for their stay at CCC. Dr. Wilson said that they would be held at CCC. He also said that the federal government would pay for those prisoners, which would go to Sheriff Prator. Mrs. Bryant explained that the Parish does have some costs in relation to all prisoners held at CCC, but there is an arrangement the Parish has with the Sheriff regarding costs and reimbursements. Mr. Jackson is concerned with the cost burdens associated with federal prisoners. He reiterated that he is not for violent criminals to be released.

- Mr. Taliaferro invited the citizens to come to the Chambers and voice any concerns or comments regarding Caddo Parish.

- Mr. Cawthorne applauded Administration and staff for all of their hard work during the pandemic. He also commended Mr. Epperson for his comments during Communiques. He appreciated the history lesson.


- Mr. Epperson said that he worked with the Drop Your Guns organization in the 90s and created a truce between the Bloods and the Crips.

There was no further discussion to come before the Commission, so the meeting was

adjourned at 5:21 p.m.



Michelle Nations
Assistant Commission Clerk



Mario Chavez
President