

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

August 3, 2005

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, August 3, 2005 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman David M. Unruh, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Ben Sciortino; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner Lucy Burtnett; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. David Miller, Budget Director, Division of Finance; Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Community Development; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Mr. Glen Wiltse, Director, Code Enforcement; Ms. Pamela Martin, Director, Clinical Services; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care; Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager; Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging; Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Division of Finance; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Representative Nile Dillmore, Kansas State House of Representatives, 92nd District.
Representative Todd Novascone, Kansas State House of Representatives, 99th District.
Mr. Marsha Hills, Administrator and Development Coordinator, Alzheimer's Association of the Great Plains.
Mr. Karl Peterjohn, Executive Director, Kansas Taxpayers' Network.
Mr. John Todd, Resident, Sedgwick County, Kansas.
Mr. James Mendenhal, Resident, Sedgwick County, Kansas.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Chaplain Scott Davis from the Sedgwick County Detention Facility.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported, after calling roll, that all Commissioners were present.

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

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CITIZEN INQUIRY

A. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING A REFERENDUM ON THE ISSUE OF A DESTINATION CASINO IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.

Chairman Unruh said, “Representative Dillmore, while you’re coming up to the podium with Representative Novascone, I would just explain to folks that we have citizens comment at our meetings, if they will contact the county manager’s office a week ahead of time, requesting an opportunity to speak and with the subject matter that they want to speak on, and so that’s how the citizen inquiry occurs, but welcome to our meeting, representative, and appreciate your being here.”

Rep. Nile Dillmore, Kansas State House of Representatives, 92nd District, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Here with me today is Representative Todd Novascone of the 99th House District. My colleague and I would like to thank you for the opportunity to address this commission this morning on an issue that we believe is of the utmost importance to the residents of Sedgwick County. The issue of expanded gaming or more specifically, the opening of a destination casino in Sedgwick County has had a great deal of public debate for quite some time and there are a number of developers for various venues proposed.

It is highly likely that the Kansas Legislature will debate numerous bills dealing with the issues of expanded gaming and the location of destination casinos in the upcoming legislative session. The legislature has, shown in previous debates, that they pay particular attention to those counties that have expressed an interest in destination casinos. That attention is heightened when there has been a public vote on the issue. Representative Novascone and I are here today to request the commission to authorize a referendum to determine the level of public support for a destination casino in Sedgwick County.

We would further request that this referendum not be site-specific. The issue to be resolved at this time is not where or who, but if. Representative Novascone and I acknowledge that there is a fiscal issue in funding such a referendum. However, we would encourage the county and the City of Wichita to share in funding of this public vote.

We also note that in order to provide adequate time to hold such a referendum, that the commission needs to address this issue sooner, rather than later. We would therefore respectfully request that this issue be discussed at the nearest opportunity.

I’d like to close to say that neither representative Novascone nor I have a personal interest in any of the proposed casinos, nor have we any political commitment to the passage or rejection of the

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requested referendum. We simply believe that this issue is too important not to let the citizens of Sedgwick County have their say in whether or not we are going to be at the table when this issue is discussed in Topeka and Todd and I would be happy to answer any questions, if you have any.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you representative. I don’t see any lights right now, but perhaps I might just ask. Are you proposing any specific language?”

Rep. Dillmore said, “There has been, as you may be aware, two other counties have put this question to their ballot in their districts, in their areas. That language is available and I would be happy to get that provided to you, if you think it would be helpful in your deliberations.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Now the second question, this is a totally advisory type of referendum that you’re suggesting. So what happens if there’s a yes vote or what happens if there’s a no vote? I mean, what’s the practical request of that?”

Rep. Todd Novascone, Representative, 99th District, State of Kansas, said, “I think you said it best, it’s an advisory vote. I’ve sent out surveys in my district, gotten various responses. I think this will hold more weight on, say it’s 57% against I think legislators go from Topeka and know that from the back of their heart. It would just take a lot longer to pass or if . . . it’s more of an advisory vote. Like this isn’t . . . you know, I don’t want a binding, like I said, I just want so we have some sort of idea when we go up there.

As legislators up there, we are shown surveys from lobbyists, from constituents bringing up, but we have no idea where that came from. If we saw something that came from the people that we represent, I think that would hold a lot of weigh up there. I don’t know if Representative Dillmore . . .”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, I understand. It’s kind of a validation of unsubstantiated opinion up to this point, so this would validate that, I suppose.”

Rep. Dillmore said, “Mr. Chairman, I think what is important to note, and you’ve made a very good point, this is an advisory referendum, if the vote comes back affirmative, if the citizens decide

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that this is something that they think is appropriate for the community. That's going to be just the first step. Then that does not insure or guarantee or provide an immediate casino blossoming somewhere in the county. There's still many, many things that would have to be debated after that. If the vote comes back no, as Todd said, we can go up there with a clear cut agenda from our community. If the vote is affirmative, I don't believe Topeka should be in the position to decide the 'who's the 'where's the 'what's. That's something that the county and the city and the leadership within our community should tackle on their own. We simply want to have a direction from our constituents and from Sedgwick County as to what their wish is and what they think is appropriate in their community."

Chairman Unruh said, "And the final legal authority for moving forward, though, rests with our legislators."

Rep. Dillmore said, "That would be correct."

Chairman Unruh said, "We have other questions. Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nile, explain to us . . . as I understand it, you all are saying that it should be as generic as possible and not site-specific and what have you, and why are you saying that it's better if we just keep it more generic, general? You know, 'should expanded gambling be allowed within the bord . . .', why should it be more generic, as opposed to site-specific?"

Rep. Dillmore said, "Well, I'll go back to what I just said just a moment ago, Commissioner. If the vote is affirmative and the legislature takes this issue up and if, somewhere along the line, there is a bill passed that allows or provides for a casino in Sedgwick County, then I believe that this commission and the city should have the flexibility, the leeway to then decide what is most appropriate for this community.

I think it would be premature at this point to narrow the question to 'should it be in Goddard', 'should it be in Valley Center', 'should it be next to your house'. Let's let those decisions be made by the appropriate people, if the time ever comes for that."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And I assume, the more general, it allows state-owned, Indian-owned, it just leaves all of that open for discussion, as to what might be more appropriate, and not trying to put words in legislators' mouths, but what you're looking for is some kind of direction, what is the will of the people, are they even interested in expanding gambling. Am I right in that?"

Rep. Novascone said, "I think you are. We're just looking for guidance. I think Sedgwick County has shown, in previous issues, whether it's solid waste, whether it's downtown arena, public health,

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that they have gone to the citizens and done an extremely detailed job. It was amazing last year, on the downtown arena issue. I mean, you guys put in some serious overtime and you really listen to your citizens and I think that's why Representative Dillmore and I have made the jaunt up here and are discussing this issue with you."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, I'm very excited that state legislators want to do the will of the people. I think that's really great."

Mr. Dillmore said, "We're as equally excited about your efforts as well."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "The last part of our comment, I think, needs to be expanded upon. You all aren't saying that we're going to lobby for or against. You don't have any personal interest in this. You're just in essence looking for some guidance from the citizens of Sedgwick County, as to are they for or against expanding gambling."

Rep. Novascone said, "Commissioner, I personally intend to listen very carefully to the pros and cons to this issue. I think there will be no end to the folks who want to buck the information or to provide some debate on this, and I intend to listen to that and I will make my decision in the privacy of the voting booth, just as you will."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay, fine, thank you. I don't think I have any further questions."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you very much. I think probably most of my questions have been answered in just this brief discussion, but I certainly want to thank Representative Dillmore and Representative Novascone for coming today. And I guess, if I hear what you're saying, you believe that the knowledge gained by such a referendum would assist you in representing Sedgwick County and south central Kansas as you go back in January. You believe there would be value to you, as you represent us and your constituents."

Rep. Novascone said, "That's exactly right. I think it's a very useful tool to know what the people that are the closest to you think, other than listening to people from out of state saying 'Yeah, in Kansas it will be just like Iowa, if you get a casino'. I want to listen to what the people of Kansas . . . You know, if the people want it, I want to make sure it passes."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right."

Rep Novascone said, "It's a tool is the main thing."

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Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. I appreciate very much your bringing this thought process to us. Thank you. That's all I had."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I'd like to let the public know that this isn't the first time that we've heard about casinos. We've been talking about this in staff meetings for probably a year, as to where we're going to go with this, what we'll advocate for, how will we get to the people and understand what they want, so I'm glad that Representative Dillmore and Novascone are here today, speaking to that issue at a statewide level that they represent also, because it is an important issue. You know, we are a representative democracy and the five of us represent the county and can make an indeterminate amount of decisions. But there are some that really need to go through the filter of the public, even though we're the representatives, it's a broader based scope of that. I think back to the arena. That was important. The marriage amendment, statewide, it went through a filter of the public to decide what Kansas wanted to do with that, and casinos I believe falls in that same realm, that it's pretty important to find out what people really want, not just five people that think they know. So I think it's important for us to move this forward and find out what the public really thinks about it, what they want to know.

You know, I can do with empirical data every day. I heard some people in my Sunday school class talking about it. I heard people at the Wheatland Jam talking about it. I go to the grocery store and people pull me aside and say, 'here's what I think'. But you know what, I don't have a little notebook where I'm putting down hash marks, plus and minus, nor do I think that I've gotten a broad-based idea of what the public really wants. So, I applaud you for coming to us today. I hope that we move forward and try to find out what the public wants to do with this very, very important issue, because it will set the tone for what Sedgwick County looks like in our state for many, many years. So, I think it's an important issue. Non-binding is okay with me. It still is great public input. Everybody gets a chance to register and vote and weigh in on it, and then we'll know for sure what our community feels like.

As we've talked about this recently, one of the things that's unnerved me though is we've talked about Sedgwick County and Wichita partnering to pay for it and I have urged the manager and the other commissioners to engage all small cities, everybody that may have a stake, to at least let them know that they can join in with this. They can put some money into it. They can have a piece of the action.

We already know that Park City has an interest. Now whether they'll want to help pay for a referendum or not is another thing, but I think it's important that we engage all the cities, because it's not just a Wichita issue, it's not just an outlying, Sedgwick County one-city issue, it's going to

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affect everybody in our community, so I think it's very important to engage all cities.

And finally, I really believe that we know that you're going to deal with education next year again, and there's going to have to be a solution and truthfully, in a state that really doesn't embrace tax increases very easily, there's going to have to be other tools in your toolbox to be able to solve that issue. And one of the tools, all of us know, is gaming. Now whether we want gaming in Sedgwick County, I don't know. It doesn't have anything to do personally with what Tim Norton wants. I think it's what the community will accept, knowing all the things they know about the state, with education and tax lids and all of that. So I think it's very important that we find out if the citizens want that tool in the toolbox. That's all I have."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you. We still have a couple of more comments, so gentlemen, hang in there. I wanted to say that I have been contacted by some of your colleagues who are not in favor of this at all, so in our conversation here, I would just want to acknowledge the fact that not everyone is in favor of having a referendum. Perhaps they anticipate the outcome and I don't know all their reasons. I would say that many of my political supporters and folks who are particularly interested in how I vote are not in favor of a referendum, but in my time here on the bench it has been the standard operating procedure, if you will, of this commission and of Sedgwick County government to seek input from citizens when we come up against difficult situations. So this would not be inconsistent with the way that we do things here.

We sought lots of citizen input when we wrestled early on with kind of the first round with solid waste issues. We sought public input and had public assemblies relative to our trying to move forward on public health issues. Within our COMCARE organization, with our mental health and our CDDO organizations we seek public input. So I guess I'd say, personal opinions or personal perspective notwithstanding, I think that this is an appropriate way to seek the will of the people and move forward.

So anyway, that's kind of a ramble but I wanted to tell you, there's not everybody for it and some of us may not be voting in favor of the issue, but we think this is the right thing to do for the county. Anyone want to respond to that?"

Rep. Novascone said, "Yes, if I could, I'm kind of in the same boat. I felt a lot of people that supported me in the campaign said, 'Why are you doing this?' and it's just that I don't see an argument that stands up to 'let the people vote'. I do not understand the people that say 'why are we having this referendum' when we're letting the people decide what they want, and that argument

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really doesn't hold water with me, but I tried to explain that to some people that really supported me on campaigns and hopefully they will understand."

Rep. Dillmore said, "You know, we all . . . as alluded to, this debate hasn't occurred in a vacuum and it didn't happen yesterday. We all have read polls. We've all been to community discussion, we've all been to hearings, but when it comes right down to it, there's only one poll that really counts and that's the one that's made when individuals have an opportunity to cast their ballot for or against a question that's brought to their attention, and that's the one that I think has the most weight in this discussion."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you. Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thank you. I'm going to go out on a limb and tell you my position on gambling. I think it's a waste of time and money. I don't get that much excited if I win and it really upsets me if I lose, but I have also been laboring, as Representative Novascone and you have Chairman, over denying the people's opportunity to tell us what they want on a highly controversial issue such as gaming. We went forward on the marriage amendment, highly controversial but we thought it was good to find out what the will . . . I don't think you can pick and chose which controversial issue the people should be allowed to vote on and not based on what you think the outcome might be. I mean, that would . . . I think that would be very inconsistent of elected officials. So, I'm going to be supportive of trying to work out some way of allowing the voice of the people to be heard, but I think it was important for me just to share it, I think it's a total waste of time and money."

I also appreciate the fact that both of you had the courage, it's nice to see that Todd, that even on this issue you're on the right side of Dillmore, I think that's very good."

Mr. Novascone said, "It's not a coincident there."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "But it's bipartisan, that you're coming up, I think just because you believe it would be very beneficial for you to execute your job, as representing Sedgwick County citizens, if you could hear directly from Sedgwick County citizens and I applaud you for having the courage to do so."

My . . . well, okay I have something that I was going to ask the manager, but I'll wait until I hear any other comments before."

Chairman Unruh said, "Commissioner Norton."

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Commissioner Norton said, “Well, just a final comment. We know that there is a gridlock about this issue, and just because we would ignore it, stick our head in the sand, it’s not going to go away and I think the only way we’re going to resolve it is to find out what the people want. That’s the only way you’re going to break this gridlock. We can have this debate of morality and beliefs and value systems and social issues that come with it until the cows come home. In fact, I think many communities have, but to understand what the people want and break that gridlock, I think there’s only one way to do that and that’s not one individual shouting louder than everybody else. That’s everybody getting their voice in there.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Well, I’m ready to ask the manager to do some investigation and come up with a plan and we can receive and file these comments today.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, that’s what I was going to . . .”

Chairman Unruh said, “Would you like to make that motion?”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “In the form of a motion?”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, we need a motion to receive and file.”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Now discussion on the motion, perhaps we should now officially ask the manager to pursue the next steps in finding out information.”

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manger, greeted the Commissioners and said, “If it would please the commission, Commissioners, next week we do not have a meeting but I think we will be prepared to have some sort of information to you about what the next steps might be certainly by the next meeting, which is the 17th, and we will make that an agenda item and we will be in touch with the election commission and we will work out all the details for you to make a clear decision.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Commissioner.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, and the one thing that I’d like to ask you to do, Bill, if you could, as I understand, this will probably, if we decide to do this, it would have to be a mail out

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ballot, because there's no election in November and what have you. And if it's a non-binding referendum, it can't be on the actual ballot, as I understand it. But that's a fairly sizable hunk of money, to get that on, and I would like for you to please explore what Representative Dillmore has indicated, that kind of the sense I got in talking to some people across the street, to see if there's any interest in maybe the City of Wichita joining us in the equal partnership on this, or like Commissioner Unruh said or someone else said, other cities that may want to share in this expense, because it would be beneficial for them, I think, also to hear exactly what the word of the people and would ask you to, maybe at that two-week period of time, you could explore that avenue also."

Mr. Buchanan said, "I think within the . . . I'm confident within the next two weeks we will be able to contact the 20 cities in Sedgwick County and give them an opportunity to support."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay, great. Thank you so much. That's all I had."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay. There seems to be no more requests for comments, so we have a motion on the floor to receive and file. Any more discussion? Seeing none, call the vote."

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Representative Dillmore and Representative Novascone, thank you for being here today."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Don't walk too fast, I think the media is right behind you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Madam Clerk, call the next item please."

PUBLIC HEARING

B. 2006 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

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1. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2006 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

Mr. Buchanan said, “This is the time when we open the public hearing, the last public hearing on the 2006 budget. We have a budget recommended to you of \$331,651,110 and Mr. Chairman, it would be appropriate for you to open that public hearing now.

But before you do that, there was some questions that were raised, some issues that were raised at the last public hearing and I’ve asked David Miller, the budget director, to address some of those and then I would suggest opening the public hearing, so David.”

OVERHEAD PRESENTATION

Mr. David Miller, Budget Director, Division of Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, “As the manager said, before we begin today’s budget hearing, I would like just a moment to address some of the questions that arose during July 20th hearing. Regarding the table that was presented to you that outlined Sedgwick County’s budget since 2002 and we’ll have that up here in just a second.

At that time, the commission had several questions regarding the rate of growth witnessed, particularly in general government, public works and community development. To make fair budgetary comparisons on Sedgwick County operations, one must really compare apples to apples, and in many ways this table is comparing apples to oranges, because of one-time budget adjustments that were adopted by the BOCC.

For example, the 7% growth you see in general government between 2002 and 2003 is partially the result of implementing two new programs. Those include the Register of Deeds technology enhancement fund, which was authorized by the state legislature and the Enterprise Resource Planning Department.

In addition, 2003 was a year of budget reductions. Our internal practice at the time was to reduce the department’s budget and place that amount in a reserve account that is categorized under general government. In effect, even though we didn’t spend those funds, it increased the budget of general government, while other functional areas decreased.

A similar situation is true regarding the 7.6% increase in general government between 2004 and 2005. The adopted 2005 budget included an increase in that reserve account to fund potential programs to address both jail overcrowding and economic development initiatives.

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For Public Works, the 7.5% decrease from 2004 and 2005 results from a one-time 2.3 million dollar grant that was received for the expansion of Hoover Road in 2004. And for Community Development, the 28.3% reduction from 2005 to 2006 is a result of the legislature's reduction in community college reimbursement rate from \$12 per credit hour to \$6. In addition, we also anticipate reductions in the grants that are received by the housing department, particularly HUD Section 8 grants. I hope that helped answer some of the questions you had from the last hearing. I'd be happy to stand for any questions you may have now, before we open the public hearing."

Chairman Unruh said, "That is very helpful, David. We appreciate that input, but we do have a question here. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I think I asked most of those questions on this chart. That answers it, and we've gone over a lot of this since that meeting.

I'm still concerned with public works, from 2002 to present, I mean there's an erosion there that concerns me because I think infrastructure and roads are very important to the outlying areas and to the linkages of the fast growing areas on the fringe of Wichita and there continues to be an erosion there, even with the one-time grant from the state on Hoover withstanding, we're still not at the 2002 budget level and that's an erosion and even if you take that out, when other portions of the government have grown, Public Works has not and I have a concern with that, because one of the most visible places that people see government working is infrastructure, roads and potholes and bridges and those kinds of things. It gets pretty milky when you look at services, because not everybody sees the services, feels the services, but certainly Public Works people do understand that is a function of county government and I'm concerned about that erosion. There may be good explanations, but I'm still concerned with it. That's all I have, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you. Any other questions before . . . of David, before he sits down. All right. Mr. Manager, any more?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "No, sir."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay. Then at this time, I will open the public hearing and we will request public input relative to the 2006 budget and before we ask you to come up to the podium to speak, can I just see a show of hands of those folks that want to speak? Okay, we have four. Okay, very good and you all are aware that it's a five-minute time limit. So, whoever is closest, why don't

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you stand up and tell us your name and who you represent and we'll be happy to hear you."

Ms. Marsha Hill, Administrator and Development Coordinator, Alzheimer's Association of the Great Plains, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I want to thank you for your time this morning and especially appreciate the time you've allowed us to visit with you this spring. We hope you had an opportunity to review the materials we left with you and have a better understanding of this devastating disease. We are talking about a grant and the history of the grant shows that in 2004, we asked for \$16,166 and we received \$15,587 and we served over 1,000 people over the age of 60.

In 2005, we asked for \$15,827 and received \$14,661. We were able to serve about 400 families in the first half of the year. In 2006, we requested \$18,732 and it has been recommended that we receive \$11,411. It was indicated declining members of families that we are serving due to the decrease of funds, which impact the hours we are able to utilize a case manager and materials we are able to send to families.

The later part of the year, the need rises. These figures do not reflect the growing number of people under 60 who are afflicted with early onset or the over 200 people we have trained in facilities to work with dementia people.

Statistics say, in Kansas alone the Alzheimer's population will grow at least 20%. It's the third leading cause of death, after heart disease and cancer. We hope you see the need to increase the 2006 recommended amount of \$11,311 to at least the 2005 figure, or even better the 2004 figure of \$15,587. We ask that you help us help them. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Marsha. Are there any questions before she sits down? Okay, seeing none, thank you very much. Who is next? Mr. Peterjohn."

Mr. Karl Peterjohn, Executive Director, Kansas Taxpayers' Network, greeted the Commissioners and said, "It's a pleasure to get to visit with you, to talk about the budget in brief. With the County Manager giving a figure of \$331,000,000, I thought of the fact that the last census figures that I saw had Sedgwick County population in just a shade over 450,000 people and that means that we're going to be spending over \$730 for every man, woman and child here in Sedgwick County with the budget before you. We're looking at a situation where, according to the Appraiser's Office, we're looking at a 5.4% increase in appraisal increases and they couldn't break down for me how much of that was due to growth or increase in existing appraisals.

The reason I share this is I think this community is in a bit of a crisis and I know you all have been facing a variety of problems that are both seen as budget related, but sometimes not budget related. And I wanted to show you a little bit about the problems this community faces, as we try and kind of stay up with the Jones. And I'll cite the Wall Street Journal did an editorial July 12th this year talking about the fact that so far, this year, the federal government revenues have grown 14.6% over

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the same period last year. I want you to think about that for a minute. That's over \$200,000,000,000, 14.6% and if you look at the situation we're facing here in Sedgwick County, you're not seeing revenues growing anywhere near maybe just even a fraction of that amount.

And the reason I say that is statewide, and I've told legislators this, I've told the two legislators you heard from earlier, you know about the decline that Kansas is in. At one time, we had eight members of the United States House of Representatives come from Kansas, as recently as 1932 and now we only have four, and that number could decrease, I think it will decrease within the next 15 years if current trends don't change, and that's part of the reason I wanted to visit with you this morning about the budget.

Because the fact that the Appraiser's Office, . . . you can say, 'Gee, we didn't raise the mill levy'. With the Appraiser increasing valuations, you're going to be able to spend a good deal more money. For a family of four, if you take \$735 roughly as the amount that's spent per person for a family of four, you're approaching \$3,000 per year for a family of four. My household has four people in it. That's an awful lot of spending per person and it's putting us at a significant disadvantage and if we can't look at perhaps reducing the mill levy a little bit, to try to make us more competitive, one of the complaints I hear from people is they say 'Gee, the jobs aren't there for my kids when they get out of school' and we provide a number of well educated people who end up going to school out of state.

Well, part of the problem is we're not very competitive economically. We have a very high cost, high tax, high regulatory structure here compared to our surrounding states. And it's incumbent upon you as elected officials who have a major budget to approve, to try to help make us more competitive and I'm here today to try and make sure that you have some . . . keep these thoughts in mind, because if we're not going to keep up with the Jones' we'll create a lot of Kansas tourists and I call Kansas tourists somebody who went to school in Kansas and they now come back at Thanksgiving, maybe at Christmas, sometimes for a week during the summer to see their folks and then they go back and they take their job in Colorado and they work there. Texas, that's the number one state where Kansans are moving to, by the way and that's how we're creating the Kansas tourism industry and that's not what I'd like to see.

I don't think any of you would like to see that. But as you prepare this budget and you approve this budget, I hope you keep these thoughts in mind, because it's important for the future, not only of this community, but also of this state, and I think Sedgwick County should be a leader and model for the other 104 Kansas counties. So, I place that as a challenge before you this morning. I appreciate your attention and your time."

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Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Karl. Who is next? The two folks that wanted to speak? Okay."

Mr. John Todd, Resident, Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The numbers that I saw this morning reflect a 4.7% increase over last year, and I would ask that you consider holding that, the increase, or reducing it to the rate of inflation, to about 3%, which I think is the federal numbers, and what to do with the . . . the paper indicated that . . . their indication was 7.6% but I think their numbers are flawed, but they also indicated that the increase would not require a property tax increase and I think, as Karl indicated, the evaluations from the Appraiser's Office is taking care of that."

And with that in light, and with that in mind, my suggestion would be where to spend the extra \$5,000,000 that you could cut out of the budget, to return it to the people in the form of reduced mill levy. I think that this would be enthusiastically received by the public, particularly the property owners, and I think it would be a real spur to the economy. Thank you for allowing me to speak."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you John."

Mr. James Mendenhal, Resident, Sedgwick County, Kansas, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm served by County Commissioner Dave Unruh. I have concerns about some world events that are going to affect Sedgwick County. One is an aging population. When we talk about an arena, we talk about a casino, we plan to build a new airport terminal, we need to recognize that by the middle of this next century, 2,000,000,000 people will be 65 years or older with a gradual trend in that direction."

When I say older, they will be much older. These people will not want to retire. They are looking right now at 30-year retirement periods and they're going to want to travel, but mostly they're going to want to stay employed and they're wanting to go to conventions. To keep Wichita strong, you must design our future buildings for the needs of an aging population. This is more important than ADA because it makes Wichita user-friendly and it's a value added product that we can put into our infrastructure today and it will pay off in the future by having a wild card when we start competing for convention business.

The next issue, which I wish I didn't have to bring up, is the Avian Flu. I may be the first one that's ever mentioned it before you, but the World Health Organization has now moved it to a level three of six levels. It is considered a worldwide pandemic potential. Five million chickens in southeast Asia were destroyed because of the Avian Flu. Now wild duck populations and pigs have picked up this same strain and the ducks are not showing symptoms, so they can't always be culled out of a migrating group.

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It has also shown up in British Columbia. The first human to human passage has been recorded in a government worker in southeast Asia and both of his daughters, all three that died from this disease. What I'm saying is, we may need a greater emergency contingent pool of money to deal with this problem, because a year from now we don't know how serious it can become, may economically disrupt the entire United States, and certainly will affect Kansas.

In history, I would mention the 1918 pandemic that killed 50,000,000 people worldwide is attributed to Kansas as its origination point. Kansas is also the first state with the West Nile Virus case this year. SARS made incredible financial disruptions in Canada and actually killed 300 people before it was ignored. It hasn't stopped. It still exists. There are other diseases that we should worry about, but the Avian Flu is a threat and some have estimated it's potential to kill a billion people worldwide, because there is no resistance or any history of people having this particular strain of flu.

This is new to you. This is new to me. It's new to all of us, but it's coming and it's been progressively growing this century and it's conceivable that it could hit as early as this fall, may be affecting our pigs, but if it becomes human to human, it's going to affect our county and certainly there will be economic repercussions. I'm just saying, in this budget if it's possible and in the next budget may be required, that an emergency contingency be considered for the effects of massive illness and possible death in our county from this.

If nothing else, consider the agricultural implications of the chickens and the pigs getting this disease and having to be killed to prevent its spread. I don't know how you deal with this, but you must deal with this. Fifty million people in 1918 died from this, spread by soldiers in the world war. Airplanes will be spreading this disease much faster in the future. I just want to give you a heads-up to let you know that this is not taken lightly by the World Health Organization and the CDC and it behooves us to plan and plan ahead.

Also for the aging population we should plan ahead. That's a lighter subject, but it's certainly going to be affective in our county and I want to be economically successful, so I want conventions to come to Wichita. Those conventions will have greater numbers of elderly workers. We need to make all our infrastructure friendly for them. Thank you very much, and appreciate it."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, James. Is there anyone else that wishes to speak? This is our last public hearing and when it closes, it's over, so if there's anyone else that wants to speak, now's the time.

All right, seeing no one, I will at this time close the public hearing and I will ask the clerk to call the next item please."

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2. ADOPTION OF THE 2006 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

Mr. Buchanan said, "We have some changes that are before you that we need to discuss before the budget is adopted. Dave, why don't you talk about the adjusted evaluation and sales, if you will please."

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. Miller said, "As in the past, this is a program that we put up to track any adjustments that you might make in the budget, as you go through this adoption process. At the very top, you see the mill levy as it is right now, which is the same mill levy as last year, 28.63 mills and below that, beginning with adjusted assessed valuation, you see some adjustments that we've made in the budget.

Based on the Clerk's evaluation, the Manager's recommended budget is undervaluing property increases. And we've outlined an increase of \$284,000 based on that. We've also went through our revenue estimates and we looked at sales tax estimated and based on what we've seen so far this year, we believe that we've over-estimated the sales tax for 2006, so we're recommending a decrease in that estimate of \$31,487. We also believe that we can reduce the contingency reserves for the Health and Life Fund. That's money that we set aside for employee health and life benefits program, in case anything should happen, the costs are more than we could possibly have anticipated and we believe that we've overestimated that, so we'd recommend a reduction there of \$19,932."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Thank you, David. You will see the next line is 'Unfreeze five Sheriff Patrol Deputies'. I overlooked that in the recommended budget. That was my error and that should have been included in the recommended budget. You will see, by including those in that budget, that if we take care of the assessed valuation, we have sales tax estimates and we reduce contingency reserve, add in the freezing of the five deputies, you will see that we still have, at the top of the page, \$49,300 that was unallocated, which could go to reserves or could go to any place that you would like those to go."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay commissioners, are there questions on the details of what's just been explained to us? Okay, seeing none, what . . . are there any comments or questions? Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, would this be an appropriate time . . . I have an idea on what I would maybe like to see done with the \$49,000, if this is the right time to discuss that."

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Chairman Unruh said, "This is the time."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, we've discussed this, we've talked about this in staff meetings, there is an imbalance in the amount of monies that we allocate to the senior centers throughout Sedgwick County and the Aging Department understood this and they did a lot of work on how to get this imbalance in its proper form and get everything equitable and originally they had presented to us that they thought a ten-year time frame to correct the imbalance would be something that we should look at and I guess I just got a big problem with, if there's a problem and we're not fairly allocating funds to senior centers, waiting ten years to right the wrong just seems like an extremely long period of time.

I've talked to Annette Graham and she would be much more comfortable, if my understanding of how she explained it to me, to shrink that to a two-year time frame. That would take darn near all that money, but it would within a two year period of time, make all the senior centers equitable and getting the amount of money they deserve. It also allows the Aging Department let each of the centers and the clubs know the amount of money they qualify for. They don't automatically get it. They have to then make a presentation to the Aging Department, this is the amount of money you qualify for, what are the programs or the employees or what are you going to do to spend it, so that the Aging Department can be assured that they are providing the programs and the resources, personnel-wise, to better serve the senior community.

So, my recommendation would be that we shrink that ten-year timeframe to provide equity to the senior centers for a two-year time period, and that would take, if my math is right, about all of that money."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Sir, I think the two-year . . . I think the number, to do what you would want to do, is \$48,363."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Oh, okay, so there would be about \$1,000 left. That would be something that I would like this board to seriously consider joining me and approving."

Chairman Unruh said, "48,364. All right."

Mr. Buchanan said, "I'll show you what happens here."

Chairman Unruh said, "\$937. Okay, well we do have a couple of other comments, so let's hear those. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. Just a couple of general comments and then a couple of

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specifics. I want to compliment staff and we can do that later, but I think we've all done a pretty good job this year and I think we've talked about this budget in several workshop settings. Commissioners have been able to share with the staff what our priorities are for this coming year of 2006 and I think you all have responded very well to what commissioners have been looking for and I think we have, likewise, heard what your plans and priorities are and I hope that we have been able to respond to as many of those as we could.

But I just want to say that the process, I think, has been very good this year. I do want to compliment Sheriff Steed and I think all of us were in agreement back when we were having serious budget problems and were putting lots of cuts in, the Sheriff did agree to freeze these positions that had been previously approved and he agreed to participate with the county and now it's my understanding that by allowing these positions to come back on line, they're principally going to be used for court security and as we all realize the number of cases that are taking place in this building, some higher profile than others, the Sheriff visited with each of us about this and I think we've all pretty much agreed that we need to meet this need. So I just want to say I appreciate the way he has handled his budget in the past years, and as we see, some counties across the state having real difficulty with some of their elected officials, I think our elected officials, including Sheriff Steed, have just been real partners in working through a lot of budget issues.

Now the two issues that I'd like to just visit about for a moment is I did have conversation with some of the citizens involved in the Conservation District and at one time we did have as much as \$50,000 in a fund that they could use to really match for funds from state and federal government on conservation projects, so that's often . . . you know, it intrigues me when you can get more bang for one buck, you can get two by leveraging those. And Mr. Manager, I know that you had said that you had found a way to put some of that money back into that conservation grant fund. Do we need to talk about that today, or do you have a plan that you believe that you can help that Conservation District?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "I think it's a done deal. I'm more than happy to talk about it. There's ways in which, out of Ron Holt's Division and Irene Hart's areas of responsibility. I believe that there will be plenty of an opportunity to save between now and the end of the year the \$18,000 necessary for that program to continue."

Commissioner Winters said, "Okay, very good. Well, we won't worry about that. We'll assume that can be taken care of. I do want to say that I support Commissioner Sciortino's efforts to balance the expenditures at the senior centers that has kind of developed over the years and has not gotten any closer to balance. This is a plan that will get it there.

The only other just small item that I would like to have us at least talk or consider is the Alzheimer's group. I have a great deal of respect for our Advisory Group on Aging. I mean, we

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look to those people to make recommendations to us. They are out there, attempting to measure outcomes and performances, as they best understand them and see them, with the direction of staff.

But in an organization like Alzheimer's, who is I think trying to do the best they can with limited resources, either if we would think about going back to 2004, we're talking about \$4,100, or to 2005, \$3,200. I mean, that's not very much money. It's probably significant to that organization, but again, I understand and feel some reluctance to change the assessments that the Aging Advisory Council has done, so I guess I'm looking for some help there. If any other commissioners feel any inclination, you know I don't know whether the thing to do would be to visit with Debbie Donaldson and Annette and see if we could work out some kind of plan that would help that group, or if we need to leave it like it is in the budget and make some commitments to do some homework and research over the next couple of months to see if there's some way that that group could get more in tune with what the Aging folks are looking at or how we need to handle that, whether we need to forget it.

You know, Marsha Hill has come and visited with me and I thought it sounded to me like they were trying the best they could and know how to do some good things and again she's here this morning, so I'm just going to kind of leave that up in the air, saying I'd like to either think about that, whether we think about it budget-wise or we try to make a strategy and a plan, but again I'm going to be as supportive of Commissioner Sciortino's senior citizens as I can, with that little caveat. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. We have other comments here, but I want to also echo your accolades to the Sheriff and his being a team player in this whole process, and we appreciate that, especially in light of what we see in neighboring counties, where there's sometime acrimony between the different parts of county government. And I'm proud to say that we really work together to accomplish the same thing, so appreciate that. And we have other comment from Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I would defer to Commissioner Sciortino, if he still wants to talk about senior centers, because I've got other things."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "No, go ahead. I'm done with the senior centers."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well I did have a question on that too. I'd be interested in how the money breaks out, if we were to do that. I mean, we've got what, 25-plus senior centers and is there a recommendation of how that money would be spent and how it's broken out?"

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well are you asking . . .?"

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Commissioner Norton said, "I guess I'm asking whoever has got the answer."

Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging, said, "Well, we do have it broke down, I have a little bit different number, but that's pretty minimal difference in looking at what it might be to break that into 50% this year and 50% next year. So we do have that broke out by center and it would be close to \$6,716 to bring the senior clubs up to half of that, \$9,905 for the senior centers level one and then we have a level two, which will bring them up to, it will be \$1,382 for senior centers, multi-purpose senior center level one, \$17,573, senior centers level . . . multi-purpose senior center level two, \$12,652 and then the multi-purpose senior centers level three, \$474, so then it is further broke down by each of those, the number of the senior clubs, the senior centers level one, level two. So we do have that kind of broke down, already in place."

Chairman Unruh said, "And what does that add up to?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "We're going to check the numbers. Budget is telling me one number. Aging is telling us something, and we're going to figure that out."

Ms. Graham said, "Close to \$48,000."

Mr. Buchanan said, "We're going to figure that out in the next four minutes."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "It's within a thousand dollars, back and forth."

Chairman Unruh said, "Commissioner Norton, I interrupted you. Please continue."

Commissioner Norton said, "No, I guess my concern, and I'm supportive of this, I've always been supportive of senior centers. I continue to advocate for taking a holistic view, something that James Mendenhal talked about is that our population is changing, it's aging very quickly. My concern of ramping this up and pushing it into right now is that we still haven't developed a strategic plan of where the aging populations in our community move to, push the envelope on and I don't know that we understand.

Now, I'm supportive of what Ben is trying to do, because I think it does give more money to senior centers, but I want to be sure that we're allocating it to the right places. There's been some decreases in some of the senior populations and usage in some of the senior centers, particularly in the inner-city and there's been an explosion of some of them in the outlying areas, but that doesn't mean that in the next five or six years there's not going to be a change in that aged population because of housing and where they can live and where the retirement homes are and everything, and I want to be sure we really understand that and have done a survey of it, as we try to solve this

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issue. I mean, just a statement. Now I've got other things."

Chairman Unruh said, "If you want to continue, you have the floor."

Commissioner Norton said, "I did want to compliment David Miller and Chris Chronis. I spent . . . the Chairman and I spent a couple of good hours with them trying to go over things that we had identified deep into the budget that we had questions on and I'm happy to say, most of those are resolved and were answered. I probably have 50 stickies on different pages, trying to ask questions. There are some comments that I wanted to make, just on the budget so the public knows, we've earmarked a million dollars for Exploration Place. I think the community knows that there's a dilemma and I think that we need to make sure the public knows that we've earmarked a little money. Whether we spend it and what we spend it on is still up in the air, but I think we've tried to prudently build into the budget the idea that we may have to do something to help Exploration Place and that it won't be something where we're scratching for the money later, but that we've tried to use good budgetary procedures to come up with some money and build it deep into the budget, as we try to solve that problem.

We've earmarked a million dollars for technical education and that comes a little bit out of the money that came out of the state for the tuition reimbursement but over a million dollars for technical education. We're still hashing around how we'll spend some of that money this year, and certainly what we'll do with it next year but that is new money. It's an increase that falls within the budget and I think people need to know that.

I've had some people ask me, 'well, you're getting deep into this technical education thing'. Well, we took some bold action and said we wanted to do that, but the truth is, we're in the education business. I mean, we give 6.3 million dollars to W.S.U. to help support them and keep them functioning well as our university here. So, education has already been a core value of ours.

Some of the concerns that I had, and I just want to briefly go over them, just so the public knows, is there was quite a bit of movement in our Enterprise Resource Planning area and a lot of it had to do with people, as we build that and understand how that whole process affects our whole organization. So we added some people, we subtract some people and I had a lot of questions about that. At the end of the day, that organization has grown a little bit and the manager may want to comment on that, but it is a very, very important part of what Sedgwick County is trying to do to manage itself, not only financially, but in the Human Resource area. Businesses have been using ERP systems for quite some time. It's new to government and we did have some growing pains a

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couple of years ago, but I think that new money spent in there is going to be well spent to grow our organization.

We also had some personnel movement in the call center and that moved some positions out of other areas and is growing that population base, but I think we're having pretty good results with the call center that we put together that answers questions for Register of Deeds, appraisal, other areas and I think that's worked pretty well, but it has grown and moved some people around.

The Coliseum, as we try to figure out what the arena is going to do to the Coliseum and whether we can buy back that enterprise that we let go when we thought we were going to close down the Coliseum, I think that budget will be a work in process and I ask a lot of process about that and Select-A-Seat and what that was going to do to the budget. I think Chris and Dave gave me good answers, but I'm still concerned that we haven't filled that back up, now that we've decided that we're going to reuse the Coliseum for a couple of years, as we build the arena.

The Department of Corrections grew their personnel base a lot and in fact their budget a lot, and in fact their budget a lot, and that has to do with the growth of the Juvenile Detention Facilities and that's opening up. But if an average citizen looked at this budget and didn't know the continuum of what we've worked on for almost three years and how they've tried to build that up. It looks like we're gaining and just adding 70 new people and almost \$4,000,000 in budget for no good reason and I think we've known all along, Mark Masterson has done a pretty good job of letting us know and hopefully the public know that this new Juvenile Detention Center will require more people, because it's going to have a greater capacity. It lets us not outsource our own juveniles to go to other parts of the state to be housed, but it is going to cost us some money. I think any time we get into detention of any kind, and add new facilities, it does cost us money.

And then finally there was a pretty good, large increase in COMCARE, but as we look at that, most of that is grant money and Medicare money that has been increased and that money could deteriorate and go out of the budget, but it is not mill levy money that increases the budget, as I understand, but it looks like a lot of money being added to the budget that really is not there out of property tax or sales tax.

So those are just my comments. I once again appreciate David Miller and Chris Chronis giving us the time to really dig down deep and from my perspective, Mr. Chairman, they answered most of our questions I think, in a pretty detailed manner."

Chairman Unruh said, "Yes they did. Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Yeah, just for media, on your last comment, yeah that was kind of a pleasant thing. Usually, in years past, we have a lot of questions about how did the budget do,

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what happened here, and this year everything that I would probably be concerned about, they answered actually in language I could understand, so I was really appreciative of that.

Two things, one we've already talked about it twice, but this idea of putting back . . . unfreezing those Sheriff Deputies is very important to us, because it is the safety of the courthouse that is being protected by the addition of those deputies, because that's what they're going to work at, and I appreciate the manager indicating that perhaps it should have been in a different place in the budget, but I'm just very happy that we had the funds and that we could adhere to the request of the Sheriff.

With regards to Alzheimer's request, Commissioner Winters, I am extremely confident that we're going to be able to find the three or four thousand dollars to maybe get them back in line. There may even be funds this year that we have somewhere that we could use, but I think working together . . . I even see the Manager nodding his head, so I'll be happy to work with you on that, but I'm confident that we're going to be able to find those funds to help those folks out. Yes, that's all I have."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, well I guess I would respond to that then by saying that I would be comfortable in not changing the Manager's recommended budget, but I would commit to working with Debbie Donaldson and Annette and the Alzheimer's folks to make sure we can do something, and then I'll go around personally and we'll talk about that. So, just for their information, we're going to leave this budget as it is, but I'm committed to making sure we try to do something that's right. Thank you. That's all I've got."

Chairman Unruh said, "Well, I think that sounds like a reasonable, workable solution and allows us to move on here, I think. I'm just satisfied personally that we've taken care of some of these really tough issues, relative to the Sheriff and we were able to restore some cold mix operations, we were able to help the Appraiser with some new equipment for pictometry and it looks like we're working out the Conservation District issues, so I think that we've been comprehensive and fair as we can be, and I'm ready to support this Aging suggestion also, senior center suggestion. We have . . . Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "I just want to make one more comment and really it has to do . . . I

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think, you know, you really don't see much struggle with our part of this budget at this point in time, but the hard work has already been done and I was listening this morning to the astronauts as they were doing their work, and someone said, 'they made it look pretty easy' and someone commented, 'yeah, but all the hard work was preparing, getting ready and going through the process' and I think that's one of the benefits we have as commissioners, to be able to have all of those workshops and budget meetings that we had, along the way, to get to this point. And so, again, I appreciate all of the staff and their input as we've built this. Today seems almost anti-climatic, but the hard work has certainly been taking place. So, thank you."

Commissioner Norton said, "If I might comment on that, truthfully, I just want . . . the things that I came up with today, I just wanted to be sure that they were public record because it was going to look like we had two things to talk about and that was all we could find in the budget, and the truth is, there has been a lot of work and we took this very serious as commissioners, and we dealt with every issue on every page, but truthfully, none of the things I talked about were big questions by today. They'd already been researched and resolved and we could have very easily not even talked about those things, so Tom is actually very, very right."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thanks for the comment. Mr. Manager, do you have anything more to say before we move forward?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "A couple of things. First of all, the difference between the two numbers that we were talking about for the senior citizens' center is \$339. That's a technical adjustment and we will figure out what the right number is.

There was . . . talking about the call center, I wanted to make sure that we understood that we understood that it is the Treasurer, Appraiser, Election Commissioner and the County Counselor's Office and so we're always looking for new customers, including the Register of Deeds, if he'd like to do that, but so far, not yet.

Commissioner Winters had talked about complimenting the staff and it's always important for me to suck up to you, so I do think it's important and it was stated before, that in June we spent four full days, it was split up more than that, but it was really four full days of listening to budget requests, discussing those issues and doing the hard work ahead of time, and that just reflects what this organization is about and what you've driven this organization to do is to make us think about whether the changing needs of the community and how we as staff need to understand that it's your community, we live in it too, it's your community and it's their money and how we go about allocating those resources to changing needs, it really does drive that process and really makes it pretty smooth to do all the heavy lifting. So, I want to thank you for your understanding and help in this process.

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If there are no other questions, Mr. Chairman, I would recommend that you adopt the Sedgwick County budget of \$331,651,110, which includes 28.8 mills.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioners, do we need to restate that motion from the bench?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to adopt the 2006 Sedgwick County Budget of \$331,651,110. The Budget includes a legal budget of \$219,709,585 with a \$103,058,056 ad valorem tax levy, which is approximately equivalent to 28.8 mills, subject to review and technical adjustments.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Call the next item please.”

3. ADOPTION OF THE 2006-2010 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) AND THE 2006 CAPITAL BUDGET.

Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, you have the part of the budget that is the Capital Improvement Program. We have a budget for that from 2006 to 2010, which is \$171,898,417 including \$44,093,382 for the 2006 and I would recommend that you adopt the Capital Improvement Program budget.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, is there any discussion, questions?”

MOTION

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Commissioner Sciortino moved to adopt the 2006-2010 Capital Improvement Program of \$171,898,417, including \$44,093,382 for the 2006 Capital Budget with subject to review and technical adjustments.

Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. At this time I will recess the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners."

C. RECESS TO THE FIRE DISTRICT #1 MEETING

The County Commission meeting recessed into the Fire District meeting at 10:20 a.m. and returned at 10:25 a.m.

Chairman Unruh said, "I'll call back to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners and ask the Clerk to call Item D please."

NEW BUSINESS

D. AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA FESTIVALS, INC. FOR CONTROLLED ACCESS TO A CERTAIN ROADWAY (1/2 MILE PORTION OF EAST 37TH STREET NORTH) AUGUST 27 - 28, 2005 TO HOST THE KANSAS FLIGHT FESTIVAL AT JABARA AIRPORT.

Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Division of Community Development, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The Kansas Flight Festival will be held this year at Jabara Airport August the 27th and 28th. There's a road that runs around the north end of the runway. Part of the road is in the city, part of the road is in the county. The county portion of the road is involved in the agreement before you today. The agreement is to provide controlled access to Wichita Festivals, so that there won't be

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unwarranted traffic on that road during the flight festival.

The appropriate insurance requirements have been met and consultation with law enforcement. Be happy to try to answer any questions you might have.”

Chairman Unruh said, “And this is just a safety provision for the flight festival.”

Ms. Hart said, “Yes, sir.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. And we did this last year.”

Ms. Hart said, “Yes sir . . . well, not for the whole festival. I think there was just one day it was at Jabara.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, is there any other questions, Commissioners? What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Irene. Next item please.”

E. CONTRACT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT TO PROVIDE A FLOODPLAIN EDUCATION PROGRAM.

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Mr. Glen Wiltse, Director, Code Enforcement, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is a very interesting project for us, for numerous reasons. Normally, what we get involved in is enforcement of rules and regulations and requesting to adopt new codes, but this here is actually a contract with the Department of Agriculture that they’re requesting us to assist them in providing education to not only county staff, but other community members and actually to the public.

This will allow us to offer educational seminars or different staff people and the public basically and this originated as a grant request to State Farm Insurance agency that Department of Ag . . . it was turned down by State Farm and Department of Agriculture actually liked the request and they saw that they had some money from FEMA and they submitted to FEMA and FEMA said ‘Yeah, we’ll fund it’ so they’re funding it through the state and then we’re actually going to receive the money.

We are getting, if you approve this, we would be getting approximately \$16,000 and then in-kind services, which would be just our technical staff time and those types of things to pay for that. This originated also with one of our staff people, Kelly Dixon, in just taking a class in grant writing and I said, ‘Yeah, if you’re going to take it, let’s try and get something out of it’. So I wanted to thank him for doing this, basically, to get us this money. So, I’m open for any questions if you have any at this time.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you Glen. Does this education program, does it lead to any other logical conclusions or logical actions? Is it going to end up saying folks have to move out of a floodplain if they’re in it?”

Mr. Wiltse said, “No. Actually it doesn’t. What started this originally was we started looking at how many people actually carry floodplain insurance in the county and we have approximately a little over 3,000 property structures in the floodplain and that’s just a little over 300 policies that people actually carry insurance on, so this is more of a notification to the people. It’s their option, if they want to purchase insurance, if they do anything. We’re not saying ‘No, you have to do anything’. It’s just strictly an education. It makes them better informed on whether they need insurance or if they want to pay for the insurance.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, opportunity for informed decisions is always a good opportunity and so our thanks to Kelly Dixon also for the effort in trying to secure this.”

Mr. Wiltse said, “He is in the audience right now.”

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Chairman Unruh said, “Well thank you, Kelly, for your efforts on this. Commissioners, are there any other comments for Glen or discussion? What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Glen. Thank you again, Kelly. Next item please.”

F. DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS – HEALTH DEPT.

- 1. CONTRACT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (KDHE) FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER SCREENINGS AND LIMITED DIAGNOSTIC FOLLOW-UP TESTING TO INCOME-ELIGIBLE WOMEN.**

Ms. Pamela Martin, Director, Clinical Services, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Sedgwick County Health Department has been a provider of the Early Detection Works program formally known as the Free to Know program for ten years.

The Early Detection Works program provides breast and cervical cancer screenings, along with diagnostic testing for age and income eligible uninsured women. Under this contract, Sedgwick

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County is obligated to insure that support diagnostic services not provided at the Health Department are available to clients.

In the past, Sedgwick County received funds from KDHE and reimbursed subcontractors for diagnostic screening services. KDHE will now pay the subcontractors directly. Sedgwick County Health Department will continue to be reimbursed by KDHE for services that we provide at the Health Department.

Our proposed recommended action is to approve this agreement and authorize the Chair to sign any related documents.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you Pam. I was listening. Is this an agreement that we’ve been in previously?”

Ms. Martin said, “Yes, for quite some time. The only changes to this is that where the money was coming to the Health Department and we would pay the subcontractors during the time period that we’ve been working with this contract, for the last ten years, and the only change is that now KDHE will be making direct payments to the subcontractors.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. Well Commissioners, are there other questions or clarifications?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Aye

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Chairman Unruh

Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item please."

2. **AGREEMENT WITH KDHE FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO CONTINUE SERVING AS REGIONAL COORDINATOR IN SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS FOR THE KANSAS BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER EARLY DETECTION PROGRAM.**

Ms. Martin said, "This second agenda item has been in effect since 1995. It's also with the Early Detection Works program and we have provided clinical breast exams, pap smears, limited diagnostic follow up testing, referrals for mammograms to women 40 to 64 years of age.

Additional services include case management for women diagnosed with any abnormalities to insure a timely diagnostic screening service, referral and follow up as directed by program protocols and by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Community outreach and education is also provided through this program, with emphasis to uninsured and minority women in Sedgwick and 18 surrounding counties. The grant provides for a 10% increase in the number of women screened from the previous year. We have been exceeding that percentage with 514 women that were screened in 2000 at the Sedgwick County Health Department to 1,029 women screened in '04. Without the Early Detection Works program, these women would have to face the financial and emotional effects of cancer without the medical card that they receive through the WED program, as none of them have insurance. Our proposed recommended action is to approve this agreement and authorize the Chair to sign any related documents."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you. Pam, I'm probably a little bit slower than my colleagues, but what's the difference between this one and the one that just preceded it? Well, I'll let you tell me instead of me guessing."

Ms. Martin said, "Okay, the first agenda item was where we are a provider, actually doing the breast and cervical cancer screenings on-site, by our nurse practitioner. The second agenda item is where we act as a regional coordinator, not only for Sedgwick County, but also 18 other surrounding counties to help them to find providers to provide the service for breast and cervical cancer."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, so it just expands our service area, so to speak."

Ms. Martin said, "And we've been doing this since 1995 as well."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, well it's a very important service that we offer to do this. I mean,

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this is a real problem in our community and many of us have experienced it in our families, so I'm very supportive. Commissioners, are there other comments or questions?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And Mr. Chairman, before you call the next item, I have a doctor's appointment kind of related to my eye thing that I couldn't get out of and I'm going to have to excuse myself, because if I don't it's another month before they can see me."

Chairman Unruh said, "Very good, we will approve a 'leave the room' slip. Thank you, Commissioner. Madam Clerk, call the next item."

Commissioner Sciortino left the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

3. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE-WICHITA FOR PROVISION OF THE CHILDREN'S PRIMARY CARE CLINIC.

Ms. Martin said, "This partnership with the Kansas University School of Medicine began in 1990, with the establishment of the Children's Primary Care Clinic at Sedgwick County Health Department to provide primary health care services to children from birth to 18 years of age. This collaboration provides a clinical rotation site for residents, as well as essential physician supervision for our Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant.

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The Kansas University School of Medicine, Wichita contracted with Project Access to analyze three years of data from 1999 to 2001 of emergency room visits by Medicaid and uninsured patients. The findings indicated that 88% of the visits could have been avoided through care from a primary care provider. Additionally, ER visits are costly and less than 10% of uninsured patients pay their ER bills on time, due to the lack of financial resources.

This result is cost shifting throughout the hospital healthcare system. The average cost for an ER visit is between \$300 and \$500, as compared to \$60 in our Children’s Primary Care Clinic. Therefore, providing this service is a benefit to the health of our community. Our proposed recommended action is to approve this contract and authorize the Chair to sign the contract and any related documents.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. I agree with the whole idea of this cost shifting. I mean, it’s a benefit to the entire medical provision to all the citizens, so I think it’s a good idea, I’m supportive. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Next item please.”

4. GRANT APPLICATION TO KDHE FOR FUNDING AN INDIGENT PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM.

Ms. Martin said, “A 2005 legislature added \$750,000 to the state fiscal year ’06 KDHE budget to be used for community-based, primary care clinics. The purpose of this funding is to improve access to prescription drugs for Kansans. Grant awards to local health departments can only be

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used for the operational costs of hiring persons to administer the various pharmaceutical industry assistant programs.

Nearly half of our clients in our clinic have no insurance, including Medicaid, and many of these families cannot afford the expense of prescriptions. The grant will provide funding to hire dedicated staff to manage medication resources acquired through participation in pharmaceutical manufacturer's prescription drug assistance programs, also known as Indigent Drug Programs or patient-assisted programs. Our proposed recommended action is to approve this grant application and authorize the chair to sign any necessary documents."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay. This will hire us a person to administer a program where we get drugs at either free or low-cost from manufacturers."

Ms. Martin said, "This program will allow . . . the hired person will be able to do a little bit more case management, because the person that's on some kind type of chronic medication, they have to fill out forms every, oh 90 days, for discount medications, so the forms are constantly changing because of other companies going out of business, someone acquiring them, so the forms may change a little bit, so to keep a person with their medications on a regular regimen, that would be what this person would be doing in order to help with the case management."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, very good, thank you. Commissioners, are there any other questions for Pam, or comment? 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 Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent

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Chairman Unruh

Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Pam. And we have a comment from Commissioner Winters before we move on."

Commissioner Winters said, "Yeah, does that conclude the Health Department?"

Chairman Unruh said, "I think it does, yes."

Commissioner Winters said, "I just wanted to acknowledge that our new director is in the audience today, Claudia Blackburn. We appreciate her attendance today and I know that a number of us have been over to tour the new health facility on West Central and want to appreciate your showing us around that facility and Pam was over there the day I was there. It looks like that's turning out to be a very workable location, from what we could see in the brief time we were there, but certainly wanted to say we appreciated the invitation to come over and visit you all at the new facility."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you. What he's saying though, Claudia, is that you're not a newcomer any more, you're a worker now. But we're glad you're here."

Commissioner Winters said, "But I really turned my light on to see if there was more we needed to learn about Avian Flu before . . . so someday I think we would like to maybe know just a little bit or where we could get information perhaps. Claudia, if you want to, come up to the podium for a minute, take a chance to say hello again."

I thought it was interesting, the gentleman who spoke at our public hearing, bringing that to our attention. I think we do have some sufficient reserves in a lot of places to deal with kinds of mass kinds of problems, but I thought he did bring up a couple of interesting points about the Avian Flu and the potential. Do you have any comments?"

Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yeah, I thought that it was very timely of him to bring that up and our County Manager sent an article a couple of weeks ago to our department, sort of asking the same questions."

I want you to know though that all of the public health emergency preparedness response planning that's been going on with those bio-terrorism and MMRS dollars is really going to prepare this community to respond to pandemic flu, because that's more likely to happen than anything else.

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What we will be able to do is dispense, if there is a vaccine, we'll be able to get it to the entire population within four days, that's our goal. Also, to be able to pass out masks, if that's what we have. We will implement isolation quarantine laws to help people from spreading the disease. We're in conversation with Bob Parnacott about exactly what those rules are and I'm sure there are other people on my staff that know more about the Kansas law right now than I do, but there may be things that we do, such as exercise snow days and you know, people work from their homes instead of going to public places, if indeed we are affected by the flu, by a pandemic flu in this area.

Our MMRS coordinator is also convening an expert task force, a group of people that will have the most up to date knowledge on this issue, who can advise us as to what to do, should it occur. And then what a lot of what needs to happen, needs to happen internationally and at the national level, and some of that is out of our hands. We do our very best to keep up with all the new information, but some of it is beyond our control."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well thank you very much. I didn't mean to catch you off guard, but very good answer. It looks like Kathy's got something she wants to toss in the mix."

Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager, said, "I did just want to add that your Communications Office has put a facts sheet about the Avian Flu up on your website, at sedgwickcounty.org. So if you want to know more about the flu, that particular type of flu, it is information available on the website."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you. I just would make a comment that it's good . . . I'm not up on Avian Flu and these different things, but I'm glad to know that since it was brought to our attention today, that it's reassuring to find out that our Health Department is way ahead of the curve in planning for it and thinking about it and figuring out what we've got to do, if and when. So, appreciate your preparedness in that area. We do have another comment from Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Just a comment, a statement. What is the difference between epidemic and pandemic? I don't, I guess, get that."

Ms. Blackburn said, "You know, that's another one of those public health problems we have with words and I appreciate you asking that because I think we assume people know the difference. Pandemic means worldwide. And epidemic is when the observed frequency of an illness is greater than expected. So if you normally have a rate of 10 per 100,000 and all of the sudden you have a rate of 20 per 100,000 and it's way out of the normal range, that's considered an epidemic and it can be local, it can be national, but when it's worldwide, that's a pandemic."

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Commissioner Norton said, “And I guess the second thing is just a comment that I’ve already heard information kind of buzzing through the aviation community here that, you know, the person-to-person flu could really have a profound effect on the flying public again, no different than 9/11 when they shut everything down. They could actually start shutting down airports if they think it’s going to spread worldwide that quickly, human to human, so I mean it’s something to think about, because it’s going to have huge economic impact if that happens.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Well, thank you Claudia and Kathy and Pamela, appreciate the opportunity for this discussion.”

Commissioner Winters said, “A little pop-quiz.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Yes, and they got an ‘A’. You all got an ‘A’ but that’s the sort of people we have at Sedgwick County. Okay, Madam Clerk, we’re ready for the next item.”

G. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES – COMCARE.

1. AGREEMENT WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES, INC. PROVIDING MEDICAID BILLING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED TO ADULTS WITH SEVERE AND PERSISTENT MENTAL ILLNESS.

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is our renewal of a longstanding affiliation agreement between COMCARE and Catholic Charities. The agreement, as the other affiliation agreements are, has to be in place for Catholic Charities to be able to bill Medicaid for the services that they provide to adult consumers with a serious mental illness.

Through this agreement, Catholic Charities provides services to about 29 people, each year it varies a little bit. These are adults who really need the benefit and structure that’s provided by their day programming. We recommend that you approve this agreement.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you Marilyn. Commissioners, are there any questions?”

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What's the will of the board?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

2. CONTRACT WITH BREAKTHROUGH CLUB OF SEDGWICK COUNTY TO PROVIDE A PROGRAM OF PSYCHOSOCIAL REHABILITATION/CASE MANAGEMENT TO SEVERELY AND PERSISTENTLY MENTALLY ILL PERSONS.

Ms. Cook said, "This is also a renewal of another longstanding contract with the Breakthrough Club. The Breakthrough Club provides a number of services for Sedgwick County adults and children with mental illness, including case management, support employment services, psycho-social groups and services to what we call transitional age youth.

The contract was increased by \$34,700 this year to include a contract that we funded last year with staff to participate in what they call the Youth Engagement Services or their YES project. The project works with youth and their family who are entering the mental health system for the first time who are having a little difficulty becoming engaged with the system. They particularly focus on youth who are returning to the community from the Juvenile Justice System, so they've had some charges and they're trying to see what's happening in those families, with those children, as that unfolds. But they can also see those referred by parents, schools, or school counselors with that project. We're recommending that you approve this contract."

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Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. Marilyn, is the YES program, is that something that we funded previously under a different way and now it's just included in this or is this a total new addition?"

Ms. Cook said, "Right. No, we funded it for six months last year. They've had some nice success with that program. They met their outcomes so we have a tendency to roll all of the money that we are giving to affiliates in one contract and this was an attempt to do that. They served 34 youth last year with this and 80% of those, the outcome was that they were not to be arrested for a person or a property crime and they did meet that outcome."

Chairman Unruh said, "And the service duration to these folks, is it all year?"

Ms. Cook said, "No, it's three months."

Chairman Unruh said, "All right, and all these contracts that we're dealing with right now, they're all annual, is that correct?"

Ms. Cook said, "Right."

Chairman Unruh said, "Commissioners, are there any questions? What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Marilyn. Next item please."

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES – DEPARTMENT ON AGING.

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H. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS HOUSING RESOURCES CORPORATION FOR CENTRAL PLAINS AREA AGENCY ON AGING TO ACCESS KANSAS ACCESSIBILITY MODIFICATION PROGRAM FUNDS TO ASSIST OLDER ADULTS WITH MINOR HOME REPAIRS.

Ms. Graham said, “The Kansas Accessibility Modification Program is a demonstration program that has been funded and this is the fourth year for this and it is through the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing. Services implemented through this program are intended to assist homeowners and renters age 60 and over that are living in their homes to assist with home modifications that will enable them to continue to remain in their home and have access both within and into their homes.

It is for these individuals who have disabilities, functional impairments that make it difficult for them to remain in their homes, so what this program does, it is available to meet the needs of customers throughout Kansas and for this contract it is for the tri-county area of Butler, Harvey and Sedgwick Counties.

The KAM program allows the Central Plains Area Agency on Aging and the Sedgwick County Department on Aging to kind of leverage our funds and to extend those services and make more services available for the population in our area.

This program does fund up to 5,000 for home modifications for an owner of a home and up to 2,500 for a renter of a home, if they meet the age eligibility criteria. We are able to bill \$250 for each assessment that we complete for each program that we then refer up to the Kansas Accessibility and Modification program and they fund that. There are no additional funding requirements. We don't have to provide match. We can serve up to seven individuals in this year and it's a first come, first serve basis. There is approximately \$500,000 that available statewide, so it's a first come, first serve.

This is our fourth year involved with the program and it is a great program, really extends those services and assists a number of people, so we would request that you approve and authorize the chair to sign and if you have any questions, I'd be glad to answer those.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Is there a general awareness of the availability of this program to folks? How do we find the folks that we help?”

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Ms. Graham said, "People call in. We already have our Minor Home Repair program, we get referrals from case managers and from different providers in the community. We're well known throughout the community for our minor home repair program, so this is just kind of one more tool we have in our tool bag to assist individuals that come to our attention, but there is a good awareness, because we do have a very successful program doing minor home repair and doing in-home assessments for this type of need."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, so the resources in this program don't go begging. We have plenty of demand."

Ms. Graham said, "We have plenty of demand."

Chairman Unruh said, "Very good. Commissioners, we have a question from Commissioner Burtnett."

Commissioner Burtnett said, "Do you happen to know what the ratio is for homeowners versus renters that use this service? The only reason I asked is if you have a renter, do you have to get permission from the owner?"

Ms. Graham said, "Yes, they have to meet some agreements and some requirements in order for that modification to be done on a rental."

Commissioner Burtnett said, "Okay. I would be curious some time, if somebody had some figures, just out of curiosity."

Ms. Graham said, "Okay, we can get you some information, yeah we can get you some."

Commissioner Burtnett said, "Okay, thanks."

Chairman Unruh said, "Any other comment or question, commissioners? What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Annette. Next item please."

I. GRANT APPLICATION TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, FOR AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$272,800 FOR PARTIAL FUNDING OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE OAKLAWN COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER.

Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Division of Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Several weeks ago, the county received notice from the Department of Housing and Urban Development of the availability of an economic development initiative grant in the amount of \$272,800. These funds were secured by an appropriation bill initiated by Senator Brownback and once received by the county, will be passed through to the Derby Recreation Commission to be used to partially fund the Oaklawn Community Resource Center construction project.

You may recall, about six months ago, we received a notice from HUD of another Economic Development Initiative grant in the amount of \$232,479 also for this same Oaklawn Community Resource Center project. Once we receive the official grant award from HUD, in response to this new application, we plan to bring to you a pass-through agreement with Derby Recreation Commission so that the project can begin and they can start construction. I recommend that you approve the application at this time, to be submitted to HUD, and I'll be glad to try to answer any questions you might have about the grant application."

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Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Marty. Does this, two grants in, does that totally fund the project?"

Mr. Hughes said, "Well no, the total project cost is about \$750,000. The two of these total up to \$505,000 and then they have some donation that they've received totaling I think about . . . well, they have donations and they also have a tax credit program and so far they've received about \$110,000 from that and they're still trying to get some more tax credit money in."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay. Mr. Manager, were you wanting to make . . .?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "I just wanted to make, just reiterate one more time, we're thankful for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, but we're very thankful for the work that Senator Brownback did on this to assure us obtaining these funds."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. I appreciate that comment. Commissioners, any other comment or question?"

Commissioner Winters said, "Somebody ask Sergeant Dietzman a question."

Chairman Unruh said, "You want to ask Sergeant Dietzman a question?"

Commissioner Winters said, "No. I assume she's here showing support for this application."

Chairman Unruh said, "An opportunity to speak, Sergeant."

Sergeant Brenda Dietzman, Sheriff's Department, said, "I would just like to thank all the work that everyone throughout the Sedgwick County government has done to get this. I know that there's been some meetings and a lot of high level work that's been done and Marty has done a lot of work and Irene Hart has done a lot of work, Andy Schlapp and it's just really, really a team effort."

Frank Sietz, who is the director of the Derby Recreation Commission, has a little stone on his desk that said 'It's amazing what can get done when no one wants the credit for it', and this is a prime example of that.

There's been a lot of work. It's been four years since we've been working on this and we're meeting with the architect, get some things done, so it's a lot of work and I appreciate all of your help and everyone else's help to get this done."

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Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Well from citizens of Oaklawn to the United States Senator and everybody working together, we can accomplish something very good. 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 Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Marty. Next item please.”

J. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND CLASSIFYING CERTAIN STREETS TO THE GARDEN PLAIN TOWNSHIP SYSTEM. DISTRICT #3.

Mr. David Spears, P.E., Director/County Engineer, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It is standard procedure that after a road is constructed within a platted residential subdivision, in accordance with county standards, that road is then assigned to the township system. In this particular case, Cornelison and Trail End Drive, located in the Lake Vista 2nd Addition will become the responsibility of Garden Plain Township. The Garden Plain Township Board was informed that this resolution would be on the county commission agenda by letter dated April 27th. I recommend that you adopt the resolution.”

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Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, David. Next item please."

K. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 28, 2005.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The meeting of July 28th results in three items for consideration today.

**1) CHANGE ORDER FOR JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY- FACILITY PROJECTS SERVICES
FUNDING: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

The first item is a change order for the Juvenile Detention Facility for Facility Project Services and the recommendation is to accept the change order with Coonrod & Associates in the amount of \$85,887.

**2) TRANSFER BAR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM- EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
FUNDING: EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

The second item is a transfer bar management system for Emergency Communications. Recommendation is to accept the quote from Motorola in amount of \$48,926.40.

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3) ON-CALL LABORATORY SERVICES- HUMAN RESOURCES/ VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS
FUNDING: VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

And the third item, for the record, was on-call laboratory services for Human Resources and various county departments and this item was deferred for a week. Be happy to answer any questions and I recommend approval of the Minutes.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “I’d just make one comment, Commissioners. I did have some questions about the change order on the Detention Facility and did meet with Kathy Sexton and Jim Osterland and they answered my questions. I see they’re in the room, if any of you have questions, but they certainly answered mine. Thank you, that’s all I had.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, any other questions? What’s the will of the board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Iris. Next item.”

CONSENT AGENDA

L. CONSENT AGENDA.

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- 1. Order dated July 27, 2005 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 2. Payroll Check Register of July 29, 2005.**
- 3. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of July 27 – August 2, 2005.**

Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, you have the consent agenda before you, and I would recommend you approve it.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Absent
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Well Commissioners, we are at the end of our agenda. Is there . . . now is a good time to speak about any other items of community interest. Commissioner Winters.”

M. OTHER

Commissioner Winters said, “I really don’t have anything except to remind everyone that we’re

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not having a meeting next week, so any of you who are watching today can know that next week we will not be having our regular commission meeting.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you for that reminder. I don’t see any other lights on, on this item of ‘other’ but I just wanted to make a comment that today we’ve had a lot of compliments shared among commissioners and staff and I just want to reinforce the idea that this is not just superficial conversation. There’s a lot of work been done, a lot of good work and I’m proud that Sedgwick County has a high degree of professionalism in all of its departments and we can accomplish this \$345,000,000 budget and get it done with such harmony, I think, is a testament of the fact that we’re trying very hard to work together and do the best job for the citizens of Sedgwick County, do the best job for the most people for the longest amount of time and that’s what good government is about. So, a final thank you to all the staff of Sedgwick County government and with that, I will declare the meeting adjourned.”

N. ADJOURNMENT

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

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

DAVID M. UNRUH, Chairman,
First District

BEN SCIORTINO, Chair Pro Tem
Fifth District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

LUCY BURTNETT, Commissioner
Fourth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2005