

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

Minutes of Meeting  
2023 Regular Session  
April 27, 2023

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

Representative Rick Edmonds, chairman of the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. in Room 6, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Rick Edmonds, chairman  
Representative Mary DuBuisson  
Representative Les Farnum  
Representative Bryan Fontenot  
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg  
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry  
Representative Cedric B. Glover  
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.  
Representative Timothy P. Kerner  
Representative Rodney Lyons  
Representative Candace N. Newell  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn  
Representative Joseph A. Stagni, vice chairman  
Representative Matthew Willard

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative C. Denise Marcelle  
Representative Scott McKnight

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

Tina Righteous, attorney  
Alexandra Cravins, committee administrative assistant  
Sarah Baker, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms  
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION**

**House Bill No. 137 by Representative Fisher**

Representative Fisher presented House Bill No. 137, which provides relative to the secretary of the municipal fire and police civil service board for the city of Monroe.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 137 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 137 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 356 by Representative Fisher**

Representative Fisher presented House Bill No. 356, which provides relative to compensation for Ouachita Parish hospital service district commission members.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 356 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 356 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 210 by Representative Butler**

Representative Butler presented House Bill No. 210, which provides relative to the Louisiana Local Government Environmental Facilities and Community Development Authority.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments to restore present law provisions to clarify that the authority may receive appropriations from the legislature and financial assistance, guarantees, insurance, or subsidies from the federal or state government or a private source. Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Ty Carlos, LCDA, 5641 Bankers Avenue, Building B, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 924-6150, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 210.

Representative Gadberry offered a motion to report House Bill No. 210 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 210 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 87 by Representative Adams**

Representative Adams presented House Bill No. 87, which provides relative to the board of commissioners of East Feliciana Gas Utility District No. 1.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to report House Bill No. 87 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 87 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 409 by Representative Edmonds**

*Vice Chairman Stagni in the chair.*

Representative Edmonds presented House Bill No. 409, which provides relative to stormwater utility systems.

Representative DuBuisson offered amendments which provide that the imposition of fees within the district would not require voter approval.

Representative DuBuisson offered a motion to withdraw the amendments. Without objection, the amendments were withdrawn by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, and Stagni voted yea.

Kelly Hurtado, Louisiana Stormwater Coalition, Burden Center, no address provided, (225) 802-3568, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 409.

Renee Verma, Louisiana Stormwater Coalition, 3265 McCarroll Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 505-4166, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 409.

Marie Constantin, Louisiana Stormwater Coalition, 657 Spanish Town Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 405-5204, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 409.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 409 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 409 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 270 by Representative Willard**

*Chairman Edmonds in the chair.*

Representative Willard presented House Bill No. 270, which provides relative to the growth and accumulation of grass, weeds, and other deleterious matter in Orleans Parish.

D. Lance Cardwell, city of New Orleans, 1340 Poydras Street, Suite 1100, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 658-8451, spoke in favor of House Bill No. 270.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 270 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 270 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

### **House Bill No. 140 by Representative Willard**

Representative Willard presented House Bill No. 140, which provides relative to the Mid City Economic Development District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 140 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 140 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 132 by Representative Thompson**

Representative Thompson presented House Bill No. 132, which provides relative to advertisement and sponsorship signs on property of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

Brandon Burris, State Parks, 1051 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 342-8111, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 132.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 132 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 132 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 296 by Representative Hilferty**

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 296, which provides relative to the Mid-City Security District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Edmonds offered amendments to:

- (1) Exempt public property and property owned by nonprofits from the parcel fee if such property is exempt from ad valorem taxes pursuant to present constitution; and
- (2) Add condominiums to the list of properties subject to a parcel fee not to exceed \$250 per year.

Representative Edmonds offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 296 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 296 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 185 by Representative Hilferty**

Representative Hilferty presented House Bill No. 185, which provides relative to the Lake Terrace Crime Prevention District in Orleans Parish.

Representative Willard offered a motion to report House Bill No. 185 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 185 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 64 by Representative Bourriague**

Representative Bourriague presented House Bill No. 64, which provides relative to per diem and reimbursement of expenses for members of the Cameron Parish Library Board of Control.

Representative Newell offered a motion to report House Bill No. 64 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 64 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 209 by Representative Bourriague**

Representative Bourriague presented House Bill No. 209, which provides relative to Cameron Parish Water and Wastewater Board for District No. 1.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to report House Bill No. 209 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 209 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Glover, Kerner, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

**House Bill No. 114 by Representative Orgeron**

Representative Orgeron presented House Bill No. 114, which exempts certain state property in Lafourche Parish from state park size requirements.

Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to report House Bill No. 114 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 114 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

**House Bill No. 138 by Representative Charles Owen**

Representative Charles Owen presented House Bill No. 138, which provides relative to administrative adjudication of certain ordinance violations in the city of DeRidder.

Misty Clanton, city of DeRidder, 200 South Jefferson Street, no city provided, (337) 462-8900, spoke in support of House Bill No. 138.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 138 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 138 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 93 by Representative Carrier**

Representative Carrier presented House Bill No. 93, which provides relative to per diem paid to members of the governing board of Fire District No. 5 of Allen Parish.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 93 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 93 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

### **House Bill No. 79 by Representative Romero**

Representative Romero presented House Bill No. 79, which provides relative to the position of deputy police chief in the city of Jennings.

Mayor Henry Guinn, city of Jennings, no address provided, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 79.

Derek Bisiq, city of Jennings, 154 North Main Street, Jennings, LA 70546, (337) 821-5500, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 79.

Adrienne Bordelon, office of state examiner, 7722 Office Park Boulevard, Suite 500, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-4416, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 79.

Chad Major, Professional Firefighters of Louisiana, 5011 Merle Gustafson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70807, (225) 572-8483, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 79.

Chris Stewart, Louisiana Law Enforcement Association, 116 Range Avenue, Denham Springs, LA, (225) 938-1103, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 79.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support, and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Representative Farnum offered a motion to report House Bill No. 79 favorably, to which Representative Stagni objected. Representative Edmonds offered a substitute motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 79. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 79 was voluntarily

deferred by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, Stagni, and Willard voted yea.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Edmonds announced that House Bill No. 507, which provides relative to compensation for printing of the official proceedings of political subdivisions, had been voluntarily deferred by the author.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative Willard offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Edmonds, Stagni, DuBuisson, Farnum, Fontenot, Freiberg, Gadberry, Glover, Kerner, Lyons, Newell, Schamerhorn, and Willard voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Rick Edmonds  
House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs

Date adopted: