

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO.: C-6909

COUNCIL SPONSOR: CORBIN/BINDER

PROVIDED BY: CIVIL DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT PROCEDURES RELATIVE TO THE
APPOINTMENT OF OPEN POSITIONS TO BOARDS OR COMMISSIONS
BY THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish Government is mandated to appoint members to numerous boards and commissions throughout the Parish; and

WHEREAS, in some instances, there are more nominations of potential board members and/or commissioners than there are open positions available; and

WHEREAS, multivoting, also known as Nominal Group Technique (NGT), is a decision method used to simultaneously vote on a list of candidates for a single position and/or to vote on several candidates for multiple positions; and

WHEREAS, multivoting is often used when a list of options needs to be narrowed down and/or a decision must be made by group judgment and is generally preferable to straight voting because it allows a person that is favored by all, but may not be the top choice of any, to rise to the top to help ensure that the most qualified individuals are appointed to open board or commission positions; and

WHEREAS, the multivoting procedure described below complies with Louisiana Open Meetings Law by requiring that each Council member indicate their votes *viva voce*; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the multivoting procedure will be implemented as a Parish Council policy in any instance when a greater number of nominees are received than there are open board or commission positions to be appointed by the Parish Council; and,

WHEREAS, a procedure of drawing lots to assign terms shall be established whenever it is necessary to establish staggered terms of office for board members and/or commissioners to guarantee fairness and uniformity.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY RESOLVES to adopt the below-described multivoting procedure to be used in any instance when a greater number of nominees are received than there are open board or commission positions to be appointed by the Parish Council:

- 1) A form with the nominees for open positions on a board and/or commission will be distributed to all Parish Council members, and shall include the date of the Council meeting and the name, Council district, and signature of the Councilmember completing the form.
- 2) Parish Council members shall indicate their "yea" vote by using an 'X' or a checkmark ('✓') in the box next to the name of the nominee(s) for whom they are voting for appointment to the open position(s). Each Council member may vote "yea" for as many nominees as there are open positions on the board or commission in the initial round of voting.
- 3) Parish Council members turn in completed forms to the Parish Council Clerk.
- 4) Once all forms are submitted, the Parish Council Clerk and the Parish Council Administrator independently review the Parish Council member forms and record each member's vote(s) on their respective tally sheets.

- 5) The Parish Council Clerk and the Parish Council Administrator review and compare the totals recorded on their tally sheets and verify that they have recorded the same total number of “yea” votes for each nominee.
- 6) Once the Parish Council Clerk and the Parish Council Administrator have noted the Parish Council member votes, the forms are returned to the appropriate Parish Council member.
- 7) The Parish Council Clerk asks each voting member of the Parish Council, in turn, to read aloud the names of the nominees for whom they voted “yea” on their form.
- 8) After receiving the voice vote from each Parish Council member, the Council Clerk will tally total number of “yea” votes for each nominee. Any nominee who receives a majority of vote of the full membership of the Council is thereby appointed to fill an open position on the applicable board and/or commission.
- 9) If any open positions on a board and/or commission remain after voting on the first round of nominees, a second round of voting shall be conducted with all remaining nominees using the process defined in steps 1 to 8 until all open positions are filled.
- 10) Once all open positions are filled, the Parish Council Clerk reads aloud the names of all nominees who received a majority vote of the full Council membership and those individuals are thereby appointed to the respective board and/or commission.
- 11) The Parish Council Clerk collects all the forms and tally sheets and saves them to be included in the public record.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY FURTHER RESOLVES that when state law or a Parish ordinance requires that the term of office for a particular board member or commissioner is to be staggered, terms of each appointed member of a board or commission shall be drawn by lots.

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 4TH DAY OF APRIL, 2024 AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

ARTHUR LAUGHLIN, COUNCIL CHAIR

ATTEST:

KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK