CADDO PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NUMBER ONE
ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NUMBER 25-001

INTRODUCED BY Fred McClanahan, SECONDED BY Clarence Babineaux,
ON THE 21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2025

ORDINANCE, PURSUANT TO LA R.S. 33:9101 ET SEQ. AS AMENDED BY THE LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE, UPDATING THE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICE CHARGE ON FIXED LOCATION WIRE LINE SERVICE USERS TO THE MOST RECENT AT&T TARIFF RATES; ESTABLISHING THE RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS FIXED LOCATION WIRE LINE SERVICE USERS; AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO:

WHEREAS, in 1986 by majority approval of the voters of Caddo Parish of the Caddo Parish Communications District Number One ("District") was provided the authority to impose a 9-1-1 service charge throughout the entirety of the District at a maximum allowed collection for fixed location wire line service subscribers not to exceed 5% of the tariff rate based on the highest amount charged for basic service within the District by an exchange access service provider or equivalent; and,

WHEREAS. during the First Extraordinary Session of 1996 of the Louisiana Legislature, HB 224 was enacted, which allowed the Communications District to increase surcharge fees on residential and business wire line services, impose a service fee on wireless services and granted the authority to convert from the tariff based fees to a flat fee assessment upon voter approval; and,

WHEREAS, on September 21, 1996, an election was held whereby the majority of voters of Caddo Parish provided the Communications District with the authority to assess emergency service charges on wired and wireless communications services and convert the rate schedule for its service fees to a flat rate from a not to exceed 5% of the tariff rate in Caddo Parish, and established the rates of $1.00 for residential wire line services and $2.00 for business wire line services and $1.00 for wireless services; and,

WHEREAS, the Communications District Board of Commissioners as allowed by LA R.S. 33:9106, as amended by the Louisiana Legislature, increased its 9-1-1 service fees and converted the rate schedule for its service charge to flat rate on October 29, 1996 through the passage of Ordinance No. 96-001 in an effort to stabilize wire line income for the District; and

WHEREAS, through the passage of Act 1029 of 1999, the Louisiana Legislature materially modified Louisiana law concerning a communications district's ability to impose telephone emergency service charges, specifically through modifications of R.S. 33:9106 (B), which gave blanket authority to communications districts, subject to voter approval, to impose such fees on a not to exceed 5% of the tariff rate; and

WHEREAS, the Communications District Board of Commissioners as allowed by LA R.S. 33:9106, as amended by the Louisiana Legislature, increased its 9-1-1 service fees, while maintaining the rate schedule for its service charge on March 8, 2016 through the passage of Ordinance No. 16-001 in an effort to stabilize wire line income for the District; and

WHEREAS, AT&T Louisiana confirms in the publication entitled LA-25-0004 General Exchange Guidebook, Effective January 1, 2025 (A3. Basic Local Exchange Service), the current tariff rates for both residential and business wire line subscribers located in Zone 1, which includes Caddo Parish, depicts the Residential Flat Rate as $47.00 per month and Business Single Line Flat Rate Service as $1530.00 per month, an increase of $22.00 per month for Residential service and $1416.00 per month for Business service from the 2016 tariff rates; and

WHEREAS, the District's Board of Commissioners in its need to remedy the exponential increase in technology and physical infrastructure costs, and the disparaging loss in revenues due to the critical and ever-increasing loss of wire line service subscribers must consider all responsible funding options and sources with prudence;

BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NUMBER ONE THAT:

SECTION 1. The Caddo Parish Communications District Board, pursuant to LA R.S. 33:9101 et seq. as amended by the Louisiana Legislature, hereby authorizes the conversion from the previously established rate of $1.25 for wire line residential lines to $1.75 per access line per month (***equal to 3.7% of the present tariff rate***), for any Residential users of fixed location wire line service and those providers offering a connection to the "exchange access facilities" (i.e., landline telephone exchange service, Voice Over Internet Protocol, and the like), whose address is within the boundaries of Caddo Parish.

SECTION 2. The Caddo Parish Communications District Board, further authorizes the conversion from the previously established rate of $2.50 for wire line business lines to $5.60 per access line per month (***equal to .36% of the present tariff rate***), for Business users of fixed location wire line service and those providers offering a connection to the "exchange access facilities" (i.e., landline telephone exchange service, Voice Over Internet Protocol, and the like), whose address is within the boundaries of Caddo Parish.

SECTION 3. The Caddo Parish Communications District Board, in an effort to remain proactive, hereby authorizes the following fixed rate escalation schedule for users of fixed location residential and business wire line service and those providers offering a connection to the "exchange access facilities" (i.e., landline telephone exchange service, Voice Over Internet Protocol, and the like), whose address is within the boundaries of Caddo Parish:

SECTION 3.1. ***Effective January 1, 2027***, the conversion from the previously established rate of $1.75 for wire line residential lines to $2.00 per access line per month (***equal to 4.25% of the present tariff rate***), and the conversion from the previously established rate of $5.60 for wire line business lines to $6.75 per access line per month (***equal to .44% of the present tariff rate***).

SECTION 3.2. ***Effective January 1, 2029***, the previously established rate of $2.00 for wire line residential lines remains intact for basic service within the District by an exchange access service provider, per access line per month (***equal to 4.25% of the present tariff rate***), and the conversion from the previously established rate of $6.75 for wire line business lines to $7.75 per access line per month (***equal to .50% of the present tariff rate***).

SECTION 3.3. ***Effective January 1, 2031***, the previously established rate of $2.00 for wire line residential lines remains intact for basic service within the District by an exchange access service provider per access line per month (***equal to 4.25% of the present tariff rate***), and the conversion from the previously established rate of $7.75 for wire line business lines to $8.75 per access line per month (***equal to .57% of the present tariff rate***).

SECTION 4. The Caddo Parish Communications District shall continue to utilize its revenues for technological and physical infrastructure enhancements associated with establishing, maintaining and operating the parish's Next Generation 9-1-1 emergency reporting services, and enabling reliable, effective and secure public safety communications for the purpose of decreasing emergency response times to incidents involving the citizens of Caddo Parish and its visitors.

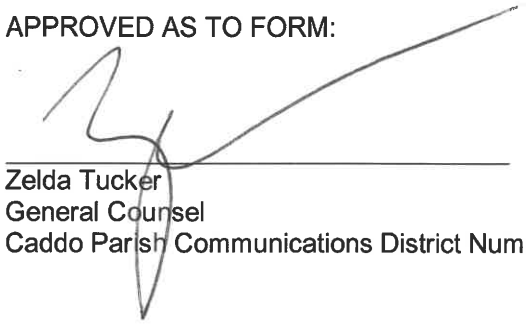
SECTION 5. Should the Caddo Parish Communications District Board determine the amounts listed in the sections above do not meet the needs of the District, to provide Caddo Parish with the emergency communications systems and infrastructure required to ensure the safety of its citizens and visitors, the Board may amend this Ordinance in legal session.

SECTION 6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7. If any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall effect all other provisions herein. In the event of such holding of invalidity, the entirety of this ordinance shall be invalid including but not limited to Section 6 hereof.

SECTION 8. This Ordinance shall become effective and be deemed enacted July 1, 2025.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Zelda Tucker
General Counsel
Caddo Parish Communications District Number One

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY Fred McClanahan, SECONDED BY Clarence Babineaux WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS SUBMITTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTING IN THE FOLLOWING:

YEAS: John Robinison (Vice Chairman), Clarence Babineaux (Secretary), Jackie Lewis, Fred McClanahan

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Mike Irvin (Chairman), Rev. Roy Thomas, Van Anderson

AND THIS ORDINANCE WAS DECLARED DULY ADOPTED. SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA, THE 21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2025; AND BECOMES CADDO PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NUMBER ONE ORDINANCE NUMBER 25-001.

JOHN ROBINSON – VICE CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CADDO PARISH COMMUNICATIONS
DISTRICT NUMBER ONE

ATTEST:

CLARENCE BABINEAUX – SECRETARY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CADDO PARISH COMMUNICATIONS
DISTRICT NUMBER ONE