

December 4, 2009 Draft

**ORDINANCE NO.            OF 2009**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING SECTION 19-15 "COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT", AND PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REASONABLE AND UNIFORM SUPPLEMENTAL ROAD AND BRIDGE USE REGULATIONS FOR THE PARISH OF CADDO; FINES AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.

*"Applicability of these Rule and Regulations shall be confined to a vehicle or combination of vehicles operating intrastate with a single or combined Gross Vehicle Weight Rating equal to or greater than 20,001 pounds; or a vehicle or combination of vehicles operating interstate with a single or combined Gross Vehicle Weight Rating equal to or greater than 10,001 pounds; or any vehicle that is used in transporting material found by the U. S. Secretary of Transportation to be hazardous."*

WHEREAS, the growth and volume of heavy industrial uses and other uses of the public road and bridge system in the Parish of Caddo (the "System") is hereby declared to possess such importance to the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of the Parish of Caddo that the establishment of reasonable and uniform supplemental road and bridge use regulations is essential in order to avoid the creation of hazards in the System, and to protect the long term investment of Parish tax dollars in its Roads and Bridges; and

WHEREAS, these regulations are intended to coexist without conflict with either state regulation and laws, any legal responsibilities of local governments under relevant state and federal laws, any federal statutes or regulations, or with other local regulations which already may address any subject matter of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Parish has discovered that this increased volume of heavy industrial uses of the System has caused significant damage, and costs Caddo millions of dollars in lost intended wear life and actual destruction to the System; and

WHEREAS, various studies have shown, including studies by the U.S. Department of Transportation and various state governments of transportation, that a commercial motor vehicle weight enforcement program helps avoid pavement damage from overweight vehicles.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Transportation has adopted a civil fine schedule for overweight traffic on roads designed to measure and compensate the State for overweight offenders damage to its own road and bridge systems; and

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo intends to adopt the same civil fine schedule of the Louisiana Department of Transportation to attempt to recoup the loss to the public fisc by the operation of the overweight traffic on the System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Caddo Parish Commission that the Chapter 19, of the Caddo Parish Code of Ordinances, be and is hereby amended to add Section 19-15 "Commercial Vehicle Enforcement" and the following road and bridge use regulations are adopted for the Parish of Caddo:

Chapter 19, Section 19-15. Commercial Vehicle Enforcement

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS:

**CADDO PARISH:**

Caddo Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit

**AXLE:**

A beam with a spindle or spindles about which wheels rotate.

**AXLE GROUP:**

A combination of two or more consecutive axles considered together in determining their combined load effect on a highway (such as tandem, tridum, or quadrum axle groups).

**BOOSTER:**

A mechanism which attaches additional axles to the rear of a trailer. The trailer to booster connection may rely on mechanical, air (or other gas), or hydraulic means to provide load transfer. Generally designed to provide axle spacing between groups of a minimum of ten (10) feet bridge or greater. (Also called axle extensions or stingers.)

**CONVERTER DOLLY:**

An auxiliary undercarriage assembly consisting of a chassis, fifth wheel and towbar used to convert a semitrailer to a full trailer. (No load distribution occurs between dolly & power unit.)

**DECK:**

The load carrying area on a platform, lowbed or chassis-type trailer. Can be flat level, dropside, recessed well (transformer) or beam design.

**DEPARTMENT:**

Caddo Parish Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit

**DOLLY, JEEP:**

A short frame-type trailer complete with upper coupler, fifth wheel and undercarriage assembly and designed in such a manner that when coupled to a semi-trailer and tractor it carries a portion of the trailer kingpin load while transferring the remainder to the tractor fifth wheel. (Also called joe dog or a load divider dolly; usually as a sliding fifth wheel or a fixed fifth wheel for the trailer to couple with.)

**DESIGNATED TRUCK ROUTES: (National Network-NN)**

Highways designated by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation in accordance with the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 that includes provisions for truck-semi trailer-trailer combinations and maximum vehicle width of eight feet six inches.

**DOMICILE:**

The fixed, permanent and principal residence for legal purposes.

**DROMEDARY UNIT:**

A load carrying compartment on a truck-tractor located between the cab and fifth wheel.

**DUMMY AXLE:**

A single axle attached independently to the frame of a vehicle and so designed and placed as to indicate the appearance of and to carry a uniformly distributed load of a normal axle group.

**ENVELOPE VEHICLE:**

A truck/semi-trailer combination or truck tractor/manufactured housing combination that does not exceed the size and weight limits specified by Caddo Parish.

**GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING (GVWR):**

The maximum allowable total weight of a road vehicle or trailer when loaded.

**GROSS WEIGHT (GW):**

The weight of a vehicle and/or combination of vehicles plus the weight of any thereon.

**INDIVIDUAL AXLE:**

Any of the two, three, or four axles which make up the tandem, tridum, or quadrum axle groups.

**INTERSTATE HAULING:**

Vehicle movement between or through two or more jurisdictions.

**INTRASTATE HAULING:**

Movement of a vehicle from one point within a jurisdiction to another point within the same jurisdiction, regardless of routes traversed.

**JEEP:**

A short frame-type trailer complete with upper coupler, fifth wheel and undercarriage assembly and designed in such a manner that when coupled to a semi-trailer and tractor it carries a portion of the trailer kingpin load while transferring the remainder to the tractor fifth wheel. (Also called joe dog or a load divider dolly; usually as a sliding fifth wheel or a fixed fifth wheel for the trailer to couple with.)

**LADOTD:**

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

**LENGTH:**

The total longitudinal dimension of a single vehicle, a trailer, or a semi-trailer. Length of a trailer or semi-trailer is measured from the point of the cargo-carrying unit to its rear and includes load-holding devices thereon.

**MOBILE HOME:**

(a) A trailer or semi-trailer which is designed, constructed and equipped as a dwelling place, living abode or sleeping place, either permanently or temporarily, and is equipped for use as a conveyance on highways: or

**(b)** A trailer or semi-trailer whose chassis and exterior shell is designed and constructed for use as a mobile home, as defined in (a), but which is used instead permanently or temporarily for the advertising, sales, display or promotion of merchandise or services, or for any other commercial purpose except the transportation of property for hire or the transportation of property for distribution by a private carrier.

**QUADRUM AXLE:**

Any four consecutive axles whose centers are 40 or more inches but not more than 96 inches apart. A quadrum axle must be designed to equalize the load between the axles.

**SINGLE AXLE:**

Any single axle or any assembly of two or more axles whose containers are less than 40 inches apart.

**SEMI-TRAILER:**

Any single vehicle without motive power designed for carrying property and passengers and so designed in conjunction and used with a motor vehicle that some part of its weight and that of its own load rests or is carried by another vehicle and having one or more load-carrying axles.

**STINGER-STEERED COMBINATION:**

A truck tractor semi trailer wherein the fifth wheel is located on a drop frame located behind and below the rear-most axles of the power unit.

**TANDEM AXLE:**

Any two consecutive axles whose centers are 40 or more inches but not more than 96 inches apart. A tandem axle must be designed to equalize the load between the axles.

**TRIDUM AXLE:**

Any three consecutive axles whose centers are 40 or more inches but not more than 96 inches apart. A tridum axle must be designed to equalize the load between the axles.

**TRAILER:**

Any single vehicle without motive power designed for carrying property and passengers wholly on its own structure, drawn by a motor vehicle, which carries no part of the weight and load of the trailer on its own wheels, and having two or more load carrying axles.

**TRAILER DOLLY:**

An auxiliary undercarriage assembly consisting of a chassis, fifth wheel and towbar used to convert semi-trailer to a full trailer.

**TRAILER, DROP CENTER (DOUBLE DROP):**

A trailer design employing an offset or drop in the cargo deck immediately behind the supports and another immediately in front of the suspension, the purpose of which is to lower the cargo deck and/or to provide the greatest height possible for the cargo in the dropped area.

**TRAILER, DROP FRAME:**

A trailer design employing one offset or drop in the cargo deck immediately behind the supports. (Also called a single drop trailer.)

**TRUNION AXLE:**

An axle configuration with two individual axles mounted in the same transverse plane, with four tires on each axle, connected at a pivot which allows each individual axle to oscillate in a vertical plane to provide constant and equal weight distribution on each individual axle.

**TRUNION AXLE GROUP:**

Two or more consecutive trunion axles, which are individually attached to, and/or articulated, from the vehicle by a weight equalizing suspension system.

**VARIABLE LOAD SUSPENSION AXLES:**

Axles which can be regulated by the driver of the vehicle either through the use of an in-cab valve or switch or by turning a valve on the outside of the truck. These axles are controlled by hydraulic and air suspension systems, mechanically, or by a combination of these methods.

**VEHICLE:**

Any device by which a person, or things may be transported upon a public highway or bridge. A trailer or semi-trailer shall be a separate vehicle.

**WIDTH:**

The total outside transverse dimension of a vehicle including any load or load holding devices thereon, but,

excluding approved safety devices and tire bulge due to load.

## SECTION 2.

### Article 19-15.1. Width; projecting loads.

- A. The width of any vehicle shall not exceed 102 inches, exclusive of safety devices.
- B. The load of any vehicle shall not project more than 12 inches beyond the width of the vehicle.

### SECTION 19-15.2. Height

- A. The height of any vehicle and its load shall not exceed 13 feet 6 inches on the roadways maintained by Caddo. Vehicles operating exclusively on Interstate Highway (due to their configuration) will have a one-road mile exclusionary zone from the Interstate Highway to allow for access to terminals, facilities for food, fuel, repairs, and rest.

### SECTION 19.15.3. Length

- A. On roadways maintained by Caddo the length of a single vehicle shall not exceed 45 feet. The length of the semi trailer portion of a tractor-semi trailer combination shall not exceed 59 feet 6 inches maximum. The maximum length for specialized hauling equipment (car haulers, boat haulers, dromedary units) is 75 feet non-inclusive of a 3-foot front overhang and a 4-foot rear overhang.
- B. The load carried by a combination of vehicles transporting poles and piling and forest products in their natural state shall not exceed 65 feet plus 1 foot for slippage of cargo. These loads may operate during daylight hours with 20 foot rear overhang plus 1 foot for slippage and two red flags (1 foot by 1 foot) posted on rearmost portion of load, indicating both the width and length of the load; and at night with 15 foot rear overhang plus 1 foot for slippage and a single steady illuminated red lamp posted at rearmost portion of load. These loads must maintain a 2-foot clearance above the pavement structure. Daylight shall be defined as the period from thirty minutes after sunrise until thirty minutes before sunset.
- C. The load upon any single vehicle or upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles shall not project more than 4 feet beyond the foremost part of said vehicle, and the load upon the rear of any single vehicle or upon the rearmost part of a combination of vehicles shall not project more than 8 feet beyond rearmost portion of vehicle (excluding forest products). Equipment that is more than 6 feet off of pavement surface is not considered overhang when it is to the foremost part of vehicle.
- D. No combination of commercial motor vehicles operated on Caddo roadways shall consist of more than 2 vehicles.

### SECTION 19.15.4. Cargo Securement

- A. The load on a vehicle shall not drop, sift, leak, or otherwise escape there from.
- B. Cargo securement is product specific and will be secured accordingly.
- C. All loose material will be covered with a tarp that does not allow the load from spilling or dropping from the vehicle. This includes dirt, sand, gravel, nails or other material that is capable of blowing or spilling from a vehicle as a result of movement or exposure to air, wind currents, or weather, but shall not include agricultural products in their natural state or wood chips.

### SECTION 19.15.5.

- A. Draw bars and other connections must be strong enough to pull all the towed weight, be maintained properly, and shall not exceed 15 feet in length.

### SECTION 19.15.6.

- A. Farm and agricultural vehicles, and equipment, except draglines, and bulldozers, being operated or transported for bona fide agricultural or agronomical/horticultural purposes or the transportation of farm vehicles and equipment to be used for normal farm purposes by persons transporting such farm equipment, landscaping, hardware store delivery operations or any type of agronomical machinery, fertilizing tending units for a distance not to exceed 50 miles from point of origin, shall be exempted from Section 19-15.1 to 19-15.3.

- B. Trailers and semi trailers with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than twelve thousand pounds, when owned and used by a retail business in this state and designed for the purpose of pick-up and delivery of new, used and repaired farm equipment for a distance not to exceed 50 miles from point of origin shall be exempt from Section 19-15.1.
- C. Vehicles being operated to transport timber cutting or logging equipment from one job site to another and the equipment being transported, when the trailer upon which the equipment is being towed, are owned or leased by the same person, shall be exempt from Sections 19-15.1, 19-15.2 and 19-15.3.
- D. Such farm vehicles and vehicles transporting cutting and logging equipment may use any Caddo road during the period from thirty minutes after sunrise until thirty minutes before sunset provided that such machinery or equipment shall be equipped with front and rear reflector lights and with a blinking hazard light clearly visible from the front and rear during dusk/dawn and properly marked with flags during daylight.
- E. Trucks which transport seed cotton modules or cotton from the field to the gin, or cottonseed from the gin to the mill shall be exempt from Sections 19-15.1, 19-15.2 and 19-15.3.

The first violation of any of the above articles shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$175.00. A subsequent violation shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$500.00.

### SECTION 3.

#### Section 19-15.7. Weights allowed on Caddo Roadways

- A. The total gross weight of a type 6 vehicle is 80,000 lbs. The total gross weight for a type 8 vehicle is 88,000 lbs (this includes all type 8 vehicles and any tractor with 3 or more axles pulling a trailer with 3 or more axles that are all properly rated).
- B. No tire mounted on any axle attached to any vehicle or combination of vehicles shall impose a greater weight on the surface of a roadway than 650 pounds per square inch. No tire shall exceed its manufacturers tire rating.
- C. The total gross weight of any single axle attached to any vehicle and equipped with low-pressure pneumatic tires shall not exceed 22,000 lbs.
- D. The total gross weight of any tandem axle attached to any vehicle and equipped with low-pressure pneumatic tires is 37,000 lbs., however any vehicle carrying forest products in their natural state shall be given 40,000 lbs.
- E. The total gross weight for tridum axles attached to a vehicle and equipped with low-pressure pneumatic tires is 45,000 lbs.
- F. The total gross weight for a quadrum axle attached to a vehicle equipped with low-pressure tires is 55,000 lbs.
- G. The total gross weight for a 5-axle group attached to a vehicle equipped with low-pressure tires is 61,000 lbs.
- H. The gross steering axle gross weight of any vehicle shall be determined by the size of the tire, it shall not exceed 22,000 lbs.
- I. When by reason of the condition of the weather, or the physical condition of any Caddo roadway or its recent construction, or the making of repairs thereto, Caddo Parish deems it necessary, then for such time as is reasonably necessary to remedy the situation, it may prohibit the use of such a highway or specify lesser gross weights than those fixed in this section, pursuant to the recommendations of the Director of Public Works for Caddo Parish in order to protect the public roadways and the persons and property of the traveling public from unnecessary damage. Notice of such restrictions, prohibitions, or weight reductions shall be given by Caddo Parish by proper posting of signs giving notice of these restrictions, prohibitions, or reductions at the terminal of the roadway. These roadways and bridges will be posted with regulatory weight limit signs (black lettering on a white background). Violation tickets will be issued for vehicles crossing these bridges in excess of the posted weight limit. Neither the Parish of Caddo, the Caddo Parish Commission, its officers, agents and employees shall incur any liability from injury or property

damage caused by the crossing of a posted bridge or travel on a roadway with a load/vehicle in excess of posted or advisory (black lettering on a yellow background) weight limits.

#### Section 19-15.7. Permits

- A. No vehicle or combination of vehicles which does not meet the requirements of Section 19-15.1 through Section 19-15.7 shall use the public roadways of Caddo Parish without first obtaining a special permit from the Parish, the special permit herein provided shall be issued at the discretion of Caddo Parish. Any special permit shall be carried with the vehicle using the same and shall be available for inspection by the proper authorities. There shall be a penalty for failure to obtain and/or possess required special permits of not less than \$100.00 or more than \$500.00, as prescribed by the Director of Public Works.
- B. Caddo Parish may adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purpose of this section relating to special permits.
- C. The Director of Public Works may issue a special permit for the operation of vehicles or combination of vehicles having dimensions or weight in excess of the limits imposed by Caddo Parish Section 19-15.1 through 19-15.6 if the shipment is not readily divided, broken, or dismantled, or the operation of such vehicle is otherwise prohibited by law, however, if the parts which have been divided, broken, or dismantled from the shipment weight in the aggregate weight of five hundred pounds, or less, then the shipment shall be considered as indivisible. If any parts remain with the shipment weight and exceed five hundred pounds, the load shall be considered as divisible and no special permit shall be granted, and any existing special permit shall be deemed void. In the exercise of its discretion, the Director of Public Works shall consider the following factors, as well as any other circumstance existing in the particular case:
1. There is a vital and exceptional economic necessity therefor.
  2. The existence of a real necessity of transportation by Parish roadways.
  3. The Director of Public Works considers the best interest of Caddo Parish, the Caddo road system and the citizens of Caddo and their property during the issuance of the permit.
- D. When an application for a special permit is made, the Director of Public Works may require the special permit applicant to supply any information it deems necessary for the protection of the interests of Caddo, the Caddo road system, and the public.
- E. The Director of Public Works may impose conditions upon the issuance of special permit and may also impose requirements upon its use, including but not restricted to, the use of additional axles, so as to require that the axle weight conform as close as possible to the weight provided for in Section 19-15.7; the routing over the roadways of the shipment under special permit; the date, time of day, the speed limit; the furnishing of a bond with good and solvent surety to protect Caddo Parish, and all officers and employees of Caddo Parish from all liability and damage resulting from the use of such permit (overweight -exceeding weights allowed for the axle configuration, or 14 feet wide or more, the minimum amount of the certificate of insurance must be \$100,000 for one (1) trip or \$250,000 for a year); The permittee accepts and uses the special permit at his or her own risk, even though all instructions, directions and requirements of Caddo Parish have been followed. Neither the Parish of Caddo nor the Caddo Parish Commission or its employees and agents shall incur any liability of any nature from the use of a special permit. The accompaniment of the vehicle and shipment by proper escort, all at the expense of the permittee; and such other conditions or requirements as the Director of Public Works deems necessary and proper. When law enforcement vehicles are required as a proper escort, there shall be a charge for the use thereof. Such charges shall be based on the mileage of the escort with a minimum charge of twenty-five dollars.
- F. An overweight special permit shall be issued for the gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles. Vehicles must be registered for the maximum allowable licensed weight in order to obtain an overweight special permit.
- G. The Director of Public Works may issue an annual special permit for the operation of those vehicles which are of such design that they do not comply with Section 19-15-6.
- H. Special permits must be obtained before movement of an oversize or overweight vehicle or load begins or before the vehicle enters upon the roadways of Caddo Parish. Movement of overweight permitted loads onto a road or bridge with a posted weight limit shall be considered on an individual basis. Inquires should be directed to the Director of Public Works well in advance of the movement as it may require analysis and adequate time should be allowed for this analysis. The permittee shall pay any cost incurred for the analysis.

- I. Caddo Parish may establish and collect reasonable fees for each special permit issued. Permit fees shall be uniform for each classification of vehicle and/or purpose for which issued. All of the funds/fees collected shall be deposited into an account designated by Caddo Parish following their collection. Caddo Parish shall keep a set of books showing from whom funds are received and for what purpose.
- J. The Director of Public Works shall recognize and honor any legally obtained LADOTD issued annual special permit. The permittee accepts and uses the special permit at his or her own risk, even though all instructions, directions and requirements of Caddo Parish have been followed. Neither the Parish of Caddo nor the Caddo Parish Commission or its employees shall incur any liability of any nature from the use of a special permit. Any special permit shall be carried with the vehicle using the same and shall be available for inspection by the proper authorities. Vehicles using an LADOTD issued annual special permit shall be prohibited from violating any posted weight limits on parish roadways or bridges without first contacting the Director of Public Works for permission with adequate response time allowed. Violation of these terms and conditions shall result in termination of observance of said permit by the Director of Public Works.

Annual Permits.

- A. Annual Overweight Permit for Machinery/Heavy Equipment. (\$1,500.00 per year)

The Director of Public Works may issue special permits upon application and payment of fees by the owner or operator of any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting heavy equipment with gross vehicle weight not to exceed 120,000 lbs. Oversize dimensions not exceeding 14 feet 4 inches in height, 12 feet 0 inches in width, 90 feet 0 inches in length and a rear overhang of 25 feet 0 inches shall be included in the cost of the permit. Loads with dimensions exceeding the parameters of this permit must obtain a separate oversize/overweight permit. Vehicles using this permit are prohibited from crossing bridges with a posted weight limit and from travel in restricted construction zones. Vertical clearances will be the responsibility of the permittee. This is a calendar year permit and it expires each year on December 31. The permit will be issued for the pulling unit and is non-transferable and non-refundable. Loads with a gross vehicle weight exceeding 108,000 lbs are required to have a combination of at least 6 axles. Vehicles with valid permit are not prohibited from traveling at night, during moderate rain, or on holidays, if the width and length conform to legal standards. The issuance of this permit requires a signed agreement, an application from the company, Power Of Attorney giving authority to a person to execute the agreement on behalf of the corporation and must be dated on or before the agreement is dated. This permit shall be embossed with the Seal of the Caddo Parish and the original permit shall be carried in the vehicle for which it was issued. They may only be obtained from Caddo Parish. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, there will be no charge for this permit if the vehicle is the subject of a current valid oversize/overweight permit issued by the LADOTD.

- B. Off-Road Equipment-Annual (\$1,000.00 a year)

The Director of Public Works may issue special permits upon application and payment of fees by the owner or operator of vehicles that are classified as Off-Road equipment. In general, included in this category are vehicles that have single-single, single-tandem, or tandem-tandem configurations that do not exceed 30,000 lbs on a single axle, 60,000 lbs on a tandem axle and 66,000 lbs on tridum axles. Reasonable oversize dimensions will be covered as well; however appropriate escort regulations will apply. This permit shall not supersede any lesser weight limit posted on a bridge or roadway. This is a calendar year permit and it expires each year on December 31. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, there will be no charge for this permit if the vehicle is the subject of a current valid off-road equipment annual permit issued by the LADOTD.

- C. Harvest Season or Natural Forest Products (\$10.00 per year)

Upon application and payment of fees by the owner or operator of any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting farm and forest products in their natural state, transporting seed cotton modules, transporting cotton seed from the gin to the mill, transporting brewers grain, Director of Public Works shall issue special harvest season permits for transportation of these farm and forest products in their natural state on Caddo roadways for a total gross weight of 86,600 lbs for any vehicle or combination of vehicles provided:

- 1-The total weight of any single axle shall not exceed 22,000 lbs.
  - 2- The total gross weight of any tandem axle shall not exceed 40,000 lbs.
- This is a calendar year permit, expiring each year on December 31.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, there will be no charge for this permit if the vehicle is the subject of a current valid harvest season or natural forest products annual permit issued

by the LADOTD.

D. Agronomical/Horticultural Permit (\$100.00 per year)

Upon application and payment of fees by the owner or operator of any vehicle or combination of vehicles hauling agronomic or horticultural crops in their natural state, have a minimum of 18 wheels, are legal in size and exceed axle group or gross vehicle weights Director of Public Works shall issue a special permit authorizing the vehicle or combination of vehicles to operate on Caddo roadways provided:

- 1-Gross vehicle weight does not exceed 100,000 lbs.
- 2-Steering axle weight does not exceed 12,000 lbs.
- 3-Tandem axle weight does not exceed 48,000 lbs.
- 4-Tridum axle weight does not exceed 60,000 lbs.

This permit shall not supersede any lesser weight limit posted bridge or roadway. This vehicle or combination of vehicles may operate at night during moderate rain and holidays. This permit is a calendar year permit, expiring each year on December 31. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, there will be no charge for this permit if the vehicle is the subject of a current valid agronomical/horticultural annual permit issued by the LADOTD.

E. Solid Waste Permit (\$50.00 per year)

Upon application and payment of fees by the owner or operator of any truck fitted with a compactor body which is engaged in the collecting and hauling of solid waste including residential solid waste, agricultural waste, commercial solid waste, construction or demolition debris, garbage, industrial solid waste, trash, white goods, wood waste, and yard trash as defined by the DEQ rules and regulations, the Director of Public Works shall issue a special permit authorizing said single vehicle with tandem axles to operate on Caddo roadways at a total gross weight not to exceed 68,000 lbs provided:

- 1-Steering axle does not exceed 20,000 lbs
- 2-Tandem axles does not exceed 48,000 lbs

Said single vehicle with tridum axles to operate on Caddo roadways at a total gross weight not to exceed 80,000 lbs provided:

- 1- Steering axle does not exceed 20,000 lbs.
- 2- Tridum axle does not exceed 60,000 lbs.

This permit shall not supersede any lesser weight limit posted on a bridge or roadway. Vehicles with a valid solid waste permit are not prohibited from traveling at night, during moderate rain, or on holidays. This is a calendar year permit and expires each year on December 31. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, there will be no charge for this permit if the vehicle is the subject of a current valid solid waste annual permit issued by the LADOTD.

F. Oversize Permit (\$250.00)

Upon application and payment of fees, the owner or operator of a vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be issued by the Director of Public Works, a special permit for vehicles and loads which exceed the legal limitations on width, height, or length or projecting loads but not to exceed legal weight limitations. These vehicles and loads may not exceed 90 feet in length, 12 feet in width, 25 feet rear overhang or 14 feet 4 inches in height. If the load being transported does not project beyond the boundaries of the vehicle, and the width and length of the load and vehicle do not exceed legal limitations, then movement will be granted in moderate rain, and holidays. This is a calendar year permit and expires each year on December 31.

In general, oversize and overweight permits are issued only for indivisible vehicles and loads. Indivisible vehicles loads are those which cannot be easily divided or broken down or dismantled to conform to the legal weight limitations or by being in their natural state may be hauled in greater bulk due to its vital and exceptional economic necessity. No type of permit issued by Caddo Parish shall supersede any lesser weight limit posted on a bridge or roadway. The traveling configuration of each piece of equipment will be subject to the initial approval of the Director of Public Works. The proposed route for each permit will be subject to the approval of Caddo Parish relative to the operation of the Caddo maintained roadway system. Restrictions will be specified on each permit; failure to comply with any of these conditions will result in a penalty being assessed. If any owner or operator of a vehicle or combination of vehicles fails to follow the adopted policies, procedures (falsify dimensions/weights to circumvent, restrictions, and/or conditions) they shall be fined. Continued disregard of the policies and procedures set forth by Caddo Parish will result in their being denied

permits to move, or a temporary restraining order applied for by Caddo Parish restricting said owner/operator from operating on roadways maintained by Caddo. Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, there will be no charge for this permit if the vehicle is the subject of a current valid oversize annual permit issued by the LADOTD.

G. Oversize Special Permit (\$10.00 per movement)

Upon application and payment of fees, an owner or driver of a vehicle or combination of vehicles may be issued a special oversize permit to allow the envelope vehicle to exceed the legal limits set forth in Section 15.1, 15.2 and 15.3 at a cost of \$10.00 per movement. All conditions of the movement of these loads shall be prescribed by the Director of Public Works. These permits will be valid for the number of days that are requested (at \$10.00 a day). Movement shall be restricted to daylight hours (the period of time from 30 minutes after sunrise until 30 minutes before sunset). All regulations concerning the flagging and marking of load that exceed legal dimensions as set forth by Caddo Parish (the industry standard) shall be applied.

**OVERWEIGHT PERMIT PROCEDURES**  
Maximum Permit Weights Allowed

Off Road Equipment.

A-Each Single axle 30,000 lbs

B-Each Tandem axle 60,000 lbs-Any vehicle with a tandem axle weighing over 48,000 lbs must have removed all counterweights, footing plates, spreader bars and other easily removable components.

C-Each Tridum axle 66,000 lbs-Any vehicle with a tridum axle weighing over 60,000 lbs must have removed all counterweights, footing plates, spreader bars and other easily removable components. The maximum gross weight that will be permitted for off road equipment is 212,000 lbs.

All Other Vehicles

A. - Each Single Axle

1-24,000 lbs if the gross vehicle weight is 120,000 lbs or less

2-20,000 lbs if the gross weight exceeds 120,000 lbs

B. - Each Tandem axle group

1-48,000 lbs if the gross vehicle weight is 120,000 lbs or less

2-40,000 lbs if the gross weight exceeds 120,000 lbs

3-45,000 if the gross weight exceeds 120,000 lbs and the spread between the axle groups is a minimum of 12 feet and the spread between tires in a group is a minimum of 4 feet.

4-54,000 lbs if it is a set of trunion axles with a minimum of 16 tires

C. - Each Tridum axle group 60,000lbs

D. - Each Quadrum axle group 80,000 lbs

E. - Each 5 axle group 100,000 lbs

When the gross weight exceeds 254,000 lbs, permit request will require detailed information. Inquiries should be directed to Caddo Parish well in advance of the movement (generally 2 weeks).

Loads exceeding 254,000 lbs may require analysis from an independent engineering firm and additional time should be allowed for that analysis. The permittee shall incur any analysis expenses.

Overweight Permit Fee Schedule

Gross Weight In pounds	Distance in miles	
	50	100
80,000-100,000	\$30	\$45
100,100-108,000	\$50	\$95
108,100-120,000	\$70	\$130
120,001-132,000	\$90	\$170
132,001-152,000	\$120	\$225
152,001-172,000	\$155	\$295
172,001-192,000	\$190	\$365
192,000-212,000	\$225	\$435
212,001-232,000	\$260	\$505
232,000-254,000	\$295	\$575

Over 254,000:

1-\$10.00-plus \$0.50 per ton-mile in excess of 80,000 lbs, plus a fee for structural evaluation based on the following schedule:

- A. \$125.00 for evaluation of treated timber, concrete slab, and precast concrete slab bridges
- B. \$850.00 for evaluation of truss, continuous span bridges
- C. \$500.00 for all other structures

All special permits are non refundable. Once the permits are issued they will not be rescinded. A special permit may be revised due to inclement weather or mechanical breakdown. Each revision will be taken on a case-by-case basis.

Escorts.

Law Enforcement escorts are required for all vehicles and loads:

- A. Over 16 feet wide
- B. Over 125 feet long

Law enforcement escorts are required when specific areas may require a city or parish escort and /or permit. Contact with parish law enforcement authorities is the responsibility of the hauler for possible requirements or restrictions.

Private Escorts are required for all vehicles and loads:

- A. Over 12 feet wide
- B. Over 90 feet long

- A. An oversize and/or overweight permit is required for each escort movement. The driver(s) of the escort vehicle shall make certain a permit has been issued and shall familiarize themselves with and abide by requirements of the issued permit.
- B. The escorting vehicle shall be registered according with state law.
- C. At no time may an escort pull a trailer, tow another vehicle, or carry a load.
- D. Each driver of an escort vehicle must have a valid driver's license issued by a state or territory of the US.
- E. The driver of an escort vehicle must be able to read and understand this directive.
- F. The driver of an escort vehicle is responsible for the movement and shall ensure the vehicle is operated in a manner consistent with these provisions and all provisions of the permit. In the event, the driver of the escorted vehicle does not or refuses to operate in accordance with these stipulations, the driver of the escort vehicle shall terminate the movement and report this action to the proper company officials or local police authority or Caddo Parish.
- G. It shall be the responsibility of the driver of the escort vehicle to operate as a warning vehicle only. The driver shall not run traffic lights, fail to stop at stop signs, improperly pass, etc. His authorization to warn motorists of danger shall not imply the vehicle is or should be used as a police and/or emergency vehicle.
- H. Escorts and flagman (when required) engaged in escorting loads on the roadways of Caddo shall present a neat appearance and shall be courteous in their contact with the motoring public at all times.
- I. All costs incidental to escorts shall be borne by the escorter or permittee.
- J. The equipment required on escort vehicles shall be available for inspection at all times and be available for inspection on demand by Caddo Parish.
- K. Payment of escort service shall be determined by the escorter and permittee.
- L. Escorts must be furnished for all movements in excess of 12 feet in width or in excess of 90 feet in length and for any other movement so designated by the Caddo Parish.

- M. In the event a law enforcement escort is required, the permittee shall pay the escort fee.
- N. The owner and /or operator of the escort vehicle agrees to hold harmless Caddo Parish and its agents and employees against any action for personal injury or property damage sustained by reason of the authority to escort an oversize load.
- O. The Director of Public Works will determine that proper escort procedures are complied with and shall have full authority to enforce all provisions of the permits and escort regulations. The authority to revoke permits and terminate the movement shall rest with Caddo Parish.

#### Equipment Required for Proper Escort Vehicle

- A. The escort vehicle shall display an approved 360-degree "Emergency warning lamp". It may be a bar, strobe, revolving and stationary lamp. It shall be amber in color.
- B. There shall be 2 solid red/fluorescent orange flags, 18 inches square, mounted at a 45-degree angle atop the escort vehicle. These flags are not to extend more than 6 inches on either side of the vehicle and in no event shall exceed 8 feet 0 inches in width. These flags shall be mounted in line with the warning lamp(s).
- C. The escort vehicle must have the name and address or telephone number and the city and state of the company/owner of the escort vehicle on each front door of the vehicle, plainly legible and visible to the motoring public. Well-known company logos are acceptable.
- D. The escorting vehicle shall be equipped with 2 rear view mirrors, one on each side, so as to provide vision to the rear to ensure movement is progressing safely.
- E. Headlights and rear lights on the escort vehicle shall be lighted during movement.
- F. The escort vehicle and the towing vehicle shall be equipped with radios such that communication between vehicles is possible. The escort vehicle will be responsible for advising the towing vehicle of any conditions arising that may require cautionary action such as reducing speed, pulling off roadway, etc.
- G. The escorting vehicle shall be equipped with and have readily accessible a 10 lb BC dry or equivalent chemical type fire extinguisher, four 15-minute burning flares and 2 red/fluorescent orange hand held flags. It must also have available 4 additional red/fluorescent flags that are 18 inches square and 2 (2) signs with the wording "OVERSIZE LOAD". These signs must be 18 inches high and 7 feet in length. The lettering must be black on a yellow background and is to be 10 inches high with a 1-½ inch brushstroke.
- H. For all over height loads it is strongly recommended that a clearance bar/pole of some design be attached to the escort vehicle to warn of clearance problems of the load being escorted.

