

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

March 26, 2003

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 A.M., on Wednesday, March 26, 2003 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Tim Norton; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Commissioner Ben Sciortino; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Tom Pollan, Director, Emergency Management; Ms. Lucretia Taylor, Diversity and Employee Relations, Human Resources Department, Division of Human Resources; Mr. Maxey Harrell, Corrections Coordinator, Community Corrections; Mr. Mick McBride, Risk Manager, Risk Management; Ms. Diana Mansouri, Safety Coordinator, Risk Management Department; Ms. Julie A. Saylor, Adult Diversion Coordinator, District Attorney's Office; Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager and CIP, Division of Information and Operations; Mr. Darryl Fox, Director, Animal Control; Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Division of Finance; Ms. Gloria Vermie, Public Health Emergency Management Coordinator, Health Department; Ms. Lori Vanderford, Controller, Health Department; ; Ms. DeAnn Konkel, Community Liaison Program Manager, Division of Public Safety; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Bethany Carpenetti, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Steve Benjamin, Member, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board.

Ms. Treva Lichti, Member, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board.

Dr. Ron Wahl, Member, Sheriff's Civil Service Board.

Mr. Glen F. Shore, Medco Ambulance Services, LLC

Mr. Mark Beverstein, Board of Directors, American Heart Association.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Reverend Beth Gerardy of Disciples of Christ Christian Church, Wichita.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported, after calling roll, that Commissioner McGinn was absent.

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CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, March 5, 2003
Regular Meeting, March 12, 2003

The Clerk reported that Commissioner Sciortino was absent at the Regular Meeting of March 5, 2003 and all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of March 12, 2003.

Chairman Norton said, “You have the Minutes for the two meetings in front of you. We probably need to take them separately.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 5, 2003.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Abstain
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 12, 2003.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

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VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Before we move on to proclamations, I would like to make a presentation myself today. We have finally gotten the light board fixed today, based on some work Joe Baughman has said. And we've had this little piece of wood on the old one for years and years, and Ben struggled with it so bad, that I would like to present that to him today, as a token of our appreciation for his blundering through the lights to inspire me to get it fixed, finally. So, here you go."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "I can't tell you how much this really touches me and I'm going to find someplace noteworthy to place this in my memorabilia. Thank you very much."

Chairman Norton said, "It's one of those invisible things that the public doesn't get to see, but the Commissioners know all about and have laughed about for years. So, we've got a new light board up here and there you go, Ben."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thank you so much, sir."

Chairman Norton said, "Clerk, call the next item."

PROCLAMATIONS

A. PROCLAMATIONS.

1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 29, 2003 AS "HEART TRAINS HEROES FREE CPR EVENT."

Chairman Norton said, "I'd like to read the following proclamation into the record."

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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of Americans and 1,315 of Sedgwick County residents died in 2001 from heart disease; and

WHEREAS, the annual number of adult deaths in the United States resulting from sudden cardiac arrest outside of a hospital is 250,000; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, 700 Americans each day suffer from cardiac arrest but only five percent survive; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 75 to 80 percent of all sudden cardiac arrests occur at home, so learning cardiopulmonary resuscitation can literally mean the difference between life and death of a loved one; and

WHEREAS, the American Heart Association recently launched a major initiative, called Operation Heartbeat- a community coalition designed to significantly reduce the number of deaths due to cardiac arrest; and

WHEREAS, Operation Heartbeat emphasizes the importance of a four-link chain of survival including recognizing the warning signs of a cardiovascular emergency and immediately dialing 911, administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation, providing early defibrillation with an automated external debibrillator (AED), and getting early advanced emergency care; and

WHEREAS, as part of Operation Heartbeat, the American Heart Association will train area residents in cardiopulmonary resuscitation during 'Heart Trains Heroes' FREE CPR event on Saturday, March 29th.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2003 as

“HEART TRAINS HEROES FREE CPR EVENT”

in Sedgwick County and encourage all citizens to participate in this important event.

Signed and dated March 26th, 2003. What is the will of the Board??"

MOTION

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Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “And I see . . . I knew Tom Pollan was going to be here to accept but we have someone else. If you would introduce yourself.”

Mr. Mark Beeverstein, Board of Directors, American Heart Association, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioners, on behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your kind proclamation. We appreciate your support of what we consider to be a very important event.

Let me tell you quickly about the event. This is the third annual Heart Trains Heroes mass CPR training day. It will be held at Friends University this Saturday, March 29th. There are two sessions, each lasting two hours. The first beginning at 8, the second beginning at 10:00. The sponsors for the event are Via Christi Regional Medical Center and Kansas Heart Hospital. We currently have about 60 volunteer instructors to give training in CPR, basic CPR training, the goal being of course to save lives. And these volunteers come to us from all over the city, including each of the local hospitals, Sedgwick County and Wichita Fire Departments and Sedgwick County EMS.

I’m proud to report that, out of 500 available spots, we currently have 512 people signed up. Obviously, we’re over-booked, but we do anticipate there will be some cancellations, plus we are trying to find additional instructors to be able to accommodate more people.

At this time, we have a waiting list and, as we’re able to accommodate more people, we will then take people from that waiting list. If you, or anyone watching at home, would like to be on that waiting list, they can call 265-4238, which is the local Heart office, 265-4238.

Lastly, there are a few introductions to make. Taresa Hays is here today. She is the health initiative

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specialist with the American Heart Association's local chapter and health education is her responsibility. Also, the CPR committee responsible for this event, the chairman of that event is Bill Auchterloinie, with Sedgwick County EMS. Bill is here today as well. Also on that committee but not here Cherie Murray with Wichita Clinic, Mike Ferguson with Lifesaver Learning, Nancy King with Wesley and Diane Gage with 9-1-1.

Again, thank you very much for your support.”

Chairman Norton said, “Thank you. Tom.”

Mr. Tom Pollan, Director, Emergency Medical Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, “And I think this is one of the crucial steps, as we watch what is going on overseas, and our attention is focused there. We've been addressed by the Homeland Security to take and get prepared at home. This is a first step, take care of yourself for those first crucial minutes, and the folks in your family. CPR is incredibly important for your survival. Obviously, whether we have anything go wrong here at home from terrorism or not, cardiac arrest is going to be with us and this is an important way to improve survivability, by having this available early on, being the first, first responders. Thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no lights, but it's interesting that when I was with Target, we encouraged our employees to take CPR training and heart association and Red Cross were very quick to do that for us.

And in my tenure there I can remember probably well over 20 incidents where before 9-1-1 was called and EMS responded we had our own employees delivering CPR and keeping the guest in our store comfortable and safe until the EMS did arrive and it is very powerful to see that being used by somebody that's been trained. It's interesting I can still remember a time a person came back from training the day before and the next day had to use the procedures. And it was pretty powerful to watch the person use them and be very succinct in how they delivered that to the public. So it is important and I applaud you for your efforts.”

Commissioner Scioritino said “No, it's just you said you hadn't seen the lights on so I just flashed them briefly just to let you see it.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well I wondered why it went off, thank you very much.”

2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 2003 AS “FAIR HOUSING

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MONTH.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioners I’d like to read this proclamation into the record.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States passed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, of which Title VIII declared that the law of the land would now guarantee the rights of equal housing opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County is committed to the mission and intent of Congress to provide fair and equal housing opportunities for all, and today, many realty companies and associations support fair housing laws; and

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing groups and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development have, over the years, received thousands of complaints of alleged illegal housing discrimination and found too many that have proved upon investigation to be violations of the fair housing laws; and

WHEREAS, equal housing opportunity is a condition of life in our County that can and should be achieved.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Tim R. Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of April as

“FAIR HOUSING MONTH”

and express the hope that this year’s observance will promote fair housing practices throughout Sedgwick County. Dated March 26, 2003, and I believe Brad Snapp is here to comment and receive.”

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MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Brad"

Brad Snap said, "It is a privilege to be here and accept this Proclamation, this is the 35th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. It is designed to prohibit discrimination in rental, sales and other housing transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex and familial status. Fair housing should be and usually is standard operating procedure for lenders, apartment managers, property owners, housing authorities, anybody who has something to do with housing, but sometimes mistakes are made and sometimes people think that they may be exempt from the law.

That's why it's important to keep fair housing education at a fore and Sedgwick County partners with the Urban League of Wichita, as they are a HUD funded agency, providing education and outreach.

This weekend is a housing information fair, that I'd like to bring the viewer's attention to. It's going to be Saturday, from 10 to 2 p.m. at the Wichita Boat House, at 335 West Lewis. It's a free admission. That's going to be Realtors, lenders, anybody that has things to do with housing will be there. It will be a good opportunity for people to learn more.

Also, if people want to learn more about fair housing, they can go to the Sedgwick County website, go to the Housing page and we have some information there, links to HUD. So, I really appreciate you doing this. Thank you."

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Chairman Norton said, "It seems like, Brad, in today's environment with interest rates low, many people are moving to owning homes and changing their places of residence and this is a great time to be able to promote that in the community."

Mr. Snapp said, "Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks. I see no other lights, so Clerk, call the next item."

APPOINTMENTS

B. APPOINTING RESOLUTIONS.

- 1. RESOLUTION APPOINTING BRUCE OTT (COMMISSIONER MCGINN'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD.**

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioners, this is a resolution of reappointment to this board for a four-year term, and I recommend that you adopt the resolution."

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "And is Bruce here today? I don't see him. Clerk, call the next item."

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2. RESOLUTIONS (THREE) APPOINTING STEVE BENJAMIN, JACKIE KLEIN AND TREVA LICHTI (COMMISSIONER UNRUH'S APPOINTMENTS) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD.

Mr. Euson said, "And Commissioners, these are appointments and reappointments to this board. These are also for four-year terms, and I recommend that you adopt this resolution also."

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolutions.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "And Don is here. Who all is here? Treva and Steve."

Mr. Don Brace, County Clerk, said, "Raise your right hand.

I do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board, so help me God."

Mr. Steve Benjamin and Ms. Treva Lichti, Members, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board, said, "I do."

Mr. Brace said, "Congratulations."

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Ms. Lichti said, "I want to thank you for the opportunity and privilege to serve on the COMCARE Mental Health Advisory Board. Mental illness impacts people of all ages, children, teenagers, adults, aging adults. Research is helping us to better understand brain disorders manifested as mental illness and to also understand the best practices for assisting children, adults who have these disorders. We're concerned about suicides, aging in the adult population and all of the other persons that have mental illness in Sedgwick County.

Since one in four families are impacted at some time in their lives by mental illness, I know this is a big responsibility and a very important role. Again, I thank you for this opportunity."

Chairman Norton said, "Steve."

Mr. Benjamin said, "I didn't prepare anything, but I just wanted to thank Commissioner Unruh for the appointment to the board."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay. Don't run off. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, I just wanted to say that I thank you all for your willingness to serve, and Treva has been very involved in mental health issues for quite some time and brings a lot of wisdom and expertise to the table and Steve's been involved in the Breakthrough Club and brought some innovative programs there and I'm proud that you're my appointees and I'm proud that you have been willing to serve. So, thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks. And now we have an Off Agenda item."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to consider an Off Agenda item.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

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VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “Do you have this, Rich, or do I need to read it into the record?”

Mr. Euson said, “Yes sir, I do have it. And this item involves a resignation of Sharon Van Horn from the Sheriff’s Civil Service Board and also a resolution appointing Ronald Wahl in her place. And so I would recommend that you accept the resignation and adopt the resolution of appointment.”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to accept the resignation and adopt the resolution.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “And is Ron here today? Yes, okay.”

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Mr. Brace said, "Raise your right hand please."

I do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sheriff's Civil Service Board, so help me God."

Dr. Ron Wahl, Member, Sheriff's Civil Service Board, said, "I do."

Mr. Brace said, "Congratulations."

Dr. Wahl said, "Thank you. Well, I too would like to thank Commissioner Unruh for this opportunity to serve in this capacity. I do have a little bit of experience in having worked with the Sheriff's Department. Served on one other committee having to do with Sheriff selection and the Department was very kind in helping me to prepare my doctoral dissertation on police selection. So, looking forward to doing that again, and I'd like to thank the Commission."

Chairman Norton said, "Don't run off, Ron. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, Doctor Wahl, I can call you Ron since we're friends though, can't I?"

Dr. Wahl said, "Anyone can call me Ron."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, Ron, I appreciate your willingness to serve. I know that you're not looking for something else to do and that this represents a certain amount of sacrifice and effort on your part. And as a good citizen that you are, you've been willing to serve and I just wanted to say thank you."

Dr. Wahl said, "Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks. Clerk, call the next item."

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RETIREMENT

C. PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT CLOCK TO MAXEY HARRELL, CORRECTIONS COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS.

Ms. Lucretia Taylor, Diversity and Employee Relations Director, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here this morning to present the retirement certificate to Maxey Harrell, who is retiring April 1, 2003 from the Department of Corrections. He is the corrections coordinator of Community Corrections and he will retire, as I said, April 1, 2003 after 16 years of service."

Commissioner Winters said, "Here's your certificate that Lucretia has and, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners and the citizens of Sedgwick County, I'd like to present you with this clock, as a token of the years that you've spent with Sedgwick County."

Sedgwick County provides service to the citizens in many different ways and forms and certainly the job that you've been responsible for has helped a number of people. Some probably didn't expect it at the time, or think so at the time, but we do appreciate the work you've done and we wish you the very best on your retirement. Would you like to make a comment?"

Mr. Maxey Harrell, Corrections Coordinator, Community Corrections, said, "Just thanks for having the opportunity to serve."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, thank you Maxey. Congratulations."

Chairman Norton said, "Clerk, call the next item."

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AWARD PRESENTATION

D. PRESENTATION OF A FRAMED POSTER, CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION AND OTHER SAFETY- AND HEALTH-RELATED ITEMS TO JULIE A. SAYLER, DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, FOR HER WINNING ENTRY IN THE 2003 SAFETY SLOGAN CONTEST: "SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT."

Mr. Mick McBride, Risk Manager, Risk Management, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here this morning to request your approval of the 2003 safety slogan, 'Safety is No Accident'. This will be the poster that we've developed and designed. We'll have one of these for you later today.

I wish to thank the Commission for its support, since 1994, of this safety slogan contest sponsored by Risk Management. This contest is coordinated by Diana Mansouri, who is your Safety Coordinator, and I believe it does promote safety awareness within Sedgwick County.

For your information, this year Risk Management received 107 separate entries for the contest from 69 different employees and I believe we have all County divisions represented in that group of employees.

Diana established a selection committee, comprising members of the Finance Division, Human Resources Division, Risk Management and last year's winner. Worked extremely hard to narrow those entries down so that we could come up with a contest winner for this year.

And at this time I would like to call upon Diana to introduce you to the award winner and make the award presentation."

Ms. Diana Mansouri, Safety Coordinator, Risk Management Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "On behalf of the selection committee, I'd like to present Julie Sayler of the District Attorney's Office with a certificate of appreciation and a safety award package. The certificate of appreciation is of course for her submitting this year's winning safety slogan. The award package consists of safety and health related items from organizations which promote safety and wellness. Julie, would you please come up to receive your award. Congratulations."

Ms. Julie A. Sayler, Adult Diversion Coordinator, District Attorney's Office, said, "I want to thank you for the opportunity and I'm really honored to be able to receive this."

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you. Don't run off yet. Commissioner Winters."

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Commissioner Winters said, “Well, I just wanted to make a comment about employees and thinking about safety. Coming out of the trucking industry, safety was something that we dealt with continually and people sometimes just brush it off as not being that vitally important. But if you’re not thinking about it a lot, then you’re putting yourself at the point of risk and harm.

And so, sometimes we think these contests may be a little frivolous, but I certainly don’t think they are. I think they’re just hugely important and I was pleased to see all the number of people that submitted ideas and thoughts about it. And I would say to all of you to keep your eye out for Diana, because one time in my life I was in a County vehicle without my seatbelt on and drove by her, standing on the street corner, and Diana promptly sent a little note around saying ‘Commissioner Winters, if you’re in a County vehicle, you need to have that seatbelt on’. So, from then on I’ve had my seatbelt on. So, Diana, I do appreciate the work that you do and all the activity in your department. Mick, I certainly welcome you to the County. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

Chairman Norton said, “I just have one comment. Coming from the business world too, it’s not only good for employees and your guests to be safe, but you know, it just makes good business sense, because when you look at insurance rates and experience levels that you have to have, every accident you can eliminate, every hurtful situation is good business, because it does lower your insurance rates and it makes you more available to do the good things of government, instead of spending money on hospital bills and lawsuits and things like that. So, safety is no accident, but it’s also good business. So, thank you very much, Julie and Diana.

I would like to take just a minute, Mick is back up here. Mick is kind of a new face with the County. Phil Rippee had been our risk manager for many years and Mick has kind of stepped in. Take just a minute to kind of give us a quick little glimpse of who Mick McBride is and how you got to be here. I’m going to put you on the spot.”

Mr. McBride said, “Well, okay. I came to the County from the school district here in Wichita. I was risk manager for the school district since 1981. Worked hard over there to initiate safety programs and benefit programs and insurance programs and I am extremely happy to be here now at the County, so that we can carry on the community tradition that we started in the school district.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well, it’s good to have you with us, and that kind of experience level is what we like to have at the County. So, welcome aboard.”

Mr. McBride said, “Thank you very much and with that, thank you for all the kind words and I recommend the Commission authorize adoption of the safety slogan for 2003.”

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MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the safety slogan and present the award.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks. Clerk, call the next item."

NEW BUSINESS

E. PRESENTATION OF 2002 REPORT ON E-GOVERNMENT SERVICES.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager and CIO, Division of Information and Operations, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We do have a little presentation for you, it's rather brief, about the County's e-government efforts. The full report is a four-page document. It's on page 20 of your agenda backup. There are also copies over here, by Kristi on the counter there, if anyone else would like to see a copy of that.

Essentially, let me just talk about what e-government is, what are we talking about, just so everyone is on the same page. Essentially, e-government stands for electronic government, a term coined a few years ago when the Internet started to be used and, essentially, at Sedgwick County, what we're trying to do is take government services to the people. The first generation of our website was more about 'Here's information about the County'. Now, we're really focusing on taking services to the people, to avoid coming into the Courthouse, to avoid filling out forms and mailing things in, you can do that over the website. We believe in increasing access to our government and to our services and meet the changing expectations of our generations, as the community evolves.

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Why are we doing a report now? This is labeled as the 2002 Annual Report, and what it is is a summary of what the progress and the statistics were from the calendar year 2002. We did have over a million visitors to our website in 2002. That was a 72% increase over 2001. So, that means that we are connecting with people on a daily basis and offering services to them. This graph just gives you a little bit of an idea of, by month, the number of visitors, sort of the highs and lows. You can see there, on the graph, the high in March. Anybody know why that is? Because that's when the Appraiser's Office sends out their appraisal notices to all the property owners in our community, and of course we put on there 'Look at the website to look up other people's property values, sales values' so you can research whether the County was fair to you in their property appraisal.

Another high point is in June, because that's when the County Treasurer sends out the tax bills and those tax bills reference the website and tell people that if you would like to pay your taxes on-line, visit the website. If you would like more information and answer questions and look at appraisal information, it's on the website.

Another high point is November. You can see it was a big jump from November 2001 to 2002 and I think the reason for that is our elections that we had this past November and that we put significant effort into updating and upgrading the website of our County Election Commissioner. You can now look on the website to find out information about how to get registered to vote, where to go to vote. You don't have to remember your precinct number from that little card they send you in the mail anymore or what church it is you're supposed to go to vote at. You can just go on-line and put your address in and find out where to vote. You can also find out all the candidates and all the current office holders and that type of thing. So, those are just kind of some of the high points, throughout the year.

The most frequently visited pages, I would be remiss in doing a report for you all without a top ten list. On our top ten list of most frequently visited pages, keep in mind we have 8,000 pages on our website. It is a big site with a great deal of information, but the most frequently visited page is our home page, which is great, because it is a stopping place that helps you get to all the other places. The second most visited page is the real property appraisal, the on-line real property appraisal. Again, you can put in your address, you can put in your neighbor's address, any segment of addresses that you want to look up the appraisals on to determine how much to spend on a property, if you're thinking about buying, that type of thing.

The Sheriff's ten most wanted fugitives is a very popular page, as is the Appraiser's Office home

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page. The Appraiser's Office was one of our early departments in getting their services electronic, and so their page is very frequently visited. The Sheriff's homepage, same thing, many people access that page. The GIS homepage, that's Geographic Information System, fancy word for great maps and ways in which to manipulate data by layering, say, where are the property lines, versus where are the EMS stations around town, versus where are the public parks, that type of thing. You can look up all kinds of things like that on the GIS page.

The Sheriff's 'Name that Felon' page, also a very popular page and helpful in their crime efforts. The tag office, that's the vehicle tags from the Treasurer's Office. They have a very good page. Where it used to be you had to go into the tag offices to get various forms and information and so much of that is now available on the website. It reduces their phone calls in that office and, I think, reduces a lot of stress for the public, because they can get things much more conveniently.

The ninth most popular page is our Purchasing Office page, where they have their . . . whatever things the County is in the process of purchasing, we've issued Requests for Proposals and Requests For Quotations. That's all done on-line.

Also, our District Attorney's homepage was very popular in 2002. And it got into the top ten list in 2002. It wasn't there in 2001 and can anyone guess why that might be? We think it's because of the Carr trial, yes. They were reporting their news very well on their website and of course, they also report consumer fraud and other information there.

You might ask who visits our sites and when do they do that. I found it very interesting to see that over 3,500 people a day visit our website. So, if anyone was thinking that we don't reach people on a daily basis, I think this data would prove that theory wrong. The most active day for using our site is Tuesday. The least active day is Saturday. In fact, for the entire weekend, both Saturday and Sunday, there are 4,300 visitors on average who visit the site over that two-day period. So, about the same number on a two-day weekend as in one any given day during the week.

The most active day in 2002 was November 5th, election day and the least active day was New Year's Eve, and don't you just love that someone has something better to do than being on the Internet on New Year's Eve.

Now, in terms of what business we conduct, County business being conducted on the website, the Appraiser's Office and their constituents were able to complete 942 property renditions on-line.

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That was significantly more than the previous year and remember, filing renditions on-line reduces paper, postage, mailing. The business community loves this feature of County government, because they can save a lot of money and just do their work on their computer and send it in and not have to print it out and mail it. One hundred twenty-four personalized car tags, the vanity plates as some people call them, were reserved on-line. In other words, if you have a name that you want to pick, you can reserve that on-line, instead of having to go down to a tag office and wait in line, that type of thing.

There were 40 shelter reservations at the parks, Lake Afton Park and Sedgwick County Park. So, that is a program that really got going this past year and we expect that to increase. We also sell zoo memberships, 238 zoo memberships were sold on-line. That was a big increase from the past year and a good new program that we're getting going. Twenty-seven hundred people paid their property taxes on-line for 2001 and then, of course, we collected some 2002 taxes also and that was another almost 2,000. So you can see we've collected several million dollars the first year in property taxes by that program.

You may be aware also that we take all job applications on-line now. There is no such thing as a paper job application at Sedgwick County anymore. We started this program a couple of years ago, with some partners here. You can see with the City of Derby, and then we have added several different cities and counties each year since then, as listed on the slide. We get 600 and some visitors per day to this job site. It not only lists the jobs available. It gives you the application form and you apply on-line. You don't have to send in a resume or anything like that. And I thought it was interesting to note that over half . . . about half of the users of that site are on it after normal working hours, which is much better than coming down to the courthouse from 8 to 5. That site received a 2001 Best Practice award from the International Personnel Management Association and also an E-governance Silver Seal Award of Distinction from the Public Administration, National Academy of Public Administration.

Just briefly, some of the new programs that were put on your website in 2002. I know you're aware of the on-line public hearings. That's a hearing that we currently have, for example, on the Kansas Coliseum design process that we're currently asking for comments on the on-line public hearings. Also, we take payments for County Court violations on-line. We also have created a system this past year for business, or anybody when there's a hazardous waste incident, accident, any kind of a spill, that type of thing. Those folks are required to report that to the County Emergency Management and to the state. Well, this allows them a way to report it on-line. So, if it happens in the middle of the night, they just get on their Internet and they send that into the County, so we know what's going on.

Elections, precinct locator, I mentioned that earlier as one of the enhancements to the elections page and the elected official candidate look-up is very similar to that as well. The Register of Deeds, we

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did an enhancement this year so that people could calculate the amount of fees that they will be required to pay when they file their mortgage and documents in that office. The Zoo, Sheriff and Treasurer's office have e-bulletin subscription services or tax reminder subscription. In other words, if you want, you can send your e-mail address in and they will notify you when they have events, issues, things going on and when their taxes are due. The Sheriff also has a citizen satisfaction survey.

Those are all complex programming that needs to be done because it's just a more highly sophisticated program than just presenting information, but we believe significant increases in services to your citizens. Again, the benefits of e-government, the faster services, reducing the paper waste, reducing the postage and I think just reaching more people with convenient services. And speaking of reaching more people, some of the ways in which the county government reaches more people using the website is we publish the Commission, the County Commission's agenda and Minutes on-line. We have an e-news subscription service for the county, so if you want to send in your e-mail address, you will be notified when events are going on at the County, issues, major decisions being made, that type of thing.

A new feature is the Sedgwick County Issues page, where anyone, whether it be media, whether it be community persons that just wants to know what is county government doing can look right on our front page and get to county issues and that's updated every week, every month by our Communications Office, so they are telling people, 'Well, the Commissioners are dealing with the Coliseum issue', dealing with whatever issue is on the table. Directory of employees, anybody needing to get a hold of a county department or any specific county employee can get phone numbers and e-mail addresses, that type of thing off the website and give feedback to their county government. So, it is a two-way street. We listen to all the feedback given and direct it to the appropriate offices.

I would just like to thank the Commission for this opportunity this morning and also for your support of e-government and certainly to all the county departments that participate in this effort and understand the value of that service. The Communications Office, with Kristi Zukovich and Angie Duncie and provided significant help and Jeff Piper and the Internet Services team are the wheels that make this all happen. Thank you very much."

Chairman Norton said, "Well, Kathy, I have a question. What place did the Board of County Commissioners' homepage come in? We didn't make it in the top ten. Are we even on the radar screen?"

Ms. Sexton said, "It's hard to make it on the top ten. When there's 8,000 pages on the site, it is very difficult and I don't have the exact ranking of that page right now."

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Mr. William Buchanan, County Manager, said, "Eleventh."

Chairman Norton said, "Oh yeah, thanks Bill."

Ms. Sexton said, "That's why he's the County Manager."

Chairman Norton said, "Well, that will be our challenge next year, is try to get in the top ten with our information too. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, I just wanted to say I think there's several reasons to celebrate this report. You know, you've developed a very attractive sight and it's very user-friendly and you've brought Sedgwick County government . . . made it accessible to our citizens and that's very important.

On the other side of it, we can celebrate your accomplishment, the strategy and the initiative and the ingenuity that you and all the folks that you have mentioned. It's something that we can really be proud of and I would congratulate and compliment you and all your staff."

Ms. Sexton said, "Thank you very much."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thanks. Kathy, everybody knows that I'm not computer literate, but that homepage of yours makes it real easy to go to whatever. Just one little push and a click and I found it very easy. For me to find it very easy, it means that normal people should have a heck of a deal.

But the one thing that I do want to compliment everyone that works on it, I guess even the county itself, for the attitude. Instead of hiding from the people, we're really trying to make ourselves more accessible to those that are governed, especially in the area of appraisals. I mean, I've had numerous times where people have called me saying how easy it was for them to get comparables so they can be better prepared when they come to protest their property appraisals. And that's just saying that we are really making a concerted effort to be open and to make it easier to deal with County government. So congratulations."

Ms. Sexton said, "Thank you very much, Commissioner."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And that also is in line with our wanting to compliment you instead of compensate you."

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Ms. Sexton said, "I understand. In that regard, let me just say you're more computer savvy than you give yourself credit for."

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks, Kathy. What is the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Kathy. Next item."

F. RESOLUTION INCREASING ANNUAL LICENSE FEES FOR DOGS, AND AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OF THE *SEDGWICK COUNTY CODE*.

Mr. Darryl Fox, Director, Animal Control, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have before you a resolution increasing the annual license fees for dog licenses and amending Chapter 5 of the Sedgwick County Code.

The animal license fees have been ten dollars since 1990 and we had a meeting and my Animal Control Advisory Board also passed, by an eight to zero vote, that we adopt this resolution."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay. Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Darryl, this is probably a silly question, but do we not license other pets, like cats and things? Is it just dogs that we license?"

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Mr. Fox said, "Well, no we don't. People bring dogs in for a license and vaccination. Very seldom do they bring cats in for a vaccination for cats, only dogs."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay. Is that . . . I mean, we don't have a law in the books that it's . . . nothing about cats."

Mr. Fox said, "No. They take cats in for certain shots if they are sick or disabled, but other than that, they do not take cats in. People normally don't take cats in for a license."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay, I just didn't know. Thanks."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Darryl, I got a call last night from a citizen who had seen this agenda item on our website, and had a question about the category of 'dangerous dogs' on here. One, he noticed the fee didn't go up for that, and there was a question about that. And also was asking me questions about the definition of a dangerous animal and how many there were. And I didn't have all those answers, so if that person is watching today, well maybe you can help me get the answer to that."

Mr. Fox said, "Dangerous dog license fees have always been \$100 across the board. Since I've been director with Sedgwick County, we have not had any dangerous dog hearings. We have not had any dogs that have been so vicious that we've had to have a hearing about to be considered to be dangerous."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "So it isn't a particular breed or anything."

Mr. Fox said, "Dangerous is something that if someone is bitten several times by the same dog, the dog will require a hearing. And after the hearing, the dog can be considered dangerous and the dog license for that animal will be \$100 and we haven't had one hearing since I've been director. People have been more responsible in Sedgwick County and the unincorporated area of Sedgwick County because people have been taking better care of their pets. And our Animal Control officers are out on the areas quite often, and we haven't had any calls on dangerous dogs."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And the reason for the increase is because, potentially, you may be called out more often for that particular animal, in other words. Is that the reason for the increase in the fees?"

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Mr. Fox said, “No. Really, the reason for this increase is that all the veterinarians and animal hospitals in Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita have our license books and the City of Wichita’s license books, and the City of Wichita has raised their license fees two dollars, to twelve dollars.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I meant on dangerous dogs, why we charge 100.”

Mr. Fox said, “Dangerous dogs remains the same, at \$100. We have not raised any fees on that at all.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no other questions. What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “Thanks, Darryl. Clerk, call the next item.”

G. CONTRACT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES TO PROVIDE A PORTION OF THE OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE EXPLOITED AND MISSING CHILDREN UNIT.

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Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Division of Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services has historically provided one-third of the cost share of material, supplies and operating expenses for the Exploited and Missing Children’s Unit. This contract renews this cost share arrangement with SRS through 2003.

The contract may be renewed annually, in writing, subject to mutual agreement of both parties. Based on the 2003 Exploited and Missing Children’s Unit budget, one-third of the cost of operations for the EMCU in 2003 will be no more than \$39,160. That’s up a little bit over last year. Last year, we had the contract set at 36,000. So, we’re looking at a little bit of an increase, because of normal cost of operations. But be glad to answer any questions you might have about the agreement, contract and ask that you approve it.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no questions at this time. What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “Thank you, Marty. Next item.”

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

H. HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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1. **AGREEMENT WITH BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BUTLER, COWLEY, HARPER, HARVEY, MARION, RENO AND SUMNER COUNTIES FOR THE PROVISION OF COLLABORATIVE AND ENHANCED PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS.**

Ms. Gloria Vermie, Public Health Emergency Management Coordinator, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here today to bring before you an enhancement to our existing bio-terrorism and public health emergency management grant that we have in Sedgwick County. This enhancement goes out to every county in Kansas, and it is an encouragement for them to partner with counties around them, they have to be contiguous, to put together plans that would basically shore up and improve mass-casualty management. It would be a tighter way for our mutual assistance that we have with emergency services and our police departments and our public safety departments.

We have worked well with the counties around us. I would refer you to your map. It's now the Kansas South Central Metro Region, and that's Marion, Reno, Harvey, Butler, Cowley, Sumner, Harper and Sedgwick. The initiative is the health directors or the chief health administrators at each one of those health departments. We are looking at monies that are given specific for this initiative. It would not come to our counties for any other purpose. And we have decided to use those monies basically for training. The counties around us are aware of our mass-casualty distribution plans. They want the same opportunity. They look at our upcoming Smallpox vaccination plans. They want the same opportunity and they look at what we collect, in the way of surveillance, from our hospitals. They want to be looking at those same indicators, so we all know approximately the same thing at the same time, and that's what this initiative is about. I would recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. Are there any questions?"

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Gloria, you mentioned training as the focus. Who is it that's going to get the training and training in what?"

Ms. Vermie said, "Mass-distribution is our first one, Chair Winters [sic], and basically the trainers would be myself and my team, much in the same manner that we've been doing it within Sedgwick County. We would train, like in the other counties that are around us, their health department staff,

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their emergency management, their police departments, volunteers from their community, and we would teach them to do the same type, have the same setup for mass distribution that we do. We plan four trainings for the eight-county area.”

Commissioner Winters said, “So will cities be involved in this process, along with counties? How will that work?”

Ms. Vermie said, “Yes, cities in each one of those counties. It’s up to the specific county. Say, for instance, in Butler County, I work with Carol there and she’s already appointed or designated the people within her county and from specific towns in those counties that will be invited to this training and it’s a train the trainer. They, in fact, will then go back to their individual communities. Here in Sedgwick County, we’ve trained every city in Sedgwick. This Saturday I’m going to Bentley. They’re having their first exercise in Bentley, so yeah, it includes the large and the small cities.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I think this is a great idea, but just so that the Sedgwick taxpayers understand. Who pays for the costs of these trainings in these areas outside of Sedgwick County?”

Ms. Vermie said, “The money that comes into the initiative, and it’s approximately \$40,000, is used for that training. If Sedgwick County, meaning our health department, myself and my team, to the training, we will invoice the county that we are training and receive that money back. So, that’s how.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I just think that’s important to let people know that.”

Ms. Vermie said, “Right, this is an opportunity for us.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yes, it is. So we’re going to become a regional training center for public health emergency preparedness, which is a tremendous thing for us, I think. Okay, thank you. That’s all I had.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well, this is one of those areas where I believe collaboration and partnership helps build the capacity. We’ve talked about that a lot and I’ve talked about that, more regionalization of these kind of initiatives is what’s going to make sure that Sedgwick County, that

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has this huge capacity, helps out those communities that may have problems but don't have the ability to train themselves or to get this kind of information. So, it's a wonderful partnership and I really appreciate your working on it. What is the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Gloria. Clerk, call the next item."

2. GRANT APPLICATION TO KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT FOR FUNDING OF VARIOUS PROGRAMS.

- STATE FORMULA BLOCK GRANT
- CHILDREN'S PRIMARY CARE
- MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH
- FAMILY PLANNING
- ADOLESCENT HEALTH
- CHRONIC DISEASE RISK REDUCTION
- SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES
- IMMUNIZATION ACTION PLAN

Ms. Lori Vanderford, Controller, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We're here this morning to ask that you approve a block of twelve grant applications to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. This block of grants represents approximately 15% of our total budget, about a third of all funds that we receive from the Kansas Department of Health and

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Environment. Twenty-one percent of that are state funds, approximately 79% are federal pass-through funds that the state administers.

The grant application represents approximately a 4% increase over last year. However, we were informally told not to expect an increase. We are expecting flat funding, and there are a few grants that we're fairly confident are going to be decreased, just based on previous history and agreements.

Many of the grants have a local match requirement. The MCH or Maternal Child Health grant has 100% dollar-for-dollar match requirement. There's a couple that have 40%, one that has a 30% match requirement, one that has a 25%. These are easily met by our revenue-generating programs, by local funding and then by donations from the community. One of our largest donations, and I know that you have recognized them in the recent past, are those that we receive for the dental program. Local dentists, dental hygienists, and it adds up to approximately \$120,000 in donations.

In these grants in particular we're indicating \$40,000 in in-kind contributions, and then the rest in local and revenue generating. The state formula grant is used to fund some of the key administration positions. It is based on a maintenance of effort. This maintenance of effort is tied directly to local tax dollars. If the local tax dollar is decreased, then we lose a direct proportion, for actual dollar-for-dollar funding on the state formula grant. This year, that grant is \$343,000 and some odd dollars. And that about summarizes it. Do you have any questions about the individual grants, about anything before I ask you to sign and approve the application to be sent on to KDHE?"

Chairman Norton said, "I see no questions right now. What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Grant Application and authorize the Chairman to sign all necessary documents, including a grant award agreement containing substantially the same terms and conditions as this Application; and approve establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent

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Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chairman Tim Norton Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Appreciate it. Clerk, call the next item."

**I. ADDENDUM TO AGREEMENT WITH UNITED WAY OF THE PLAINS, INC.
PROVIDING USE OF A DISASTER CALL CENTER IF THE METROPOLITAN
MEDICAL RESPONSE SYSTEM IS IMPLEMENTED.**

Ms. DeAnn Konkell, Community Liaison Program Manager, Division of Public Safety, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I bring before you today an addendum to the Disaster Response Voluntary Team agreement that you entered into with United Way in June of 2001. I would ask that you accept this agreement.

What this allows us to do is to staff the phone bank, should we have to implement our mass-prophylactic distribution phase of the Metropolitan Medical Response System. We would staff the phone bank at United Way with volunteer pharmacists and medical personnel to answer questions that would be coming in from the distribution sites. If you have no questions."

Chairman Norton said, "I see no questions. I met with Pat Hanrahan yesterday and we visited with the media about this. It builds capacity for us to be able to have doctors and pharmacists available to take calls from the different centers that will be distributing the prophylactics, as this whole program moves forward. Hopefully, we'll never have to use this, but they have used that volunteer center during the times of tornado and other disasters, and this just builds the capacity in case of a medical emergency. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "So this is not going to be a call-in center for citizens to find information. This is more internal."

Chairman Norton said, "This will be more internal, but DeAnn may be able to describe that we also have the mechanism for citizens to call in to part of the call center too."

Ms. Konkell said, "Correct. We have another phone bank set up, where that phone number will be published throughout the media. It will be an 800 number, where the citizens can call in with frequently asked questions and that will be staffed by an entirely different organization. This is strictly for the pharmacists, so that if we have someone that comes into a center that has a particular problem, a particular allergy and the medical screeners at that site are not real sure what they need

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to do, what they need to be giving this individual, they will then call the phone bank at the United Way to talk to medical personnel there.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Is your group prepared, as we just had the presentation about our Internet services, are you prepared that if we, at some time, would need to put part of this into play, to get information on their website?”

Ms. Konkel said, “There is already a lot of information on that website. We have the distribution map for the City of Wichita and the sites for the surrounding communities. We’re working on getting the entire county map put up there just as quickly as possible. We’re working on putting forms on the map, as well as to what information you’ll need to bring with you. You can fill out the form and print it off and bring it with you to your distribution site. Yes.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, good. Well, I think people need to know that if we would have to immunize the county populations, which is administering over 400,000 doses, I think we have a week period to do that, if it’s Smallpox. There are going to be so many people that have allergies and have problems that physicians will have to be available, pharmacologists will have to be available to be able to give information to make sure that everybody is safe and it’s delivered in the proper manner. Now, is that kind of a good synopsis there?”

Ms. Konkel said, “Yes. I’m looking to Gloria to make sure. The week was the thing that I was unsure of there, for the immunization.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well, I think most people would think, ‘Oh, I’ve got to get immunized immediately’ but in some cases, and Gloria may clear this up, that you have a little longer period of time to do that immunization. Is that correct? Okay. Thank you very much, DeAnn. What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Addendum to Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

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Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “Thanks, DeAnn. Next item.”

J. MODIFICATION OF PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION WITH ALAN’S EXCAVATING, INC., REQUEST NUMBER ONE AND FINAL, FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT - HIDDEN ESTATES ADDITION STORM WATER IMPROVEMENTS. DISTRICT #5.

Mr. David Spears, P.E., Director/County Engineer, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Item J is an approval of a modification of plans and construction, request number one and final, with Alan’s Excavating, Inc. on Sedgwick County project entitled Hidden Estates Addition, Storm Water Improvements. The modification will increase the contract by \$6,780 due to variations in plan quantities from actual field measurements. All costs of the project are to be paid by the properties in the benefit district through special assessments. I recommend that you approve the modification and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no questions. What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Modification of Plans and Construction and authorize the Chairman to sign.

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Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “Thanks, Dave. Clerk, call the next item.”

K. PURCHASING DEPARTMENT.

1. RECONSIDERATION OF ITEM 5 OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 13, 2003: PATIENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES – COMCARE.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This item was deferred for further review. This was a proposal in which we were looking for qualifications and looking for vendors to tell us the types of transportation services that they could offer us. It’s not like a bid, where it’s all or nothing or more stringent criteria. We needed to be in a position to look at the types of services. Be in a position to negotiate if we needed to.

In reviewing the proposals, both vendors met the mandatory requirements, both could provide the services. One vendor did not have ambulance service, which was a price that was listed in the tabulation for services. That vendor did offer an alternative to ambulatory services. And the concern there was the ability to be able to restrain patients, if necessary. That vendor, Security Transport, provided an alternative to do that. In looking at the prices that were presented for the

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proposal, in looking at the prices that we're paying today for the contract that is just expiring, there was a significant increase in Medco Ambulance Services, which is the current provider. And in looking at the number of ambulance trips that we've made over the past year or so, which amounted to three, it was deemed that that just be removed from the contract and handled on a case-by-case basis.

In looking at the other four items that were considered, there's enough pricing differential, it equates to almost \$10,000 a year, between the two proposals, and based on that, the recommendation is to accept the proposals from Security Transport Services for items one through four, to execute an annual contract not to exceed \$29,800 with three one-year options to renew. I'd be happy to answer any questions."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "I just have one. Again, the number of ambulance transports that we had was how many?"

Ms. Baker said, "Three over the last year."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. That's all."

Chairman Norton said, "Any other questions from the bench. I understand that a representative from Medco is here again and requested, with Commissioner Unruh, to be able to speak and I will grant him five minutes."

Mr. Glen F. Shore, Medco Ambulance Services, LLC, said, "Thank you for giving me the time to speak with you. It may be true that there were only three ambulance transports last year, but I can assure you that when there is an ambulance transport, it's a very important aspect of the overall situation. As a practical matter, it's hard to tell how many there will be, because we have done two ambulance transports in the last four weeks I believe. It might be five weeks. So, I'm not real . . . I just think that that's a very important aspect of it, is the ambulance transports.

I'm here not to take time or just to sound off. This is the second time I've been before the Commission over the many years that I've lived in Wichita. I'm here because I strongly believe the facts are clearly on my side, and because it's my livelihood that's at stake. It may not seem like a big deal to you, but it's a big deal to me and to those who will not have a job as a result.

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We're just a small business, struggling to make a living and to be decent citizens of this county. I'm not a whiner, but I do believe that when a business, especially a small business, without a staff to evaluate and to investigate, we have a right to expect that the documents we're dealing with are unambiguous and mean what they clearly state and that when it is obviously obvious that they're not clear, to acknowledge that point and proceed to redo the process from a corrective standpoint where it is clear. And I think that's one of the responsibilities that the Commission has, to assure about that process.

I believe that you, as Commissioners, should not be involved in all the details, but I do believe that one of your important responsibilities is to see that the processes are fair and clear when it comes to dealings with your constituents and with business.

I would have no quarrel if the RFP stated that the line items were to be considered as a whole, or by individual line items, but the truth is that's not what it stated. And the County can interpret the RFP however it wants, but the document should be consistent within itself and the County should be restrained by the limitations within that document. If it's not clear and it's drawn to their attention, then change it and correct the process. Don't insist on defending what I think clearly needs improving.

Now, along to the specific items, in the second paragraph of RFP 03-3008, which is the one in question, it states: 'Late or incomplete responses will not be accepted and will not receive consideration'. And that language is in bold type. It did not say incomplete responses to the mandatory requirements. It did not exclude from the pricing information . . . or it did not exclude the pricing information from these requirements. Under selection criteria number one it states: 'Each firm's response will be judged on, number one, meeting all RFP conditions and miscellaneous instructions'. And that word is A-L-L. Now I don't see how, under any form of logic, the pricing information can summarily be excluded from this requirement.

There is a separate selection criteria number three, which addresses meeting all RFP for mandatory requirements, and under mandatory requirements, section number one, requires an unmarked van and ambulance. The van requirement may not sound important and they may have a van. I've never seen one that they had, but maybe they have one, but it effects the pricing, in that typically it's a more expensive vehicle, gets lower fuel mileage, in some cases has different insurance requirements and so I would just . . . All I would insist there is that they use, rather than their Chevy

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Lumina, which I was last week at Good Shepard, that they use a van or redo the process. But they probably can get a van. That's not a major issue.

But a major issue is the mandatory requirements also refers to ambulance, the requirement of an ambulance. So, tell me how, under any logical interpretation, anyone would be led to believe that ambulance could be left out of the pricing information, based on the language of the RFP?

So, in my opinion, any court in the land would fail to uphold the contention that this language in the RFP is ambiguous and is not ambiguous and unclear. Although the County can put what it wants in an RFP, it cannot rightfully write an RFP and then do what it wants. It's held to the language of the RFP and, even more in a strict sense, since they drafted the RFP and it's a fundamental in legal circles, that ambiguities in a contractual document would be construed against the party drafting the document.

Now, I want to make it clear, I'm not . . . I don't have neither the inclination or probably the resources to take this matter to a legal situation, irrespective of how good a case I may be led to have had."

Chairman Norton said, "How much more time do you think you'll need?"

Mr. Shore said, "I'm just . . . another short paragraph."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay."

Mr. Shore said, "However, I do believe that the Commissioners have the responsibility to step up to the plate and assure the process is clear and fair. I'm not even suggesting that anybody intended it not to be clear. I'm not suggesting anybody intended to be unfair. Quite the contrary probably, the fact is that that's the way it is, and I think the process then needs to be corrected and redone or what. I think that's the solution, not just to insist on doing something that's obviously unclear and unfair to me. So, thank you very much. I appreciate it. Sorry I went over."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to ask Rich Euson, our legal counsel, Rich, I think at last meeting a number of us thought there were enough questions here to ask to have this particular Request For Proposal reviewed. As far as your opinion, do you think that we're on solid ground here on the way this has been handled and it appears that, legally, we've done the correct thing if we would go ahead and accept the recommendation of the Bid Board?"

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Mr. Euson said, “The answer to that would be yes. We did look at the document. We did look at all aspects of it and reading it, all together, it was our opinion that the mandatory criteria really had to do with the functions and not so much the pricing. And having reviewed a number of these before, there are times when we do maintain an all or nothing posture in these documents for bidders. There are cases when we specifically don’t. In this case, it just really wasn’t mentioned and I certainly agree that perhaps some more specificity is always better. You wonder how far you could go with that, but from this standpoint, I think that this document is fine and so the answer to your question is yes.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, I think this gentleman has a point. I mean, I know that maybe legally and technically we could say that we did things right, but then in just lay language, and you’re reading the document and it says ‘all’. Well, to me, all has a pretty clear denotive meaning, if not a conotive meaning that means all. And if we go ahead and approve this, I would encourage the . . . whatever staff is developing these RFPs, or these RF-whatever they call them, that we get a little bit more clear in what is and isn’t. And I don’t want to get into that ‘it depends on what your definition of is is’. But when I person reads the document, especially an individual with a small business and he doesn’t have a staff of attorneys to try to walk through what’s legalese and what isn’t. He reads it just . . . and takes it, ‘Well, all means all, that’s what I was taught when I was in school’ and I can see where he feels that maybe we didn’t follow this thing correctly. So, I’m a little uncomfortable with what we’re doing, but if you all feel comfortable in passing it because we’re legal, I’m not going to be an obstructionist here. But I would encourage us to try to get it in a little clearer language in the future, if nothing else. That’s all I had.”

Mr. Euson said, “We will be glad to work with Purchasing to make sure that we do review those.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “I just had a question. Maybe, Iris, you could answer. In this process, did we deviate from any standard procedure? I mean, this is standard language we’ve always used and on a proposal basis, this was typical procedure and a typical way we handle it.”

Ms. Baker said, “Yes, correct.”

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Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, Mr. Chairman, if there's no other questions or comments and, again, I share Commissioner Sciortino's concerns."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the recommendation of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Iris. Oh, you're here for the next item too. Clerk, call the next item."

2. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 20, 2003.

Ms. Baker said, "Commissioners, this item resulted in . . . Excuse me. This meeting resulted in eight items for consideration today."

**1) CM-B SAND- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: AGGREGATE MATERIAL**

The first item is CM-B sand for Public Works. Recommend the low bid from Aggregate Sand and Gravel in the amount of \$47,800.

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2) AB-3 ROCK- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: AGGREGATE MATERIAL

Item two, AB-3 rock for Public Works. Recommend the low bid from Southwest Butler Quarry in the amount of \$52,500.

3) ¼ TON 4-WHEEL DRIVE SUBURBANS- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: VEHICLE ACQUISITION

Item three, ¼ ton 4-wheel drive Suburbans for Fleet Management. Recommend the low bid, including trade-in, from Don Hattan Chevrolet in the amount of \$45,778.

4) AMBULANCES- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: VEHICLE ACQUISITION

Item four, ambulances for Fleet Management. Recommend the expenditure with Midwest Vehicle Professionals, including trade-ins, for a total of \$612,136.

5) LARGE SEDANS- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: VEHICLE ACQUISITION

Item five, large sedans for Fleet Management. Recommend the low bid, including trade-ins, from Don Hattan Chevrolet in the amount of \$60,500.

6) SELF-PROPELLED SPREADER- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: VEHICLE ACQUISITION

Item six, self-propelled chip spreader for Fleet Management. Recommend the low proposal, including trade-in, from G.W. Van Keppel in the amount of \$72,018.

7) DATA COLLECTION & RECORDS MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE- EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
FUNDING: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Item seven, data collection and records management software for Emergency Medical Services. Recommend the proposal from Medusa Medical Technologies, option two, including software and

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first-year maintenance, for a negotiated cost of \$252,600.

**8) MOBILE HARDWARE- EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
FUNDING: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Item eight, mobile hardware for Emergency Medical Services. Recommend the proposal from Medusa for Hammerhead product for items one through five, for a total cost of \$157,086.

Would be happy to answer any questions, and recommend approval of these items.”

Chairman Norton said, “I do have a question. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just two. On item two, it’s just a comment or something. I see a local entity, Ritchie Sand, and I’m just, I guess, confused. I mean, they’re a very good local company and they bid it so dramatically higher than the other one. I guess that’s up to them to know what it costs, but it just is confusing to me that professionals in the business would have that much of a disparity in what they felt the cost was. That’s just a comment.

The other thing, and again it’s just a comment, on item seven and eight, I think the citizens of Sedgwick County should take a lot of comfort in the fact that, in these trying times where we’re getting hit over and over by the state reducing funding and what have you, that this Board has not hunkered down and decided to start making any types of dramatic cuts in public safety, have decided not to have any additional expenditures in this area in software. I think that’s a good thing. So, that’s all. Thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no other questions but I see Tom Pollan here and I would like to ask Tom to come forward real quick. Ben is right. Some of the issues that are on the Bid Board today have to do with EMS and, as we had conversations in the last year and a half with other government entities about EMS, and as citizens came to us with what we’re doing, not only today, but in the future. I want to make it clear that we are making some great strides in improving EMS services and to move it to the technologies of the future and part of that is what we’re doing today.

First of all, we’re getting some Suburbans for the EMS to use. I think it’s important. We also have a bid on here to replace eight ambulances and that’s item number four and I think that shows that we’re upgrading the fleet, as far as our ambulance service.

And then finally, Tom, you may want to describe seven and eight, which has to do with the hardware and software to be able to provide for your EMS employees to do a lot of their paperwork kinds of things right on site and, eventually, access a lot of information in computers that has to do

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with new medical technologies, doctors, treatments, all of those kind of things. So, I'll let you kind of describe that real quick, what we're spending that money for, so people know."

Mr. Pollan said, "This expenditure is to replace a 1983 built mainframe system, meaning that every time that our crews document their patient care, they have to go back to a desktop computer. Well, most of their work is done in the ambulance and transporting to the hospital and they have a great deal of time traveling back from the hospital to wherever their point of response is from. So, we have noted that if we could utilize that time and be able to help them gain information one time, instead of writing it on a small piece of paper and then taking it back to the station and putting this information in the computer, that we could improve the efficiency of the organization and how it performs.

So what we're doing is allowing for the crew to be able to take information directly from the patient, document it right with the patient, if they don't need hands-on care all of the time, as well as at the hospital and as well as while they're driving back from that hospital to their point of response. It gives them the ability to use a lot of time in getting the documentation done. Our current system takes about 30 minutes, on the average, to document all of the information about the patient and billing aspects that we will need to bill that call.

We've seen, in other locations, Oklahoma City and Tulsa, they've been able to reduce that down to 15 minutes. If we can get all of that done, one, we can reduce and impact our overtime. Just simply if you get three or four calls behind, you go back to the station and it's time to go home, you've got to complete those before you go home. So, we can reduce that as well. So there's some cost impacts in bringing this and paying for this asset now, that we can have over a number of years, and it will pay itself back. And it will improve our billing process and collection from our third-party payers and Medicare and Medicaid, insure compliance with their procedures and help us with our HIPAA compliance that's coming on us very rapidly.

So, there's some great improvements and the good piece of this is, this is a network server based system, so as we migrate to new technologies in the 9-1-1 center and communications network, wireless technology as well. It will fit right in. It will move right along with us as we go through that path of upgrading our systems and performances in this community. So we see this as a first step of getting where we need to go, but it certainly is a very large step for us.

Chairman Norton said, "Well, the software is critical, but the hardware, describe that a little bit, because it's not Palm Pilot size, but it's not laptop, you know, engaged with the ambulance. It can

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be taken out, docked, the information can be disseminated from the hospitals, with docking ports. So, described that just a little bit too.”

Mr. Pollan said, “Well, there’s a couple of systems currently. Obviously, we could have a Palm Pilot, and I think I have one . . . Well, I don’t have it in my . . . Yes, I do. The problem with this particular machine is it’s very small and very difficult for most. As I grow up and get older, I’m finding it harder and harder to read the screen.

What we are using is the size of a notebook, a little smaller than this and not much thicker than this, but they can actually touch the screen and do their information, sort of like what you see in a McDonald’s, in picking out the menu, they’ll be picking out menus of information. But it allows them to type right from the screen as well. So, this will improve their ability and also the ability to gain information quickly, without increasing their workload.”

Chairman Norton said, “And the software that hooks up to that would . . . you described to me the other day, that if they had a broken fibula, they say ‘Yes’ and that completes the report for them, so they’re not having to type that in manually. It has a menu of all the things that could happen.”

Mr. Pollan said, “You could actually touch the leg and then say ‘injury’ and it would say ‘broken fib’ or broken whatever is broken on that piece and yes, it makes it very much easier.”

Chairman Norton said, “Okay. Thanks. I just wanted to be sure that we let the citizens know, because sometimes the Bid Board things are kind of invisible. This is a major undertaking. It does take us to that next level of technology. And sometimes when that debate comes up as whether we’re doing the kinds of things we should to move our EMS into the technology of the next century and delivering the best service that we possibly can, are we doing those things and I believe today is a great step forward in that. So, thank you, Tom.

I see no other questions. What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Chairman Norton seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

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VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Next item. Thanks, Iris."

CONSENT AGENDA

L. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Temporary Easement for Construction Purposes related to reconstruction and alteration of East 63rd Street South and Oliver Street.**
- 2. Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds in accordance with terms of a Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development grant award for a transitional housing project through COMCARE's homeless program.**
- 3. Plat.**

Approved by Public Works. The County Treasurer has certified that taxes for the year 2002 and prior years have been paid for the following plat:

Albert Acres Addition

- 4. Order dated March 19, 2003 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 5. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of March 19 – 25, 2003.**

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have the Consent Agenda before you and I would recommend you approve it."

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “Is there anything ‘Other’ to come before the Board of County Commissioners today?”

M. OTHER

Commissioner Winters said, “We need to have an Executive Session, Mr. Chairman, but I didn’t know if anybody had any community reports they wanted to talk about.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, I would offer that last Friday I got to participate in the Detention Deputy graduation ceremony. It was dignified and orderly and well supported by family and friends and it was gratifying to see the quality of people that we have who have signed on for that type of duty and I was happy to have been there and to have represented you all.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Very good.”

Chairman Norton said, “The only thing I’ve got going is at noon today I’ll be heading over to the Chamber to hear a debate between the two mayoral candidates in the City of Wichita and I look forward to that, to kind of hear what they’re thinking and how that may effect the county, as we try to continue to promote partnerships with our fellow electeds across the street. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, this weekend, for the first time in six months, I went out and played a round of golf and I . . . the good news is, my shoulder doesn’t hurt and after the meeting, I’ll explain to you why they call it golf. I didn’t do very well, but I did play anyway.”

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Chairman Norton said, "Is that any different than before your shoulder was injured?"

Commissioner Sciortino said, "No."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay. I'm glad we cleared that up. Anything else to come before the Commission?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved that the Board of County Commissioners recess into Executive Session for 20 minutes to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney/ client relationship legal advice and that the Board of County Commissioners return from Executive Session no sooner than 10:50 a.m.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into Executive Session at 10:34 a.m. and returned at 11:05 a.m.

Chairman Norton said, "I'll call the meeting back to order. According to state statute, we took no binding action in our Executive Session. Is there anything else to come before us today? Counselor? County Manager? We are now adjourned."

N. ADJOURNMENT

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS**

TIM NORTON, Chairman
Second District

Regular Meeting, March 26, 2003

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Chair Pro Tem
Third District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner
First District

CAROLYN McGINN, Commissioner
Fourth District

BEN SCIORTINO, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2003