

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
HELD ON THE 3RD DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2009

The Caddo Parish Commission met in legal and regular session on the above date at 3:30 p.m. in the Government Chamber with Ms. Stephanie Lynch, President, presiding, and the following members in attendance, constituting a quorum: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). ABSENT: None.

The invocation was given by Rev. James Sims, pastor of Lake Zion Baptist Church, and Mrs. Baker led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, *that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 20, 2009, be adopted.* Motion carried.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION
to DIRECTOR KELVIN COCHRAN

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission is always pleased to observe and enjoy the accomplishments of those Caddo Parish sons and daughters who have excelled in their chosen fields, and who have gone forth to attain success and distinction in national and world arenas; and

WHEREAS, Shreveport native **KELVIN COCHRAN**, who knew as a small child that he wanted to grow up to become a fireman, became the nation's top fireman on August 27 in Washington, D.C., when he was sworn into office as director for the office of U.S. Fire Administration within the Department of Homeland Security; and

WHEREAS, Director Cochran, who has spent 28 years in the front lines and management of firefighting and emergency medical services, was nominated by President Barack Obama for his new post upon the recommendations of his fellow professionals---he had not sought the job for himself. As Director, Chief Cochran will oversee, coordinate and direct national efforts to prevent fires and improve fire response, as such working with state and local partners in strengthening fire prevention and emergency management capabilities at all levels of government; and

WHEREAS, Kelvin Cochran's endorsement by his peers was in part a recognition of his unblemished record of professionalism as one who had climbed through the ranks to become Chief of the Shreveport Fire Department in August, 1999, and Chief of the Atlanta, Georgia, Fire Department in January, 2008. Equally important to his peers were his personal traits of integrity, dedication, compassion and humility, among others, which set him apart as a man to be respected, honored, emulated and followed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 3rd day of September, 2009, that it does hereby extend its most sincere expressions of congratulation and appreciation to Mr. Kelvin Cochran upon the occasion of his selection as Director, Office of U.S. Fire Administration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Caddo Parish Commission does entreat all citizens of Caddo Parish and Northwest Louisiana to be cognizant and appreciative of the degree to which Kelvin Cochran's achievements, in combination with his exemplary personal demeanor and character, serve to reflect great honor upon this his home area.

It was **moved by Ms. Lynch**, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, *that the foregoing resolution be adopted.* Motion carried.

President Lynch stated that the resolution would be presented to Chief Cochran when he returns to the City over the weekend.

COMMUNIQUES AND REPORTS

Administrator Woodrow Wilson came forward. He asked Mr. James Demouchet, president of the Employee Council, to provide the Commission information on the September 19 "Race for the Cure" to benefit the Susan G. Koman Foundation. In Caddo Parish the onset of breast cancer has touched many families and affected many lives, including among Caddo Parish employees. The Employee Council will sponsor a team in the upcoming race, he said, and he urged Commissioners to participate in and support the event.

Commissioner Smith reported that the Natural Resources Committee had met earlier in the week. The meeting featured a lengthy telephone conference conversation with the Arpeggio firm,

which is being considered to develop noise standards relative to oil and gas operations in the Parish that can be included in a Parish-wide ordinance. The ordinance needs to be good enough and sound enough that when there is an issue the Parish can go to court and defend it. The committee agreed to present the Arpeggio proposal to the full Commission, he said.

Mr. Smith pointed out that the cost of the study will be shared equally with Bossier Parish.

Mr. Cox said that the previous week he had represented Caddo Parish at a Coordinating and Development Corporation meeting in Natchitoches. There he accepted CDC's "Community Development Award" on behalf of the Parish, he said.

President Lynch stated that each Commissioner had been provided a copy of the Commission's by-laws. In coming weeks, she said, Parish Attorney Charles Grubb will supply a draft of some proposed changes to the by-laws for the Commission's review and consideration.

She also thanked all Commissioners who were present for the special called meeting on Monday in joint session with the Shreveport City Council. That was the first time the two bodies had ever met together, she said, and it was productive meeting insofar as reviewing the progress of the Master Plan.

President Lynch said that she appreciated the effort by the Employee Council, and she urged her fellow Commissioners to financially support the fund-raiser. She said she had lost her own sister to breast cancer five years earlier, so she wholeheartedly supports the effort.

Mr. Wilson then asked Mr. Demouchet to report on the status of the new Parish property standards ordinance.

Mr. Demouchet said that he had appeared on local television explaining the method and purpose of the law relative to blighted properties in the rural areas. He said that the ordinance is driven by health and safety concerns, in addition to overall property standards. Citizens have emphatically expressed a desire to have property standards regulations in place, he said, to protect themselves and their property values from other negligent and unconcerned property owners. Disease-bearing mosquitos and rats, as well as snakes, are the primary health and safety concerns, he said.

The ordinance is now ready to be enforced, he said, with Justices of the Peace and Constables having the authority to write citations and issue fines. To-date, he said, he has been contacted by the Police Juries of DeSoto, Natchitoches and Red River Parishes seeking guidance on writing an ordinance for their own citizens.

Mr. Thibodeaux said that he feels the ordinance has already had a positive effect: one of the most egregious property standards offenders in his district is having an auction of many of his visible possessions in the coming weekend.

Mr. Cox agreed, stating that people are now becoming aware that they are now going to be required by law to perform the clean-up that they should have already done years ago. He said he believes that over the next year or two citizens will be able to observe a major, positive change in the Parish. He commended the Commission for having the courage to tackle this problem.

Mr. Demouchet said that the number of calls from citizens reporting problem sites has increased noticeably already. They are provided the names of their local ward court officials, he said.

Mr. Wilson then commended Public Works Director Robert Glass for stepping in to serve as President of the Organization of Parish Administrative Officials, an affiliate of the Police Jury Association of Louisiana. The incumbent president had had to resign in mid-term. The OPAO just concluded a very successful conference in Sabine Parish. The next conference, in the fall of 2010, will be in Shreveport, he said.

President Lynch commented that Caddo Parish has several presidents: Mr. Pierson will be the incoming president of the Police Jury Association, and Mr. Jenkins is president of the Black Caucus of the Police Jury Association.

Mr. Epperson thanked the Finance Department for the information it provided him to address the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce. The information was well-received, he said. He reminded the Commission that the annual "Pioneer Days" celebration in Greenwood will be September 18-19.

VISITORS

Mayor Chip Dickey of the Town of Oil City came forward. He said that the Town and Caddo Parish Water District No. 1 are now at a point he has been seeking for many years—a

consolidation of services. The Town now has the funds available to take over the water system and it has worked out all areas of the transition agreement with the water district, including the retention of all system employees. The water district has adopted a resolution asking Oil City to take control of the system, as did the Town, he said.

Mr. Dickey noted that accompanying him to this meeting were members of the Town Council, the water board, and employees of the water board.

Mayor Dickey pointed out that recently the Commission recommended that Water District No. 1 be recommended to the State for a Louisiana Community Development Block Grant award. The consolidation process will now render that application moot, he said, and the Commission will now be free to award that grant recommendation to another project in the Parish, he said.

Mr. Dominick thanked Mayor Dickey and all the other members of the community for attending this meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE

- Ordinance No. 4908 of 2009 amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Debt Service Fund and the Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$10,000,000 for General Obligation Bond proceeds for the year 2009
- Ordinance No. 4909 of 2009 amending the Budget of estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Juvenile Justice Fund to reclass the State Prisoners Grant in the amount of \$135,000 and the Food and Nutrition Grant in the amount of \$52,740 for the year 2009
- Ordinance No. 4010 of 2009 amending the Budget of Estimate Revenues and Expenditures for the Juvenile Justice Fund for Mental Health Grant proceeds in the amount of \$91,000 for the year 2009
- Ordinance No. 4911 of 2009 amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Health Tax Fund for mosquito spraying in the amount of \$40,000 for the year 2009
- Ordinance No. 4912 of 2009 to authorize the Parish Administrator to execute an easement and right-of-way agreement with LA Midstream Gas Services, L.L.C., pertaining to the granting of an easement and right-of-way for the purpose of constructing and maintaining an oil and gas pipeline in Sections 29 and 32, Township 17 north, Range 15 west

The President asked if there was anyone present to speak in support of or in opposition to any of the above ordinances, and there was no one. She declared the public hearing on ordinances to be concluded.

WORK SESSION MINUTES: AUGUST 17, 2009 AND AUGUST 31, 2009

It was **moved by Mr. Escude**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that the Work Session Minutes of August 17, 2009, and August 31, 2009, be ratified.* Motion carried.

ORDINANCES: (For final passage)

ORDINANCE NO. 4908 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE DEBT SERVICE FUND AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE YEAR 2009 TO APPROPRIATE BOND PROCEEDS OF \$10,000,000

WHEREAS, the propositions passed on May 5, 2007 allows for the issuance of additional debt to fund capital projects; and

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2009 Caddo Parish accepted bids to issue an additional \$10,000,000 in general obligation bonds; and

WHEREAS, 2009 estimated capital expenditures of \$5,734,222 from the bond proceeds were budgeted from the Debt Service Fund to transfer to the Capital Outlay Fund but the \$5,734,222 will be transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Debt Service Fund and the Capital Improvement Fund need to be amended to appropriate the 2009 bond proceeds and correct the transfer to the Capital Improvement Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Debt Service Fund and the Capital Improvement Fund for the year 2009 are hereby amended as follows:

	<u>Budget Increase (Decrease)</u>
Debt Service Fund	
Expenditures:	
2009 GOB – Bond Issue Costs	\$ 70,000
Other Financing Sources (Uses):	
Proceeds from General Obligation Bonds	
\$10,000,000	
Transfer to Capital Improvement Fund	
\$10,000,000	
Transfer to Capital Outlay Fund	
(\$5,734,222)	
Capital Improvement Fund	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):	
Transfer from Debt Service Fund	
\$10,000,000	
Transfer to Capital Outlay Fund	\$
5,734,222	

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. Jenkins**, seconded by Mr. Pierson, *that Ordinance No. 4908 of 2009, amending the Debt Service Fund and Capital Improvement Fund budgets in the amount of \$10,000,000 for General Obligation Bond proceeds for the year 2009, be adopted. That motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 4909 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE JUVENILE JUSTICE FUND FOR THE YEAR 2009 TO RECLASS THE STATE PRISONERS GRANT OF \$135,000 AND THE FOOD AND NUTRITION GRANT OF \$52,740 FROM EXPENSE TO REVENUE

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission receives grants from the State of Louisiana for the Juvenile Detention Center to reimburse for state prisoners that are housed at the Juvenile Detention Center and to reimburse a portion of the food costs; and

WHEREAS, the Commission appropriates these grants as reimbursements in the expenditure section of the budget for Juvenile Detention; and

WHEREAS, KPMG LLP, the Commission's auditors, recommend these grants should be appropriated as revenues; and

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Justice Fund needs to be amended to recognize the State Prisoners Grant and the Food and Nutrition Grant as revenues and not as a reimbursements against expenditures.

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

	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Revenues:		
State Prisoners Grant		
\$135,000		
Food & Nutrition Grant		\$
52,740		
Expenditures:		
Reimbursement – State Prisoners Grant	\$ (135,000)	
Reimbursement – Food & Nutrition Grant		\$
(52,740)		

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. Thibodeaux**, seconded by Mrs. McCulloch, *that Ordinance No. 4909 of 2009, amending the Juvenile Justice Fund budget to reclass the State Prisoners Grant in the amount of \$135,000 and the Food and Nutrition Grant in the amount of \$52,740 for the year 2009, be adopted. That motion carried*, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

**ORDINANCE NO. 4910 OF 2009
BY CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE JUVENILE JUSTICE FUND FOR THE YEAR 2009 TO APPROPRIATE MENTAL HEALTH GRANT PROCEEDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$91,000, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Department of Juvenile Services received a three-year grant from the Louisiana Office of Mental Health to establish a Juvenile Mental Health Assessment center; and

WHEREAS, the grant proceeds will be \$182,000 per year beginning July 1, 2009 which results in total proceeds to be received in 2009 of \$91,000; and

WHEREAS, said grant funds require the establishment of three (3) full-time salary positions for the assessment center and the purchase of equipment and supplies for the assessment center ; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo must use the grant funds in accordance with the grant requirements; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2009 Budget in order to appropriate said grant proceeds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Juvenile Justice Fund for the year 2009 is hereby amended as follows:

Line Item

Budget Increase (Decrease)

Revenues:
 Grant Revenue – State \$91,000

Expenditures:
 Juvenile Services - Probation Operations:
 Salaries and Benefit \$82,650
 Reimbursement from Others \$82,650
 Grant Programs \$91,000

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.

It was moved by Mr. Thibodeaux, seconded by Mrs. McCulloch, that Ordinance No. 4010 of 2009, amending the Juvenile Justice Fund budget for Mental Health Grant proceeds in the amount of \$91,000 for the year 2009, be adopted. That motion carried, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 4911 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE HEALTH TAX FUND FOR THE YEAR 2009 TO APPROPRIATE \$40,000 ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR MOSQUITO SPRAYING

WHEREAS, due to the level of precipitation for 2009, Caddo Parish is experiencing large pools of standing water that have become breeding grounds for mosquitoes which has resulted in a significant rise in the mosquito population; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Animal Services and Mosquito Control has received numerous complaints and requests for special sprays; and

WHEREAS, due to the heavy precipitation, the number of complaints, and the increase in specialty sprays, the Department has nearly exhausted all of the its resources allocated for mosquito spraying; and

WHEREAS, an additional \$40,000 is needed to continue the mosquito spraying at an adequate level until the end of the year; and

WHEREAS, the additional resources will assist the Department of Animal Services and Mosquito Control in maintaining its efforts to minimize the risk and prevent the spread of mosquito-borne illnesses and human discomfort associated with large mosquito populations in the community.

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

Budget Increase (Decrease)

Expenditures:		
Mosquito Control:		
Chemicals and Poisons		\$ 40,000
Fund Balance		\$ (40,000)

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.

It was **moved by Mr. Thibodeaux**, seconded by Mrs. McCulloch, *that Ordinance No. 4911 of 2009, amending the Health Tax Fund budget for mosquito spraying in the amount of \$40,000 for the year 2009, be adopted.* That motion carried, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 4912 OF 2009

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE PARISH ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AN EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT WITH LOUISIANA MIDSTREAM GAS SERVICES, L.L.C. PERTAINING TO THE GRANTING OF AN EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING AND MAINTAINING AN OIL AND GAS PIPELINE IN SECTIONS 29 AND 32, TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 15 WEST, CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has received a request from Louisiana Midstream Gas Services, L.L.C. to grant an easement and right-of-way as depicted on Exhibit "A" Sections 29 and 32, Township 17 North, Range 15 West, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, to place and maintain an oil and gas pipeline; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo has reviewed the request from Louisiana Midstream Gas Services, L.L.C. and determined it is in the best interest of the Parish of Caddo to approve said request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Parish Administrator or his designated representative shall be and is hereby, authorized to grant an easement and right-of-way as depicted on Exhibit "A" for the installation and maintenance of oil and gas pipeline(s).

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the Caddo Parish Administrator or his designee shall be, and is hereby authorized to do any and all things and to sign any and all contracts and other documents in a form acceptable to the Caddo Parish Attorney necessary to effectuate the purposes set forth herein.

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 become effective immediately upon its adoption.

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

It was **moved by Mr. Thibodeaux**, seconded by Mrs. McCulloch, *that Ordinance No. 4912 of 2009, authorizing the Parish Administrator to execute an easement and right-of-way agreement with LA Midstream Gas Services, L.L.C., pertaining to the granting of an easement and right-of-way for the purpose of constructing and maintaining an oil and gas pipeline in Sections 29 and 32, Township 17 north, Range 15 west, be adopted.* That motion carried, as shown by the following roll call vote: AYES: Commissioners Baker, Cox, Dominick, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson, Smith and Thibodeaux (12). NAYS: None. ABSTAINING: None. ABSENT: None.

ORDINANCES: (For introduction, by title)

- Ordinance No. 4913 of 2009 amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Economic Development Fund in the amount of \$10,000 for the LA State Fair for the year 2009 (Commissioners Jenkins and Cox)
- Ordinance No. 4914 of 2009 amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the General Fund in the amount of \$3,500 for Code Enforcement expenses for constables for the year 2009

- Ordinance No. 4915 of 2009 amending the Budget of Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for the Capital Outlay Fund in the amount of \$500,000 to replace the roof on Government Plaza for the year 2009
- Ordinance No. 4916 of 2009 adopting Chapter 29 of the Code of Ordinances of the Parish of Caddo to establish regulations pertaining to conducting oil, gas and other hydrocarbon well operations and operations related thereto
- Ordinance No. 4917 of 2009 relocating the polling place for Precinct #159 from Greenwood City Hall, 9381 Greenwood Road, Greenwood, to Greenwood Multi-Purpose Center, 6978 Howell Street, Greenwood
- Ordinance No. 4918 of 2009 authorizing the Parish Administrator to execute an easement and right-of-way agreement with Southwestern Electric Power Company pertaining to the granting of an easement and right-of-way for the purpose of relocating electric service at 506 McNeil Street (Courthouse Parking Lot), to provide for an effective date
- Ordinance No. 4919 of 2009 to revoke various dedications of an unnamed road in the Parish of Caddo
- Ordinance No. 4920 of 2009 declaring certain adjudicated properties to be surplus and to authorize the Parish Administrator, or a designee, to sell the Parish of Caddo's tax interest therein

NEW BUSINESS

At this time the President stated that the Commission must select a Fiscal Agent Bank for the Parish for the year October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2011. The banks that have submitted proposals are Bancorp South, Capital One, JP Morgan Chase, Red River Bank and Regions Bank.

It was **moved by Mr. Jenkins**, seconded by Mr. Epperson, *that the agreement with whichever bank is selected should be amended to include language to the effect that the bank will have some good faith discussions on the creation of a community development financial institution.*

He said that the request for proposals sent out to the banks included the information that one of the considerations of the Commission was a desire that the bank reflects a positive attitude toward serving the community. Certainly small businesses are an important part of the community, and this motion provides a way to follow up with whatever bank is selected that they are fulfilling that objective. It does not mean that the bank has an obligation to create the entity, only that they will act in good faith and enter discussions about a CDFI.

These creations are very popular around the nation these days, he said, but a new concept in this area. They allow some of the banks who have to decline loans because of their internal rules and guidelines to have a resource where they can provide a second look at the loans that were rejected. The CDFI helps the banks in many ways, he said, without demanding that they use their capital.

He said he has talked to lenders in the area who say they would welcome such a vehicle. All the banks which made presentations on Monday have expressed that they would have no objections to the intent of his motion, he said. No one wants banks to make bad loans, he said.

Answering a question from Mr. Escude, Mr. Jenkins said that at the Monday meeting each bank if this requirement would be a problem for them, and none indicated that it would be. Telephones over the past two days have confirmed that, he said.

Mr. Escude said that this may not be a surprise to the banks, but it is a surprise to him. He said he would like to know just what Mr. Jenkins intends for the amendment to state.

Mr. Jenkins said the amendment says that "The bank will enter good-faith discussions on the creation of a Community Development Financial Institution in the Caddo Parish area." The requests for proposals sent to the banks included the question as to whether they demonstrate a positive attitude towards all segments of the community, the small businesses.

Mr. Escude pointed out that small businesses comprise some 96 percent of all businesses.

Mr. Jenkins agreed, stating that they are a very important part of the community, and the Commission should support them in whatever way it can. The banks in turn get good ratings for doing that. He said he has learned that most banks do not want to deny loans, and this will give them a means by which they can out-source the loans they cannot directly make. It will not be a burden to the banks.

At this time Mr. Jenkins' motion carried, with Mr. Dominick voting "No".

On the ensuing vote to select the Fiscal Agent, Capital One received the votes of Commissioners Baker, Epperson, Escude, Jenkins, Linn, Lynch, McCulloch, Pierson and Smith (9). Regions Bank received the votes of Commissioners Cox, Dominick and Thibodeaux (3). The President declared Capital One to be the Fiscal Agent for the coming 24 months.

It was **moved by Mr. Pierson**, seconded by Mr. Dominick, *that the Parish Administrator be authorized to negotiate a contract with Grace & Hebert Architects of Baton Rouge to perform a Capacity Assessment Study of Caddo Correction Center to determine current and future capacity needs of the Parish jail. The project cost to the Parish is \$28,000; and an additional \$10,000 will be contributed by the Caddo Parish Sheriff to cover the remaining cost of the project, thereby total cost being \$37,825.* Motion carried.

It was **moved by Mr. Epperson**, seconded by Mrs. Baker, *that Commissioners be authorized travel for the forthcoming NOBCo Executive Board Meeting, September 23rd-28th, to be held in Washington, D. C.* Motion carried.

It was **moved by Mr. Dominick**, seconded by Mrs. McCulloch, *that the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant application of Caddo Parish Waterworks District Number One be withdrawn and re-issued to recommend Lakeview Waterworks District.* Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Stephanie Lynch
President

Jerry C. Spears
Commission Clerk