#### Escorting procedures

- A. Speed limit for the escort load is determined by the Caddo Parish, and in any event shall not exceed 50 mph.
- B. Movement shall be made on only those roadways designated on the permit. Alternate routes shall not be used unless approved by the Caddo Parish.
- C. Movement shall be made only on dates and/or hours during times shown on the permit. No movement shall be made during the hours of darkness unless prior approval is obtained from the Caddo Parish.
- D. An escorted movement approaching any bridge structure, which cannot be traversed safely because of an inability to distinguish potential hazards by sight, shall be parked (off the roadway where possible) and the escort vehicle shall proceed across said bridge (hill or incline). Adequate time shall be allotted to allow escort to stop oncoming traffic before the oversize movement traverse said bridge, hill, or incline.
- E. Escorted vehicles will not impede the normal flow of traffic whenever possible. Whenever vehicular traffic to the rear becomes congested, it is required that the escort causes the movement to be halted onto the shoulder or safe location. The movement shall remain off the main traveled portion of the roadway until traffic has cleared. Movement may continue then until congestion reoccurs.

- F. Movement shall not be made during severe/inclement weather (heavy rain, fog, etc). When the movement is in progress and severe/ inclement weather occurs, it shall be the responsibility of the escort driver to have the vehicle being escorted removed from the travel portion of the roadway to a safe location.
- G. The operator of the escort vehicle will ensure that the oversize vehicle is not allowed to park on the main-traveled portion of the highway unless absolutely necessary or in case of extreme emergency. Anytime the combination is parked on the shoulder or right of way, flares, flags, flagman, etc shall adequately protect it.
- H. The escort vehicle shall travel to the rear of the over width movement on multi-lane roadways and in front of the escorted load on two lane roadways. The escort must be behind over-length loads and vehicles.
- I. The oversize load shall travel as near to the right as is safely possible to insure traffic will be able to pass as safely as possible. The escort and escorted load shall not infringe upon the opposite bound lane whenever possible.
- J. A single escort may be used to escort 1 or 2 loads that are over length in 1 movement.
- K. An escort will be required for each over width load exceeding 12 feet in width.
- L. The escort shall remain a sufficient distance from the movement to warn oncoming/overtaking traffic of the potential danger, but not so far as to hinder control over the movement.
- M. Violators of these provisions or requirements shall be subject to all penalties provided by the law, including revocation of permit.
- N. Warning flags are required on vehicles and loads which exceed the legal width or length. Loads will be flagged in accordance with the requirements of Caddo Parish (the industry standard). All four corners of projecting load will be flagged, plus any load extending beyond the four corners of the load. Vehicles and loads exceeding 10 feet in width must display 2 signs with the wording "OVERSIZE LOAD". One sign must be to the front of the vehicle. The other must be on the rear of the load, or if that does not result in an easily read sign, then the sign must be on the rear of the vehicle. If the load exceeds legal length or rear overhang it shall display 2 signs. These signs must be on the sides of the overhanging part of the load or, if that is not possible, then the signs must be on the side of the vehicle. If the load to the rear clears the road surfaces by at least 6 feet then no signs are required. Loads and vehicles exceeding the front-end overhang must display 1 sign with the wording "OVERSIZE LOAD". The sign will be displayed to the front of the vehicle. If the load or vehicle clears the road surface by 6 feet no sign is required. All warning signs must be at least 7 feet long and 18 inches high. The background must be yellow and the lettering black. Letters must be 10 inches high with a 1-1/2 inch brushstroke.
- O. All vehicle and loads which exceed the legal limitations for width, and length shall, when moving during hours of darkness, be equipped with the required warning lights.

Caddo Parish Penalties.

- A. Whoever owns or drives any vehicle or combination of vehicles in violation of any rule, regulation, directive, or requirement of Caddo Parish adopted pursuant to Section 19-15.1 through 19-15.6 shall be assessed a penalty of not more than \$175.00 for each initial violation and not more than \$500.00 for subsequent violations, at the discretion of the Director of Public Works.
- B. Except as provided for in Subparagraphs (1), (2) and (4), whoever owns or operates any vehicle or combination of vehicles in violation of any rule, regulation, directive, or requirement of Caddo Parish shall be required to reduce the load to the maximum permissible gross weight and shall be assessed a penalty on such weight which exceeds the permissible gross weight as defined by Caddo Parish or maximum allowable axle weights, whichever results in the higher fine in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Overweight</u> <u>Pounds</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
1 to 999	\$10.00 minimum
1,000 to 1,999	\$.01 per pound in excess legal limit
2,000 to 2,999	\$.02 per pound in excess legal limit
3,000 to 3,999	\$.03 per pound in excess legal limit
4,000 to 4,999	\$.04 per pound in excess legal limit

5,000 to 5,999	\$.05 per pound in excess legal limit
6,000 to 6,999	\$.06 per pound in excess legal limit
7,000 to 7,999	\$.07 per pound in excess legal limit
8,000 to 8,999	\$.08 per pound in excess legal limit
9,000 to 9,999	\$.09 per pound in excess legal limit
10,000 to 10,999	\$.10 per pound in excess legal limit
11,000 and over	\$.11 per pound in excess legal limit

1. Any truck hauling concrete or construction aggregates shall not be assessed a penalty for weight, which exceeds the maximum allowable axle weights, if such truck does not also exceed the maximum permissible gross weight as provided by Caddo Parish.
2. Any truck hauling hot mix asphalt which is performing work pursuant to a contract with the state or the governing authority of a parish or municipality shall not be assessed a penalty for weight which exceeds the maximum allowable axle weights, if such truck does not exceed the maximum permissible gross weight as provided by Caddo Parish.
3. Any truck fitted with a compactor body which is engaged in the collecting and hauling of solid waste including residential solid waste, agricultural waste, commercial solid waste, and yard trash as defined by the Department of Environmental Quality, shall not be assessed a penalty for weight which exceeds the maximum allowable axle weights if such truck does not also exceed the maximum permissible gross weight as provided by Caddo Parish. Such truck shall not be assessed a penalty for exceeding its maximum permissible gross weight, as determined by law or pursuant to issuance of a special permit, if the waste is wet and the location from which the waste was collected received measurable precipitation (.25 inches or more), as recorded by the National Weather Service recognized observation stations, within twenty-four hours prior to collection provided the total excess weight is ten percent or less of the trucks maximum permissible gross weight. If the total excess weight is greater than ten percent of the truck's maximum permissible gross weight, as determined by law or pursuant to issuance of a special permit, the assessed penalty shall be calculated only on the excess weight, which is above the ten percent allowance for water weight.
4. Prior to assessment of a penalty for weight, which exceeds the maximum allowable weights, the owner or operator is authorized to shift the load to reduce or eliminate such excess axle weight penalties as long as no part of the shipment is removed.
5. A penalty for both failure to possess a required special permit and for operating a vehicle in violation of Caddo Parish arising from the same activity may be issued and shall be cumulative in nature.
6. Whoever owns or drives a vehicle or combination of vehicles without a proper escort when such escort is required by a special permit shall be assessed a penalty of \$100.00, and the vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be impounded until proper escort is secured by the permittee.
7. Whoever owns or drives any vehicle or combination of vehicles in violation of any rule, regulation, directive, or requirement of the secretary adopted pursuant to Caddo Parish, or in violation of the terms and conditions of any special permit issued under Caddo Parish shall be assessed a penalty of not less than \$100.00 or more than \$500.00.
8. Whoever owns or drives a vehicle or combination of vehicles in violation of an overweight special permit shall be assessed a penalty for each pound of gross weight authorized by the special permit weight in accordance with the following schedule and shall increase the permissible gross weight authorized by the special permit if he shall satisfy any special conditions imposed by the Director of Public Works (Annual permits cannot be amended) or otherwise shall reduce his load to the maximum weight allowed under his special permit.

Gross Weight	Pounds Over Permit Penalty
0 to 3,000	.02 a pound
3,001 to 5,000	.03 a pound
5,001 to 10,000	.04 a pound
10,000 and over	.05 a pound + 100.00

9. Payments and penalties imposed by the Director of Public Works shall be remitted to Caddo Parish.

10. Upon completion of the proper vehicle inspection report required by the Director of Public Works, a letter shall be sent to the owner/operator of the vehicle advising what if any action shall be taken in regard to that report. The letter will advise of all fines that may have resulted from the report, how they may be paid, and the proper method of appeal.

Impounding of vehicles; prohibitions.

- A. Upon discovery of any vehicle or combination of vehicles operated in violation of the laws, regulations, rules, or ordinances set forth by Caddo Parish regulating the movement/operation of commercial motor vehicles in the Parish of Caddo, the vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not be impounded but may be directed by the Director of public Works to the nearest appropriate place suitable for unloading to its licensed gross weight or maximum size and weight requirements as set forth by Caddo Parish and storage of said product to preserve it for its intended use in commerce and in either case shall be detained or unloaded at the expense and responsibility of the owner or driver.

Authority of the Caddo Parish.

(1) Caddo Parish as an exercise of its police powers through appropriate law enforcement agencies, shall supervise and regulate all traffic, on all roadways within the Parish roadway system and shall have the authority, in its discretion, to regulate traffic on all roadways within Caddo including city streets, State, US, and Interstate highways.

(2) The Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit is hereby created. It shall also enforce the Ordinances adopted by the Caddo Parish and in the Policy and Procedure Manual of the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit of 2009 on all roadways maintained by Caddo. Officers of the Caddo Parish Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit shall carry the endorsement and commission of the Sheriff of Caddo. They shall be authorized, upon completion of POST Certification training to carry weapons and to make arrests in the commission of their duties. They shall be vested with the authority to direct, control, and regulate all traffic in the Parish of Caddo. They shall have the same authority and powers conferred by law upon other law enforcement officers of The State of Louisiana and The Parish of Caddo.

(3) Upon direction of the Director of Public Works, the Caddo Parish Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit may restrict traffic on limited access highways; temporarily reducing the permissible weight of vehicles, which may operate thereon. On specified roadways, when due to, but not limited to, deterioration, abuse, climatic conditions or the making of required repairs, it will be done in accordance with the proper posting of signs at the terminal of said roadways, giving notice of such traffic regulation.

(4) The Parish Administrator may delegate in writing to any other parish employee or office of parish government any of the duties and responsibilities of the Director of Public Works as set forth in this Chapter 19 Any regulation or ordinance promulgated by the Caddo Parish pursuant to the authority granted by this section or by any other provision of law shall become effective when filed with the Clerk of Court of Caddo. All rules and regulations promulgated by the Caddo Parish Commercial Enforcement Unit relative to commercial vehicle enforcement, payment and collection procedures shall be adopted in accordance with the provisions of set forth by the Caddo Parish Commission. A three member panel assembled by the Caddo Parish shall hear any protest, appeal or request. If, upon the adjudication of the three member panel the violator still wishes to appeal the verdict, they may appeal the decision to District Court. The violator shall pay all court costs related to this action.

(5) Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Director of Public Works or his designee may appeal same to the Parish Administrator. Any such written approval must be received in the Parish Administrator's office within ten (10) calendar days of the decision complained of being rendered. The Parish Administrator shall render his decision within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of any appeal. His decision shall be final.

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 on April 1, 2010.

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

Approved as to legal form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date