

## **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**January 14, 1998**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 A.M., Wednesday, January 14, 1998, in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Thomas G. Winters; with the following present: Chairman Pro Tem Paul W. Hancock; Commissioner Betsy Gwin; Commissioner Melody C. Miller; Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Jarold D. Harrison, Assistant County Manager; Ms. Becky Allen-Bouska, Director, Bureau of Finance; Mr. David C. Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Services; Mr. Darren Muci, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Mary Anne Nichols, Director, Personnel Department; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Mr. Fred Ervin, Director, Public Relations; and Ms. Linda M. Leggett, Deputy County Clerk.

#### **GUESTS**

#### **INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by Mr. Joe Stout of the Christian Businessmen's Committee.

#### **FLAG SALUTE**

#### **ROLL CALL**

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

#### **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:      **Regular Meeting, December 17, 1997****

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of December 17, 1997.

**Chairman Winters** said, "Commissioners, you've had an opportunity to review the Minutes, what's the will of the Board?"

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**MOTION**

Commissioner Hancock moved to adopt the Minutes of December 17, 1997, as presented.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, "Next item."

**CERTIFICATION AS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**

**Ms. Becky Allen-Bouska**, Director, Finance Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have previously received the certification of funds for expenditures on today's Regular and Sewer District Agendas. I am available for questions if there are any."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right. I see no questions Becky. Thank you very much. Before we proceed on Mr. Manager has an announcement that he would like to make."

**Mr. William Buchanan**, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is one of the great pleasures that we get to do from time to time. As you know we have had the vacancy in the Department of Community Corrections. Ken Hales left that department to become the assistant to the State Juvenile Justice Authority. In the last six or seven months, and Mark will be able to tell you to the time, to the minute how long he has been doing two jobs. In that process we did a national search for someone to take this new department on to new heights. As you well know we are getting more funds from the state, they are downloading activities to local governments and we needed a consummate professional who had experience in both adult and juvenile functions. After the national search, did interviews this weekend, and came to the conclusion that the best person was the person that was right under our nose the whole time and that was Mark Masterson. So he has been appointed to fill that position as Director of Community Corrections. Mark congratulations."

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**Mr. Mark Masterson**, Director, Department of Corrections, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you very much Commissioners and the County Manager for one, giving me the opportunity to serve as the interim and the opportunity now to serve the community in this expanded role. The challenges are many as you know. We have a fine staff and I'm very proud to take on those challenges."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you very much. Congratulations Mark. We are all very pleased, and I think you have certainly. . . talking about staff, we have many challenges in your particular area and I think we would all feel a lot worse if we didn't have good competent staff there. The Commissioners do have confidence in you and the staff, so congratulations and good luck in the future."

**Mr. Masterson** said, "Thank you very much."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Madam Clerk I'm going to move down for the next item so would you not call it until I get down to the podium please. Madam Clerk next item."

### **AWARD PRESENTATION**

#### **A. PRESENTATION OF THE 1997 CHAIRMAN'S AWARD TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.**

**Chairman Winters** said, "Commissioners and friends, ten years ago under the leadership of the then Chairman, Mark Schroeder, the Board of County Commissioners implemented a Chairman's Award to be given to some group or citizen, a company, individual's who have made significant and outstanding contribution to the citizen's of Sedgwick County. This is a very special award and in fact could probably be referred to as an award given to people who may not receive much recognition, almost kind of the unsung volunteers, the unsung heros of a number of activities. Even though this award is known as the Chairman's Award, when I visited with other Commissioners in selecting the Solid Waste Management Committee as the recipient's, I think it became much more than just the Chairman's Award, it becomes a recognition from all of the Board of County Commissioners for the special work that you've done. A lot of people, when challenged with some tough issues would rather say, well I hope somebody else will fill that gap, I'm sure somebody else will take on that responsibility and make those tough decisions."

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“This group of people stuck with it and worked through the tough decisions with two complications really involved. One is, it is a very complex issue and it’s one dealing with solid waste takes a great deal of study and understanding, particularly for those of us who don’t deal with it on a daily basis and the second thing it involves change. As you deal with complex issues and something that is going to require change, you can really get into some difficult situations. Two of the qualities that can often times carry you through those kind of events are to have knowledge of what’s going on and have a high level of energy or commitment, however you would want to look at that. This committee has demonstrated that. This committee has worked hard to become knowledgeable and they have had a commitment which required meeting after meeting after meeting which shows an energy level that if it was not present, we could of perhaps come out with not as good of result as we have from this committee at this time. So in a sense, we are fortunate that when the decisions got tough, this tough committee got going and we could really almost refer to it as ‘Tough Team’ because there were a lot of challenging ideas. The 27 members of this committee have really epitomized the good things that can come about when citizens volunteer to help local government produce a product. So because of those reasons and many others, we would like to give special recognition to the committee as individual’s and give them a token of our appreciation for their service under this heading of the Chairman’s Award for 1997. We would like to begin and would like to call them each up here to receive the award, but we certainly want to begin with Milt Pollitt. Milt has been the Chairman of this committee and Milt has really stood up a number of times before this Board, before the City Council. Milt has had people who were real happy with him and people really mad at him. He has taken a leadership role for this committee that we are certainly proud of and want to acknowledge in a special way. Irene and Susan are going to help distribute a certificate and a small plaque to show our appreciation. If all of the members of the Solid Waste Committee would stand and we’ll begin with Milt. If Milt would come up first we’ll make this small presentation. Milt, thank you very much. Whoever is going to call off the names, if you would just call it from the podium please.”

**Ms. Irene Hart**, Director, Bureau of Community Development, said, “Jim Spencer, Anneka Allen, Mike Younger, Nikke Soice, Tamara Emerson, Karol Schlicher, Randy Dorner, Susan Saidian, Robert Oliver, Margaret Miller, Jim Ayers, Bill Skaer, Tim Lower, Denise Lindsay.”

**Chairman Winters** asked, “Did we miss any committee member. Did we get all the committee members that were here? Okay. Thank you very much. Milt, if you would just step back up here. This is the award that is normally given to the individual or group and we would certainly like to present this to you for your fine leadership on this team and for the work that you have produced. Thank you again Milt.”

**Mr. Milt Pollitt**, Chairman, Solid Waste Committee, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Mr.

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Chairman and Commissioners, the committee obviously is honored to receive this award. We know we have additional work a head of us and we're looking forward to it. We are looking to help you make some big decisions for the coming year. Thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "One final word about the committee. I think we are going to do some staff recognition, perhaps later this year. I would like to acknowledge that we did have excellent staff support leading this group of volunteers. I had thought about doing something today, but I started adding up how long that list was and we have had staff all through this organization, from departments everywhere involved in some part of this solid waste task. We had good support from them in the community discussion process and in the actual logistics. I would say thank you to the staff, especially Irene and Susan and all of the others. We hope to recognize you for your important work later. Madam Clerk, next item."

### **DEFERRED ITEM**

#### **B. ASSIGNMENT OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND HOUSING AND THE WI/SE PARTNERSHIP FOR GROWTH.**

**Mr. Rich Euson**, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This item was deferred from last week's agenda in order for us to receive additional information and we now have that. This matter involves a contract that was entered between the WI/SE Partnership for Growth and the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing in order for the WI/SE group to receive Kansas Economic Opportunity Initiative Grant monies. The contract was for a five year period. It involves \$150,000 grant in the form of a loan to fund recruitment among the four major aircraft companies here in town which are Boeing, Cessna, Learjet and Raytheon. The collaborated effort among these aircraft companies is commonly referred to the 'Flying in Formation' Program. Under the terms of the agreement the loan is forgiven if the aircraft manufacturer's attain certain personnel and payroll goals during each of the five years of the contract. To date, the contract is two years into it, it's a five year term and the aircraft companies have easily attained those goals. I have that information. I can share that with you on a overhead if you wish to have that.

"Sedgwick County has been asked to assume the terms of this contract and to accept an assignment due to the fact the WI/SE Partnership for Growth has disbanded and has dissolved Mr. Schwarzenberger and Mr. Holman from the Chamber of Commerce are present to answer any

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questions you may have. Irene Hart is also here and I will certainly be happy to answer any questions.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right. Thank you very much Rich. We did receive a memo outlining this project and it seems to be a very well working mechanism to have the state assist in a very critical recruitment effort and I know that all four of those aircraft companies are very pleased with the program and how it’s functioning. Commissioners, are there any questions that are left unanswered? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Hancock moved to accept the assignment for WI/SE Partnership for Growth.

Commissioner Schroeder seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, “Thank you Rich. Thanks Jim and Gerald. We appreciate your being here. Next item.”

**NEW BUSINESS**

- C. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW PROVIDING FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY FUNDING.**

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**Mr. Jarold Harrison**, Assistant County Manager, County Manager's Office, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is our standard form funding contract for delegate agencies who receive funding from Sedgwick County. The contract sets out the terms and conditions and to which the funds will be provided and the services that will be provided in exchange for those funds. We would recommend your approval of this contract."

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Hancock seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you Jerry. Next item."

**D. POSITION REALLOCATIONS (TWO) AND RECLASSIFICATIONS (TWO).**

**1. REALLOCATIONS.**

- **SECURITY SUPERVISOR, RANGE 23, CENTRAL SERVICES, TO SECURITY DIRECTOR, RANGE 24**

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- **BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT, RANGE 23, CENTRAL SERVICES, TO BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT, RANGE 24**

**Ms. Mary Anne Nichols**, Director, Personnel Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here this morning to ask your approval on fourth quarter reallocations and reclassifications. The first one is Security Supervisor, Central Services, reallocating from Range 23 on the Compensation Plan to Range 24 and retitling that position to Security Director. The budget impact for 1998 is \$567 and for 1999 is \$596. The second reallocation is Building Superintendent, Central Services, Range 23, recommending reallocation to Range 24. The 1998 budget impact is \$673 and 1999 budget impact is \$695.

**2. RECLASSIFICATIONS.**

- **OFFICE SPECIALIST, RANGE 15, COMCARE, TO PATIENT BILLING REPRESENTATIVE, RANGE 16**
- **OFFICE SERVICE MANAGER, RANGE 19, SHERIFF, TO SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, RANGE 23**

"The following are reclassifications, Office Specialist, COMCARE, Range 15, reclassifying to Patient Billing Representative, Range 16. The 1998 budget impact is \$774 and 1999 \$808. Office Service Manager, Range 19, Sheriff's Department. Recommending reclassification to Senior Administrative Officer, Range 23. The budget impact for 1998 is \$3,857 and 1999, \$4,458. The total financial impact for 1998 is \$5,871 and 1999 is \$6,557. We would like these to be effective February 1 and would request your approval."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Commissioner Schroeder."

**Commissioner Schroeder** said, "Mary Anne, a question. Item number 1, Security Supervisor. Is that Mr. Chebultz?"

**Ms. Nichols** said, "Yes it is."

**Commissioner Schroeder** said, "Well, I guess I was mistaken, but I was thinking a number totally different than what I'm seeing here in a change of salary. At least that's what Mr. Brace communicated to me."

**Mr. William Buchanan**, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Excuse me.



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You'll see another action next week. This is the allocation first and then there is going to be a request to adjust the step. That will come to you next week. You have to do this first."

**Commissioner Schroeder** said, "Okay. Thank you."

**Chairman Winters** asked, "Does that answer your question?"

**Commissioner Schroeder** said, "No, but lets just move on. I know there is more coming, that's what Mr. Buchanan answered for me."

**Chairman Winters** said, "As we take these two items, under D-1. Are there other questions? If not, what's the will of the Board?"

**Commissioner Gwin** asked, "Do we have to do them separately, or the two together?"

**Chairman Winters** said, "I was going to do them separate."

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Okay."

**Chairman Winters** asked, "Are there other questions on Item D-1?"

### MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Reallocations.

Commissioner Hancock seconded the Motion.

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

### VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

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Chairman Winters said, "Now D-2."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Reclassifications.

Commissioner Hancock seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you Mary Anne. Next item."

**E. KANSAS COLISEUM MONTHLY REPORT.**

**Mr. Jarold Harrison**, Assistant County Manager, said, "Mr. Nath was called away with a personal emgency. The coliseum monthly report for December, so this will be the year end statistical information. The coliseum did complete another banner year in 1997, hosting 190 events, 426 performances and topping 900,000 people in attendance. Net revenues for the coliseum for the year are \$2,152,000, approximately \$500,000 higher than the previous year.

"One of the events that helped us close out the year in grand style was the Aerosmith Concert which happened on the 21st of December. It was a sold out concert and that concert caused us to be rated number five in the country as far as gross revenues for concerts and arenas according to Amusement Business Boxscore Ratings. Select-A-Seat also finished the year well with a year to date income of \$326,000 and comparing to the prior year of \$294,000. So far, starting off in January this is a busy time of year for the coliseum with the Wings & Thunder's events. We've also had a couple of concerts, smaller concerts and the usual plethora of miscellaneous events that occur in the arena building, including the Recreational Vehicle Dealers Association which is a two week long event.

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I'll be glad to answer any questions.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right. Thank you very much. Are there questions. Seeing none, what's the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Hancock moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Schroeder seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, “Thank you Jerry. Next item.

**F. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' JANUARY 8, 1998  
REGULAR MEETING.**

**(1) UNIFORMS - SHERIFF  
FUNDING: SHERIFF**

**Mr. Kenneth Williams**, Assistant Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The first item today is uniforms for the Sheriff Department. Recommendation is to accept the low bid of Law Enforcement for the complete basic uniform in the amount of \$1,405.

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Also accept the low bid meeting specifications of Baysinger Police Supply for the Body Armor for \$502.50.

**(2) STREET IMPROVEMENTS - BUREAU OF PUBLIC SERVICES  
FUNDING: SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS**

“Item two is street improvements for Bureau of Public Services. The recommendation is to reject all bids.

**(3) DIGITAL TELEPHONE SYSTEM - APPRAISER  
FUNDING: APPRAISER**

“Item three is a digital telephone system for the Appraiser’s Office. The recommendation is to table indefinitely for review.

**(4) DNA TEST KITS - REGIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER  
FUNDING: REGIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER**

“Item four is DNA test kits for Regional Forensic Science Center. The recommendation is to table indefinitely for review.

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right. Thank you. Commissioners, you’ve heard the report. Do you have questions or comments?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Hancock seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you Ken. Next item."

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**G. CONSENT AGENDA. .**

**1. Right-of-Way Easements.**

The following tracts of land have been granted by Easement for Right-of-Way at no cost to the County. These Easements were requested by the Director, Bureau of Public Services, as a condition of receiving a Platting Exemption on an unplatted tract.

- a. Road Numbers 807-BB and 642-19, Owners: Robert J. Morton and Donna L. Morton, located in the Northeast Quarter of Section 19, Township 29 South, Range 1 West, more specifically located on the west side of 103rd Street West (Maize Road) and the south side of 95th Street South. Ohio Township. District #2.
- b. Road Number 817-D, Owners: Dan Rexroat and Barbara A. Rexroat, located in the Northeast Quarter of Section 24, Township 25 South, Range 1 East, more specifically located on the west side of 24th Street West (Meridian) and south of 101st Street North. Valley Center Township. District #4.
- c. Road Numbers 612-13 and 795-M, Owners: Jon E. Korte and Janet L. Korte, located in the Northeast Quarter of Section 6, Township 27 South, Range 2 West, more specifically located on the west side of 199th Street West and the south side of 29th Street North. Attica Township. District #3.

The following tract of land was granted by Easement for Right-of-Way at no

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cost to the County. This Easement was requested by the Director, Bureau of Public Services, to construct a new public road in an unplatted subdivision.

- d. Road Number 792 $\frac{1}{2}$ -M, Owners: James R. Vidler and Linda Vidler, located in the Southeast Quarter of Section 1, Township 27 South, Range 3 West, more specifically located west of 215th Street West and north of 21st Street North. Garden Plain Township. District #3.

### 2. Floodway Reserve Easement.

The following tract of land has been granted by Floodway Reserve Easement at no cost to the County. This Easement was requested by the Director, Bureau of Public Services, as a condition of receiving a Platting Exemption on an unplatted tract.

Owners: Robert J. Morton and Donna L. Morton, located in the Northeast Quarter of Section 19, Township 29 South, Range 1 West, more specifically located south of 95th Street South and west of 103rd Street West (Maize Road). Ohio Township. District #2.

### 3. Right-of-Way Instrument.

One Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project No. 787-Z-1710, Bridge on 263rd Street between 79th and 87th Streets South. CIP #B-377. District #3.

### 4. Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Contracts.

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Rent Subsidy</u>	<u>District Number</u>	<u>Landlord</u>
C98001	\$225.00		Sunflower Apts. of Andover
V98003	\$204.00	4	Thomas Gaughan
V98002	\$293.00	5	William Favreau

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- 5. The following Section 8 Housing Contracts are being amended to reflect a revised monthly amount due to a change in the income level of the participating client.**

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Old Amount</u>	<u>New Amount</u>
C97014	\$222.00	\$180.00
C01023	\$241.00	\$245.00

- 6. Contracts (three) with Dependable Home Health Care, Inc., Agape Services and PACT providing Developmental Disability Registered Status.**
- 7. Order dated January 7, 1998 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 8. Consideration of the Check Register of January 9, 1998.**

**9. Budget Adjustment Requests.**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Type of Adjustment</u>
970818	Register of Deeds	Transfer
970819	Finance General	Transfer
970820	Public Relations	Transfer
970821	District Attorney	Transfer
970822	Capital Projects	Supplemental Appropriation
970823	County Manager	Transfer
970824	Corrections	Transfer
970825	Appraiser	Transfer
970826	Community Development Housing Assistance	Transfer
970827	CDDO	Transfer
970828	DEA Forfeiture	

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	and Seizure	Supplemental Appropriation
970829	Kansas Coliseum	Transfer
980010	Finance General	
	Sheriff	Transfer
980011	Co. Manager's Office	Transfer
980012	Geographic	
	Information Systems	Transfer
980013	SCYP	Transfer
980014	Information Services	Transfer
980015	Risk Mgmt. Reserve	Supplemental Appropriation
980016	1998 Bridge Projects	Supplemental Appropriation
980018	Auto License	Supplemental Appropriation

**10. Supplemental Budget Adjustment Requests.**

**Mr. William Buchanan**, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have the Consent Agenda before you and I would remind you that there is also Supplemental Budget Adjustments. This is an annual event. We are closing out the books today and these Supplemental Budget Adjustments clear up the matters such as paying the telephone bill, the electric bill and those things so they are booked and accounted for in 1997 where they should be. Those issues were discussed and is part of the material that you have. I would recommend that you approve the Consent Agenda.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Schroeder moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Hancock seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye



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**Chairman Winters** said, “Commissioners, before we proceed on with the conclusion of this meeting I’m going to recess the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.”

**The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into the Sewer District Meeting at 9:30 a.m. and returned at 9:36 a.m.**

**Chairman Winters** said, “I’ll call back to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners to deal with Item-H which is the selection of one member of the Board of County Commissioners to serve as Chair for 1998. Commissioners before we do that, I would like to take just a brief moment to make a couple of comments. Commissioner Schroeder and Commissioner Gwin asked me if I was going to talk for 30 minutes about 1997 and let me tell you I certainly could talk I think for 30 minutes about 1997. That’s what they were afraid of. I’m not going to do that, I’m just going to say two things.

“One, there are several things that I’m proud of for last year and then I want to say a couple thank yous. In watching the Governor talk about the State of Kansas Monday evening reminded me of something I think we can say of Sedgwick County, when it comes to the financial and stability, the strength of this County and like the State we are continually rated and we received ratings during 1997 and one of the rating companies made the comment about Sedgwick County of sound financial operations are aided by conservative budgeting and solid financial management. Those levels are moderate and should remain manageable, income levels are above average. I think that is one of the things that I’m certainly proud of is and I’m sure all the Commissioners are about the financial stability of this County.

“Probably the largest issue that we dealt with in 1997 was the solid waste issue. It was an issue that required hard work on many people. We’ve recognized the Solid Waste Committee earlier. There were a couple of parts I think are significant. One is I think the community discussion process was very important. It’s certainly the first time Sedgwick County has been involved in trying to communicate with so many people on a specific issue. There are probably things we can do with that

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model to improve it in the future, but I hope we are able to use that community discussion process again. I think we came through the whole process with a very workable plan and I'm excited to get on about the future of how we're going to deal with solid waste in a new kind of method for this community and County.

"I'm also very proud of the way we handled the Adult Detention Facility. I'm not proud of the fact that we need one. I think we challenged the financial resources of all the departments in this County to make that a workable project. There are a lot of other things that have really tightened their belts in this County and a number of department heads, bureau people have really pulled together to let us put this thing together. On the plus side I think we have also started some prevention activities that hopefully over the long term on dealing with juvenile justice reform and how to work on, as Commissioner Miller has so often said, 'the front end of the problem,' I believe that we're beginning a process to do that. I think I'm certainly proud of that fact.

"Then last on the highlight list, I think I'm proud of our commitment to Exploration Place and the projects that really continue to make downtown Wichita a real viable place. The City of Wichita has done an excellent job of bringing downtown into something that it has not been for many years and I'm pleased we're able to place a continuing part of that.

"In the way of thank yous', I certainly want to say thank you for the work in 1997, for the hard work that the Commissioners, my colleagues have put into the process. Thank you for the hard work.

"Thank you to my family and friends for the support over this past year. That has been significant and I've appreciated all of their encouragement and a special thank you to the staff who have worked in this 1997 as a challenging year. The staff from top to bottom has been very supportive and very helpful and I have appreciated that very much.

"Lastly, I'd like to say thanks to my constituents. Seems like I've talked to more of them in 1997 than I have in a long time. Most all of those conversations were good and helpful, supportive, a lot of suggestions and so I would say thank you to my constituents. Now as we move along, Commissioner Hancock had his light on, I'm going to recognize Commissioner Hancock."

**Commissioner Miller** said, "Excuse me. I need to make a statement because I am not going to be a part of this and I'm going to move to the podium."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay."

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**Commissioner Miller** said, "I'm going to make my remarks as brief as possible. They are written because I don't want to necessarily get off track or wander because I think they are extremely important at this closure and quote 'Passing of the Gavel' for the Commission.

"In the past week I've been asked by several County employees, by constituents, by friends, by family members 'Are you going to be Chair?' I feel that I owe them, them, the public an explanation of not only why I will not be Chair of the Commission for 1998, and why I will not take part in the passing of the gavel ceremony.

"It began with the 1997 erred elections. This Commission continues to make a mockery, a joke, out of a process that once embraced the notion that every Commissioner should have the opportunity to lead this County based on his or her abilities and interests. Last year I was told by this Commission that I have two, too many houses. One of them happened to be in the First District. This year I'm told that the only way that I could garner the full support of this Commission is if I divulge my intentions in the up coming political race. I don't recall any other potential contender on this bench proclaiming if they are going to run at all and certainly not what district they are going to run in. It has been a trend and a pattern of this Commission to treat this Commissioner differently and that's exactly what asking me to do what no other Commission has done up to this point. As the only African-American on this Commission, it is very clear that this has occurred for the past three years and continues to occur. Requesting or asking me to do things differently than any other Commissioner.

"In a nut shell, I was elected to serve the public and I've done a darn good job of it I might say and will continue not to bargain away my integrity behind closed doors for the Chairship."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Commissioner Hancock."

**Commissioner Hancock** said, "Thank you Mr. Chairman. This kind of came to a surprise for me, no one has ever done that before. I most recently as last Friday asked Melody if she wanted to serve as Chairman and she never got back to me and never said yes or no and so I'm a little suprised. I had every intention of nominating Melody for Chairman since she made the statement that she would like to and go forward. But I had never heard anything back from her. So I'm sorry you feel that way Commissioner Miller. I was certainly here to help and I think we had the votes to do the job, but if you chose not to participate that's your choice.

## **SELECTIONS**

**Regular Meeting, January 14, 1998**

**H. SELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SERVE AS CHAIR DURING 1998.**

**MOTION**

Commissioner Hancock moved to nominate Mark Schroeder as Chairman for 1998.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Absent at vote
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Aye
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Commissioner Schroeder we have a Gavel to present to you to keep order in the courtroom. Good luck and let me tell you I certainly think you're going to have the support of at least most of the Commissioners as we go through 1998. We got lots of challenges ahead of us and we'll proceed."

**Chairman Schroeder** said, "I guess one of my first official acts is to recognize you Tom for the work you have done as our Chairman in 1997. As you said in your closing remarks there were a lot of major topics and issues that we dealt with and I think you did an excellent job and I think the entire Commission was very supportive of those efforts and I think we have shown the public that in those tough times we come through and we do what we think is right. We're very positive about it and I think the future looks very good and I want to thank you for your good leadership in 1997. Next item."

**I. SELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SERVE AS CHAIR PRO TEM DURING 1998.**

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to nominate Bill Hancock for Chair Pro Tem during 1998.

**Regular Meeting, January 14, 1998**

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Thomas G. Winters	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Absent at vote
Chairman Mark F. Schroeder	Aye

**Chairman Schroeder** said, "Ladies and gentlemen if you would like to stay around for a while there will be a small reception after the meeting here and you are welcome to stay and attend and talk to everybody. Thank you."

**J. OTHER**

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

**Regular Meeting, January 14, 1998**

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

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

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**THOMAS G. WINTERS**, Chairman  
Third District

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**PAUL W. HANCOCK**, Chairman Pro Tem  
Second District

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**BETSY GWIN**, Commissioner  
First District

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**MELODY C. MILLER**, Commissioner  
Fourth District

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**MARK F. SCHROEDER**, Commissioner  
Fifth District

ATTEST:

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**James Alford**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_, 1998