

## **House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs**

Minutes of Meeting  
2021 Regular Session  
April 29, 2021

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Mike Huval, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Mike Huval, chairman  
Representative Mary DuBuisson  
Representative Rick Edmonds  
Representative Les Farnum  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.  
Representative Timothy P. Kerner  
Representative Rodney Lyons  
Representative C. Denise Marcelle  
Representative Markham Scott McKnight  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative Joseph A. Stagni, vice chairman  
Representative Matthew Willard

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative Bryan Fontenot  
Representative Cedric B. Glover

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tina Righteous, attorney  
Valarie Banks, committee administrative assistant  
David Gauthier, analyst

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Kylan Melancon, clerk  
Janet McKnight, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**House Bill No. 519 by Representative Pierre**

House Bill No. 519 provides relative to the North Lafayette Redevelopment Authority.

Representative Huval offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 519. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 519 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 59 by Representative LaCombe**

Representative LaCombe presented House Bill No. 59, a constitutional amendment) which authorizes a political subdivision to waive water charges incurred through damage not caused by the customer.

Pat Credeur, Louisiana Rural Water Association, 400 Trappay Road, Carencro, LA, 70520, spoke in support of House Bill No. 59.

Karen White, Louisiana Municipal Association, 700 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-5001, spoke in support of House Bill No. 59.

John Neilson, DeSoto Parish Waterworks, P.O. Box 1409, Mansfield, LA, 71052, (318) 872-0004, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 59.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 59 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 59 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 53 by Representative Mincey**

Representative Mincey presented House Bill No. 53, which provides relative to the board of directors of the Livingston Parish Convention and Visitors' Bureau.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 53 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 53 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 41 by Representative Mack**

Representative Mack presented House Bill No. 41, which provides relative to the membership of the governing board of the Livingston Parish Ward Two Water District.

John Wascom, Livingston Parish, no address given, (225) 445-5027, spoke in support of House Bill No. 41.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 41 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 41 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 63 by Representative Butler**

Representative Butler presented House Bill No. 63, which authorizes an increase in per diem for the governing board members of the Ward Five Fire Protection District of Evangeline Parish.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 63 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 63 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 66 by Representative Kerner**

Representative Kerner presented House Bill No. 66, which provides relative to municipal police dogs.

Brandon Brewer, Louisiana Municipal Association, no address given, (225) 344-5001, spoke in support of House Bill No. 66.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 66 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 66 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval,

Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 87 by Representative Echols**

Representative Echols presented House Bill No. 87, which provides relative to administrative adjudication of certain ordinance violations in the city of Monroe.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 87 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 87 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 115 by Representative Davis**

Representative Davis presented House Bill No. 115, which creates the Old Goodwood Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 115 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 115 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 133 by Representative Adams**

Representative Adams presented House Bill No. 133, which provides relative to the qualifications of one member of the municipal fire and police civil service board in the city of Zachary.

Representative Huval offered amendments to expand the boundaries of the unincorporated area of the parish within which a board member may reside from within 2.5 miles of the corporate limits of the city to the entire unincorporated area. Representative Huval offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Bob Whitaker, city of Zachary, 4700 Main Street, Zachary, LA, (225) 235-2898, spoke in support of House Bill No. 133.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 133 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 133 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 333 by Representative Adams**

Representative Adams presented House Bill No. 333, which provides relative to the classified fire service in the city of Zachary.

Danny Kimble, Zachary Fire Department, 4525 Main Street, Zachary, LA, (225) 654-9926, spoke in support of House Bill No. 333.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 333 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 333 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 109 by Representative Muscarello**

Representative Muscarello presented House Bill No. 109, which provides for administrative adjudication procedures in Tangipahoa Parish.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 109 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 109 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 135 by Representative Carrier**

Representative Carrier presented House Bill No. 135, which provides relative to the position of deputy chief of police in the city of Oakdale.

Chad Doyle, Oakdale Police Department, no address given, (318) 491-3964, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 135.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 135 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 135 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 134 by Representative Carrier**

Representative Carrier presented House Bill No. 134, which provides for the composition and authority of the Allen Parish Capital Improvements Board.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 134 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 134 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Willard voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 157 by Representative Green**

Representative Green presented House Bill No. 157, which provides relative to the financial security for surviving spouses and children of law enforcement officers who suffer death by heart attack or stroke.

Sergeant Bryan Lee, Louisiana State Police, 7919 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 925-4239, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 157.

Karen White, Louisiana Municipal Association, 700 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 344-5001, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 157.

Representative Green offered a motion to report House Bill No. 157 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 157 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 161 by Representative Deshotel**

Representative Deshotel presented House Bill No. 161, which provides relative to the civil service status of employees of the Bunkie Housing Authority.

Representative Marcelle offered a motion to report House Bill No. 161 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 161 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, Marcelle, McKnight, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 162 by Representative Deshotel**

Representative Deshotel presented House Bill No. 162, which provides relative to the civil service status of employees of the Simmesport Housing Authority.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 162 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 162 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

#### **House Bill No. 257 by Representative Freiberg**

Representative Freiberg presented House Bill No. 257, which creates the Plantation Trace Crime Prevention and Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report House Bill No. 257 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 257 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, DuBuisson, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

#### **House Bill No. 332 by Representative Willard**

Representative Willard presented House Bill No. 332, which creates the Vista Park Crime Prevention District in Orleans Parish. Representative Willard presented a Vista Park Security District Resolution in favor of creation of the district, labeled in the committee records as Exhibit A.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 332 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 332 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

**House Bill No. 405 by Representative Jordan**

On behalf of Representative Jordan, Representative Lyons presented House Bill No. 405, which provides relative to compensation for members of the planning and zoning commission for the town of Brusly.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to report House Bill No. 405 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 405 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

**House Bill No. 144 by Representative Stefanski**

On behalf of Representative Stefanski, Representative McKnight presented House Bill No. 144, which provides relative to the membership of the governing board of the Acadia Parish Convention and Visitors Commission.

Representative McKnight offered a motion to report House Bill No. 144 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 144 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS****Adoption of minutes of the meetings of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs held on March 12, May 7, May 14, May 20, and May 28, 2020, of the 2020 Regular Session and October 2, 2020, of the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session**

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt the minutes. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Green offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Huval, Edmonds, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Green, Kerner, Lyons, McKnight, Newell, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Mike Huval  
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: