

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

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**March 10, 2004**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 A.M., on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Thomas G. Winters; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem David M. Unruh; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Commissioner Ben Sciortino; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Randy Duncan, Director, Emergency Management Department; Ms. DeAnn Konkell, Public Safety Liaison, Emergency Management Department; Mr. John Schlegel, Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department (MAPD); Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources; Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Department; Mr. Pete Giroux, Senior Management Analyst, Budget Department; Chief Gary Curmode, Fire District #1; Mr. Ray Vail, Director of Finance, Department on Aging; Ms. Lori Vanderford, Controller, Health Department; Mr. Ted Jobst, Director, Integrated Family Health; Mr. Marvin Duncan, Director, Fleet Management; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Mr. Thomas Pletcher, Clinical Director, Health Department; 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**

Reverend Kevin Graham, St. Matthew Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Wichita.  
Ms. Kim Edgington, Agent for applicant, A M Consulting, Inc.

### **INVOCATION**

The Invocation was led by Reverend Kevin Graham of St. Matthew CME, Wichita.

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting, February 18, 2004

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of February 18, 2004.

**Chairman Winters** said, "Commissioners, you've had a chance to review the Minutes. What's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 18, 2004.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

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

**PROCLAMATIONS**

**A. PROCLAMATIONS.**

- 1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 14, 2004 AS "ST. MATTHEW CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH DAY."**

**Chairman Winters** said, "Commissioners, I have a proclamation I'd like to read for your consideration.

**PROCLAMATION**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**WHEREAS**, St. Matthew Christian Methodist Episcopal Church was organized by nine charter members in January, 1916; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout St. Matthew's history, it has been led by a number of dynamic leaders dedicated to the growth and goodwill of the congregation; and

**WHEREAS**, we congratulate St. Matthew Christian Methodist Episcopal Church for making a positive impact in Sedgwick County's religious community; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Matthew Christian Episcopal Church will celebrate their 88<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday, March 14 at the Wichita Boathouse.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Tom Winters, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 14 as

**“St Matthew Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Day”**

and encourage all citizens to help celebrate the accomplishments of St. Matthew's in Sedgwick County.

Dated March 10, 2004.

Commissioners, what the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to Adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “And Reverend Kevin Graham is here. Reverend Graham gave the invocation this morning. Welcome to our meeting, we’re glad you’re here and if you’d like to make some remarks, please feel free.”

**Reverend Kevin Graham**, St. Matthew CME, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We want to first of all say thank you to the County Commissioners for giving us this proclamation. As he said earlier, we’re celebrating our 88<sup>th</sup> church anniversary, have some church members here with us, have our chairperson of our church anniversary committee Gwen Mukes and also my mother who is with us, who is a member of St. Matthew, Carlotta Corner and also another Gwen who is with us, my sister who is also a member of our church. They were able to make it out this morning. Some of our other committee members had to work, but none the less they are here to accept this proclamation with us.

We do invite everyone to come out on this coming Sunday. We will start at St. Matthew, at our regular 11:00 service. We have a guest speaker, Reverend Marvin Lou from St. Louis, Missouri, who is a CME preacher who will be preaching at our 11:00 service. He also will be speaking at the 4:00 service at the Wichita Boathouse and tickets are \$27.50 and we just ask everyone to come help us celebrate at the banquet at the Wichita Boathouse. It promises to be a great time and we just ask that you help us come out and celebrate.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right. We have a couple of comments or questions here before you get away. Commissioner McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Thank you. The boathouse, it starts at 4, is that right? And then you’re going to have a meal at that time and some other activities going on as well, is that correct? Okay, and that is open to the public.

And the other question I had, Reverend Graham, is this one of the first churches founded in the Wichita area?”

**Reverend Graham** said, “We’re not the first but I think we’re in maybe the top five.”

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Yeah, it's one of the original ones that were established here in this community. Well, thanks for coming out today and I hope you guys have a great celebration this weekend and I plan to attend on Sunday, so I'll see you there."

**Reverend Graham** said, "Well, thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "We have one more comment. Commissioner Sciortino."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Well, part of my question was answered. There's going to be food, right? Now will it be ethnic food?"

**Ms. Gwen Mukes**, Chairperson, St. Matthew Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Anniversary Committee said, "No, we will be served, the guests will be served Cornish Hens, rice pilaf, steamed vegetables and we'll have sorbet of some type for dessert and we're just going to have a good time. Voices of the Dream, which is an offshoot from the Martin Luther King Community Choir, will be singing and we will have other guests appearing. So I guarantee that you will have a wonderful time and I hope that you'll be able to come and I'm happy to know that you will be able to come too."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Well let me know if the church ever serves an ethnic food dinner, because I can suck a neck bone shiny."

**Ms. Mukes** said, "Well you know what, when we have our next event featuring soul food, you will definitely be extended a personal invitation."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Please do. Thank you."

**Reverend Graham** said, "And let me also add, we really encourage everyone to come out and hear our speaker, Reverend Marvin Lou, who is a pastor of the Scrubbs Memorial CME Church in St. Louis, Missouri. He's sought out all over the country, across denominational lines for his speaking. He's a very dynamic speaker, so we do encourage the public to come out and hear him."

**Chairman Winters** said, "We've got one more. I made a mistake when I said Ben was last. Commissioner Norton."

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I just want to say congratulations and really wanted to say hi to my old friend Gwen. We go back a lot of years and I just wanted to say hi. And Susan, I'll try to be there at 4:00. We may try to make it. We'd like to celebrate with you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you very much."

**Reverend Graham** said, "Am I free now?"

**Chairman Winters** said, "You're free to go."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Free at last, free at last."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you very much for being here."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Kevin, we have a real long meeting today, if you want to stay and listen."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Madam Clerk, next item please."

### **2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 15 – 19, 2004 AS "SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK."**

**Chairman Winters** said, "Commissioners, I have another proclamation for you consideration."

#### **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that at any given moment nearly 2,000 thunderstorms are in progress over the earth's surface; and

**WHEREAS**, tornadoes occur in many parts of the world and in all 50 states, but no area is more favorable to their formation than the Continental Plains of the United States, and no season free of tornadoes; and

**WHEREAS**, local government has the responsibility to inform the public and promote awareness in an effort to reduce the loss of life, property and personal injury; and

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service and the Kansas Division of Emergency Management will hold a statewide tornado safety drill Tuesday, March 16, 2004, designed to test the emergency warnings systems throughout Kansas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sedgwick County Department of Emergency Management will participate in this drill to enhance the public's awareness in this vital area of personal safety;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the I, Tom Winters, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 15-19, 2004 as

**“SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK”**

in Sedgwick County, and urge all residents to participate in the scheduled activities.

Dated March 10, 2004.

Commissioners, what's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to Adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, "We're very fortunate to have a very good department here in Sedgwick County, Emergency Management led by Randy Duncan and Randy is here this morning."

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Mr. Randy Duncan**, Director, Emergency Management Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “And I want to thank you all very much for helping us to recognize Severe Weather Awareness Week. We know it’s a fact of life, here in the Central Plains in the United States that we will face some inclement, severe weather this spring season and it never hurts to remind the public about this issue over and over.

And I’ve brought a couple of things with me today that I’d like to show to you for just a moment and share with the folks who are watching at home to kind of show and update a little bit about some of the new things that we’re doing in conjunction with raising the public’s awareness about hazards of all types, but at this time of year of course the severe convective weather.

The first that I’d like to mention is probably the best tool that anybody can use to be aware of and get information about severe weather, is the NOAA Weather Radio and I have here in my hands a box, which has a sample type radio and basically this allows you to receive information about the weather on a 24-hour a day basis. An additional benefit of this is if severe weather happens at an unusual time of night, say 3:00 in the morning when most of us are normally at home in bed asleep, this has a feature on it that will wake you up and make you aware of the problem.

In the past, some folks were hesitant to utilize this type of radio, because it could be storming elsewhere and not impacting Sedgwick County and the tone alert would go off and wake you up here in Sedgwick County. But with the new technology, called SAME, that is Specific Area Message Encoding, you can put a special code in here and this weather radio will go off only for those things that impact Sedgwick County. So we’re able to zero in the warning with a lot more accuracy and I think this makes this a much better tool. These are available at almost any place that sells retail electronics and in addition, if you have a problem finding it anywhere around, if you’ll look on our web page or if you’ll call our office, we also have these available to the public. But we would encourage you to utilize your local merchants first.

Another thing that I would like to show you and share with you is our new program called CERT, Citizen Emergency Response Team. You see here in front of you one of our backpacks that will be the symbol of our newly trained folks. And in here, some of the equipment we provide to our citizens. Pardon me, I’m dropping things all over the place. We provide a green hardhat with the CERT emblem on the front and what emergency kit would be complete without having duct tape. I don’t know if any of you watch the Red Green Show like I did, but the world’s problems can be solved with duct tape.

In addition, team members are also issued a bright green and clearly identifiable vest that indicates that they have received the CERT training. You can see the logo on the back there. And there are lots of other supplies in here. Basically, what we do is we provide these folks with a ready made disaster preparedness kit for them to help out in their immediate neighborhood.



## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

We all know the folks that are really the first on the scene when an emergency happens are the folks who live right there in that neighborhood, even before we, as government responders, can get there.

So we want those folks to have a little bit of training, so that they can stabilize a situation and keep it safe until we, as government responders, can get there to help them.

And I'm also proud to tell you that you got to meet our first graduating class of folks from the Community Emergency Response Team. Tomorrow we're having our actual field exercise for our second class and on Saturday we're having our field exercise for our third class, which has been going on simultaneously. So we've got somewhere in the neighborhood of about 100 folks that, by Saturday, will have gone through and completed the Community Emergency Response Team training and we're very, very pleased with that and we look forward to this program being very effective and having a positive impact on our community.

If you have any additional questions, I'd be happy to try to answer them at this time."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Just two quick ones, Randy. What does the . . . remind me again, what the CERT stands for."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "CERT is Community Emergency Response Team. The idea is that we train citizens who are, as we mentioned earlier, the first actually on the scene to be able to help themselves and stabilize the situation until we, as government responders, can get on scene and help."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right. One other question, what . . . if somebody would decide they wanted to purchase one of the NOAA radios, about what price range can they expect to pay, say from the bottom end to the top end?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "I think somewhere between \$50 and \$80 you're going to find one of the type of radios that's going to help you and there are a number of different ones. You can buy the type that plug into the wall for use in your home. There's a hand held type that you can buy, to carry with you in your automobile, or if you're on vacation or if you're in another area of the country, you can actually get the hand held type and take it with you and plug in the local code wherever you're at to get weather warnings. And then they also make kind of a mobile version that also fits in your car for car use alone. And for those who might have a hearing impairment, the type of one that you can get for home also comes with optional devices like a bed shaker or other types of devices that would help the hearing impaired to receive information and warnings."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay. Well, we've got several questions up here. Commissioner

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “I remember when you brought the first class here but what I don’t remember is when . . . are you doing these in a period of six weeks and how much time does it take? I stepped out for a minute, so if you did share that, I do apologize.”

**Mr. Duncan** said, “No, I haven’t shared that yet, and let me call on DeAnn Konkel, who directly manages the program to help me with some of that information. I know the class runs over a period of several weeks and we run two classes a week, one on Thursday nights and one on Saturday mornings, so we have the option of doing two different classes, or if you’ve missed one, you can attend the other class during the week. DeAnn, can you give us some more of the details on that?”

**Ms. DeAnn Konkel**, Public Safety Liaison, Emergency Management Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This current class that we’re offering right now is running eight weeks. It is a 24 hour course, so we’re running three hours each week and tomorrow night will be our final exercise for the Thursday night class and on Saturday then they will do their exercise as well.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “And are you having them at the same location?”

**Ms. Kunkel** said, “This class has all been held at the Westlink Later Day Saints Church at 401 North Westlink and we will be moving them around throughout the county. Derby has expressed an interest in hosting another class and we’ll be meeting with them to probably look at late April, first of May.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Okay, all right. Well thank you. It sounds like this program is growing and very much worthwhile to our community. I know that we talked about this after 9/11. You were right, the people that are the first responders are our neighborhood people, our citizens, not us. And the more that they can do, the better it’s going to help us do our job. So I think this is an excellent program and I have a NOAA radio. I live out in the country, I don’t have sirens and it’s been a really great resource. You know you can, on a stormy night, just turn it on standby and it works. It goes off anytime there’s an announcement in our area. So anyway, thank you for the job you’re doing.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Commissioner Unruh.”

**Commissioner Unruh** said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of comments. You know,

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

proclamations are generally a celebration of something and we're not celebrating severe weather. We're just emphasizing the fact that we need to be prepared and recognize a need for information and awareness about this. In our part of the country, where we have a lot of these sort of issues, severe weather, well we need a special emphasis, so I thank you for what you and your people are doing.

But the other comment I wanted to make, you said that duct tape solves all the world's problems and we need about two cases. We still have the budget process here."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "I'll see what I can do, sir."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "That's all I had."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well I disagree with Commissioner Unruh. I think these storms can be beautiful, if they're out on the plains. They're kind of nature's fireworks for Kansans but as good as they can be, as destructive as they can be also and we have to prepare for that.

We set a lot of this in motion after 9/11 with Ready to Respond. Commission Chairman McGinn at the time kind of led us down a path of making sure that citizens understood that they need to be ready to respond, that they had culpability when disasters come. This last year, we worked real hard to get elected officials into crisis management training so that they understood their responsibilities, not only in times of manmade disasters but natural disasters also and I really think this deep citizens training, to make them experts is just that next incarnation of getting us all thinking about what we need to do for our community.

You know, I have a little bit of knowledge about disasters and being ready to respond and we are so right. As I remember back to May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1999, the first people I saw doing anything to mitigate the problems we had in Haysville were just friends and next-door neighbors and citizens. The first person I saw directing traffic and trying to help people that were injured was just an everyday guy that was very active in Haysville and just put on his shoes and walked to the middle of town and started directing traffic to try to help the emergency vehicles in, so citizen training is very important.

And you know, he didn't have a nice vest that kept him from getting hit by a car. He didn't have a

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

hardhat. In fact, I think all he had was a flashlight and the will to help and it would have been nice if he'd been really prepared to take on that role as a citizen. So, I applaud you for this. We know that April, May and June are months that we are in peril of having inclement weather and it's not about if it's going to happen again, it's just when it's going to happen again and hopefully we're prepared. All our citizens can be safe, because we're taking care of each other, so thanks for the work that you do, Randy and DeAnn."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "And thank you very much and I don't think I could have said it any better. You are absolutely indeed correct, it's not if, it's when. And I'm also very grateful and appreciative of the fact that you brought up the Ready to Respond program. I might mention that that program still is available through our office and through DeAnn and we still have a number of requests for it. People are still very interested and motivated by the September 11<sup>th</sup> issues to find out what can they do to make sure that they can increase their chances of protecting themselves in an emergency, whatever type of emergency that might be, and we do owe a debt of gratitude to then Chairman McGinn for her leadership, as well as the rest of the BoCC in terms of making sure that that program was available to Sedgwick County citizens."

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

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Thanks. I think that's a good point too. If you don't have time to take the eight-week program, you can still take the one that's what, two- three hours. So, okay thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you Randy. Thank you, DeAnn. We appreciate your work very much. Next item."

### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

#### **B. METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING DEPARTMENT (MAPD)**

- 1. CASE NUMBER DR2004-00001 – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE APRIL 19, 2001 EDITION OF THE WICHITA-SEDGWICK COUNTY UNIFIED ZONING CODE, ARTICLES III-B.14.E AND IV-B, PERTAINING TO OUTDOOR PORTABLE STORAGE CONTAINERS AND TO SCREENING REQUIREMENTS.**

**Mr. John Schlegel**, Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department, greeted the Commissioners

### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

and said, "In recent years, the trend in the movement of goods and merchandise has been toward the increasing use of container shipping. And along with that trend has come the increasing use of the containers as portable storage units by many retailers. So in response to those trends, in the year 2001, you along with the City of Wichita adopted regulations to control the use of these portable storage containers in conjunction with retail users.

Since that time, there has been a body of experience built up in the use of these containers, been some minor complaints registered and that has led to increased dialogue with the industry that provides these portable storage containers and that has led to the amendments that are before you today.

Let me describe very briefly what these amendments to the Unified Zoning Code contain. Currently, containers must be within 10 feet of the principal building, in addition to meeting side and rear setback requirements and must be a minimum of 20 feet from any abutting property that is zoned 'TF-3' or more restrictive residential zoning.

Changes that are before you today would allow the containers to be more than 10 feet from the building, if they are screened in accordance with the zoning code and are out of view of nearby residential zoning or arterial streets.

The amendments also increase the maximum size of units from 200 to 320 square feet for properties where the principal buildings are less than 3,200 square feet. In addition, currently the regulations only allow portable storage containers to remain on a Limited Commercial property for a total of 120 days, requiring them to be removed for 60 days prior to being placed back at the same location. The amendment that's before you today would allow permanent placement in Limited Commercial zoning districts.

The City of Wichita, which is not part of what's before you as a Board today, is considering a different type of enforcement regime than they currently are using. They are going to, as part of the amendments that they are making, they are changing over to a licensing scheme that will allow the providers of these portable storage units to become licensed and regulated in that manner. You do not have those amendments before you today and your enforcement will continue to be done through the standard zoning code enforcement actions.

At the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, the commission voted unanimously to recommend the amendments that are before you today. Representatives from the

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

portable storage container industry were present and testified in support of the amendments. At the City Council meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the council approved the first reading of their ordinance, with one modification and that change added two words, residential use to two paragraphs that deal with screening standards for portable storage containers.

The change is acceptable to the industry and really what it does is it clarifies the real intent of their regulations. It was requested by one of the council members in one of the older districts within the City of Wichita. Our recommendation today is for you to adopt the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission recommendation, with the modification that was made by the Wichita City Council. I'll be glad to take any questions."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you John, just a couple of quick questions. You clearly indicated this, but the business and industry group was involved in the discussion and the formation of these and from what you can tell at this point, the folks that are in this business are satisfied that these are workable regulations?"

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "Yes. The industry was the one that initiated the dialogue about these changes. They were very much involved in the drafting of them and they are supportive of the amendments that are before you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "And the City of Wichita City Council has approved these amendments, these adjustments."

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "That is correct."

**Chairman Winters** said, "And our method will be again, Glen Wiltse and his Code Enforcement folks will be the ones that will be responsible."

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "Correct."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you. Commissioner Norton, I think I'm going to open it up just to see if there's any citizens here. Is that all right? Is there anybody here who wants to speak to this item? Is there anyone in the audience who wants to address the commission on this item? All right, thank you. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "John, I think my question is you worked with the container industry, but was there some scrutiny from and the filter on people who are the on-site owners of property

### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

that would rent the containers, because they'll really be the ones where the inspection officers show up and say you need to move your containers around: the Walmarts the Targets, the big box stores have a lot of containers around Christmas time.

And I remember back in the days when you have them pushed out too far on your parking lot, people are telling you you've got to get them back up towards your store and that really becomes the on-site owner of the property and the business, not the container industry. Were they engaged in this process too?"

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "Yes. Some of those type of stakeholders in this were involved in putting these amendments together."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "That's all I have, Mr. Chair."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you. Any other questions or comments? Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Well, just one question. Was there anyone objecting to these changes?"

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "Not to our knowledge, no. We did a round of reviews with the City district advisory boards on these proposed amendments. There were some minor complaints, but they were about existing conditions that these amendments are intended to help clear up."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Okay, very good, thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you. Commissioners, what's the will of the Board?"

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Can I ask one more question?"

**Chairman Winters** said, "Yes you can. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "There was a big debate at one time on what color containers could be and what writings they could have on the side. Has all that been resolved also, John?"

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "Yes. What is required would be earth tones, you know trying to make the containers blend in with the surrounding buildings. The ideal is to have the containers just kind of

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

blend into the background and I think one of the objections has been that the big signs that have sometimes been placed on the side of these containers have been maybe a bit too visible to the neighbors.

So what the industry has agreed to make sure that those signs, which are still allowed on the containers, are not visible to adjacent properties.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “And the individuals that have the big red ones and the big blue ones were at the table and agreed that a neutral tone is okay?”

**Mr. Schlegel** said, “Yes. Now keep in mind, some of those big red ones are containers, which are on construction sites, and those would not be affected by this. These regulations are meant for containers that are behind retail establishments.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “I just know that there were a couple of container industry folks that had red ones that were available to go on business sites, other than construction.”

**Mr. Schlegel** said, “Yeah, and they’re agreeable to painting those.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Good.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Very good. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board?”

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Approve the proposed amendments to the Unified Zoning Code.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

### **VOTE**



**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

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

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

- 2. CASE NUMBER CUP20001-00044 AND ZON2001-00071 – EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMPLETE PLATTING REQUIRED FOR DP-257, ALBERT FARM COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY UNIT PLAN AND A ZONE CHANGE FROM "SF-20" SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO "LC" LIMITED COMMERCIAL, "NR" NEIGHBORHOOD RETAIL, "NO" NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE, AND "SF-5" SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF CENTRAL AND 151<sup>ST</sup> STREET WEST. DISTRICT #3.**

**POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "Commissioners, in April of 2002 this board approved the Albert Farm Commercial Community Unit Plan with a zone change from 'SF-20', Single-Family Residential, to Limited Commercial, Neighborhood Retail, Neighborhood Office and 'SF-5' Single-Family Residential on this approximately 18 acre parcel.

That approval was given subject to platting of the property within one year. That platting condition was extended by six months to October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2003, in accordance with your policy and the applicant has made a further request for extending that platting requirement for another year and we are recommending that you approve this platting extension for another year. The applicant's representative is here today and I believe would like to speak to you about this subject."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you. Kim, if you'd like to comment, please come forward."

**Ms. Kim Edgington**, agent for applicant, AM Consulting Inc., greeted the Commissioners and said, "The only thing that I would like to mention today is a request to begin the platting extension as of today's date, rather than making that retroactive to October 16<sup>th</sup>. The property owner was an

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

elderly gentleman. He's gone through a rather lengthy illness and has recently passed away, and so the property is in estate right now and is tied up for the next several months and nothing will be able to be begun for at least three or four months. So we are asking that that extension begin as of today's date and extend through March of 2005."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay, thank you Kim. Rich, there's no problem in doing that? John, no problem?"

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "Staff has no objection to that. That seems very reasonable under the circumstances."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Rich?"

**Mr. Rich Euson**, County Counselor, said, "No, I know of no problem to do that."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you. Commissioners, this is in my district and I certainly see no reason not to proceed with the extension, beginning today."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Approve a one-year extension of time to complete platting beginning today.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you very much. Kim, thank you for being here. John, thank you very much. How long have you been here now?"

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Mr. Schlegel** said, “Oh, about eight months.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “How long do you plan on staying?”

**Mr. Schlegel** said, “Well, I guess as long as you’ll have me.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Well, this is no employee evaluation, but we certainly appreciate your work in the community and we think you’re doing a good job.”

**Mr. Schlegel** said, “Well thank you very much.”

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

- C. CERTIFICATION OF REDDI ROOT’R OF WICHITA, INC.’S PERMIT APPLICATION FOR A SOLID WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY/RECLAMATION FACILITY, TO BE SUBMITTED TO KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT.**

**OVERHEAD PRESENTATION**

**Ms. Susan Erlenwein**, Director, Environmental Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The Kansas Department of Health and Environment requires all solid waste permits to be approved by the local government as to its consistency with the solid waste plan. Before you today is a permit for a solid waste processing permit. It’s for Reddi Root’r on 4225 Bounous and this map shows its location at the triangle. It’s basically near the intersections of Harry and West Street, kind of southwest of the main part of Wichita.

Reddi Root’r has been in business for a number of years, providing many services, one of which is receiving non-hazardous liquid waste. They receive this from businesses and residents alike. The material is tested before they receive it to make sure it’s not hazardous and it’s taken to their de-

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

watering facility located at this address. And this map shows the facility. On the east side here is West Street, Harry, this is Bounous and the facility is located right here, so that's where they receive liquid waste, approximately 80,000 gallons a month comes into the facility. It goes through the de-watering process, the affluent is then given to the Wichita sanitary system, which they have a permit for. Part of that permit requires that they do have that testing to show that it's non-hazardous liquids. The solid material can be used for fill dirt or for compost material, and in fact they helped to landscape the Wichita Air Museum area with the solids from this facility.

The state now requires that facilities such as this go through the process of receiving a solid waste processing permit. Part of that requires the Solid Waste Committee to review the permit. They did that at their meeting last Monday. The committee determined that it is consistent with our solid waste plan. It does provide a needed service of handling special materials such as bulk liquids, which are not allowed at Subtitle D landfills. Also it reduces the amount of solid materials going to a landfill, which fits our plan for waste minimization.

The committee recommends that this board approves that this permit is consistent with our solid waste plan and staff also recommends that. I'd be happy to answer any questions."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you Susan. Commissioners, questions or comments? Seeing none, what's the will of the Board?"

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Find the Application consistent with the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Management Plan, and authorize the Chairman to sign the Certification.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

### **VOTE**

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Thomas Winters	Aye

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

### 2. PERFORMANCE MEASURES 2003 REPORT OF THE WASTE MINIMIZATION TEAM.

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.

#### POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

**Ms. Caroline Hosford**, Training Specialist, Chair, Waste Minimization Team, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm glad to be here today to present the 2003 Waste Minimization Team performance measurements report."

Internally, here within our county offices, our employees are involved in several waste minimization programs and you can see them listed here. They go all the way from office paper, cardboard, aluminum cans to magazines and catalogs.

We began actually measuring how well we were doing in 1999 and in that year, in 1999 we recycled 82,374 pounds of materials. I'm pleased to report that in 2003 that number has grown considerably to over 279,000 pounds of materials. Now that's a huge increase and part of that is due to the fact that we are now able to actually capture the numbers better. We're getting information from some of the outlying departments, like the Zoo maybe who had been recycling before but weren't reporting their numbers to us. And graphically you can kind of see what this is. Year number one was 1999 and then year number five was 2003.

Now how did we actually do in 2003? Here are the actual numbers. In the first column are the actual figures that we collected and the goal, what we expected to collect, was in the right-hand column. So you can see with office paper that we collected 198-some thousand pounds of office paper, whereas our goal was 105,000. Part of this is due to the fact that this year we were able to get the number for the amount of shredded paper that is recycled. Some departments, because of

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

security reasons, have their paper shredded and we were able to get that number added in this year.

Cardboard also you can see increased considerably and a lot of this was due to the Zoo. They have a lot of cardboard out there and we were able to find out what the number was. And as you look down the columns, you will see that we met or exceeded our goal in every category except newspaper. We're slightly under in newspaper, but when you look at the totals, we were just slightly less than twice what we had expected, so we think we did pretty well, as far as our goals. Now not only does the Zoo have a lot of cardboard, but they have a lot of manure out there and we actually added one million pounds of manure this year that was sent to a compost facility. That is a lot.

On a completely different note, we have recycled printer cartridges in the county since 1999, but this year we were actually able to count them and know exactly the number that were sent for remanufacturing and in Sedgwick County offices we sent back 3,773 cartridges for remanufacturing.

One of the things we wanted to do this year was to see if we could convert any of these waste minimization efforts into dollars saved. And so we started maybe slowly but we're trying to do that and the one area that we chose was printer cartridges. And so we took two departments, a medium size department, the Department on Aging, actually calculated that in 2003 they saved 1,930 within their department by buying remanufactured cartridges rather than original equipment."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Did they budget to buy new equipment, so this actually saved the taxpayers this much money?"

**Ms. Hosford** said, "I believe that's the case. And in our department, in the department that I work for, Environmental Resources, we're a small department but we actually saved over \$200 by doing the same thing. So we think that this translated across the county, in all offices, is going to mean not only waste minimization efforts but also some help in some budgetary areas as well.

Again this year, we sponsored a mail reduction project where we took a one-week period, we usually do it in November and we count, we actually measure the number of pieces of unsolicited mail that comes into county offices. We began this in 2001 and in that year there were 2,077 pieces of mail that were sent to county offices that people didn't want. We encouraged employees to send back pre-printed postcards saying 'Take me off this list, I don't want to get this stuff' if they in fact

### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

didn't want it. And in 2002, the number was reduced to 1,415 pieces."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Excuse me, ma'am, that's just in one week, is that correct?"

**Ms. Hosford** said, "That is correct."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Yeah, okay, because we were thinking . . ."

**Ms. Hosford** said, "No, that is in just that one week."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay, so times that by 52 if you want to figure out what it is a year."

**Ms. Hosford** said, "Absolutely. And then in 2003, the number was reduced again to 1,169 pieces. So you're correct, this is just a one-week period in November."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Because I get that many in a week myself."

**Ms. Hosford** said, "That's a 44% reduction since 2001. I mean, this is just an ongoing, never-ending process. We keep having to do it over and over and keep encouraging our employees to send back the postcards, call people, tell them you don't want this stuff, because often you get off of one list and it seems like you get on another. But we do feel like we've had some success in trying to reduce that.

Something else that's rather new this year, a new undertaking is the This and That Exchange and it's really beginning to catch on. This is a program where departments can take office items or surplus furniture items. All these things are listed on E-line and they can trade back and forth, so that what I don't need anymore maybe another department can use, so that we're making the best use of our resources and employees can actually sign up to be notified when something is added to the list, so they don't have to keep going to the site every day and waste their time. They can actually subscribe and they will get a message when something new has been added.

It's been very successful. And I got a note from an employee who has used the This and That exchange and I'd like to read this short note, what this person had to say: I just wanted to let you and your team know how much I appreciate the This and That program. I received a color TV that has a VCR built in. I use it all the time for health fairs, community meetings and educational meetings. My caregivers can now watch a video on various topics right here in the office and I can

### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

help answer their questions. Without the program, I would not have had this opportunity. Thank you so much. And this was written by Davalyne Osborne from the Department on Aging. So we feel like these things are really working for different departments.

So we have set new goals for next year. We're not going to be satisfied with what we have done and at this point, I'd really like to recognize the twelve members of the Waste Minimization Team. They are the ones who make this work. They're the ones who keep coming up with new ideas to tweak the program to make us be able to capture more items and so I'd like to thank all of them for their creative ideas and I'd be happy to answer any questions that you might have."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you very much Caroline. We do have some questions. Commissioner McGinn."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Thank you. I don't really have any questions. I just want to say good job. We started this I think it said '99 and we talked about this whole . . . talked about reduction and those kinds of things of the materials we get in and how do we handle them, do we throw them away, those kinds of things. And I didn't dream that this program would get this far and make such an impact. I felt like if we're going to go ask other people to do reduction programs and those kinds of things, we needed to do it here in our organization. And we have a large organization and I think of other large businesses or other governmental entities, if they follow this same example, how much reduction we can have in the amount that we throw away.

And, you know we live in a throw-away society and your little exchange program you have, that's a great opportunity. Sometimes we don't need something but somebody else does and we're going to save taxpayers money because we're not going out and repurchasing those kinds of things. So I mostly just wanted to say thank you and I think that the fact that you guys rotate the Waste Minimization Team I think is an excellent idea too because you get new people from different departments in there and they can help spread that news of how to do things better, so thank you very much."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Just a comment. It was interesting, the only category you were down in was newspaper, and last year I know the Commission Offices and the third floor made a decision to cut out a lot of newspapers as a budget process thing, so we reduced the waste, but also saved money on we found out that we could do with maybe only one USA Today in the office instead of three and a lot less other papers and so we probably didn't help you any with your numbers, but I think it paid good dividends for the citizens on the budget side and you've collected a lot, although



## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

you were down a little bit. Just a comment.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, thank you. Commissioner Unruh.”

**Commissioner Unruh** said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Caroline, I just also want to add my congratulations to you and your team for a very successful program and you keep building it and it is a great lesson and example. As probably everybody is aware, the commissioners get a great deal of pressure about recycling and waste reduction and that sort of thing and so here you’re helping us, you’re showing the way, leading by example on how these programs can be effective and you can make a difference within a situation where you are. So this is a good example for both commercial and industrial folks who might be watching and the same lessons can be applied to individuals. You know, there are ways to go ahead and recycle and reduce waste right now, while we’re working on this larger problem of solid waste. But thank you for giving that successful example.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, thank you Commissioner. Caroline, thanks very much. This was the first of one of our deferred items from last week, and so I just would say to all the staff folks who endured the marathon meeting last week and did not get a chance to participate. We appreciate your being here last week and then thanks for your reports today. So, keep up the good work Caroline. Thank you. Next item.”

### MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to Receive and file.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

### VOTE

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

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

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

### **D. DIVISION OF FINANCE.**

#### **1. PRESENTATION OF SEDGWICK COUNTY'S 2005 TO 2009 FINANCIAL PLAN.**

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.

### **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. Chris Chronis**, Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We'll try not to make this too painful, but there is a certain amount of pain that attaches to it necessarily. I want to begin by saying some things that you all know because we've gone through these presentations for a number of years, but the people who are watching in may not be aware of and need to be.

First, we call this thing a financial plan, this presentation that I'm going to make is a presentation about what is a series of spreadsheets that we refer to in the County as a financial plan and that implies that it's what we are going to try and make happen. But in fact, we are not talking about a plan. What we're talking about is a financial forecast. The intent of this presentation and of the underlying documents is to show the County's future financial condition, based on current reality.

Additionally, it is often referred to, these numbers I'm going to be showing you are often referred to as the budget. What I'm showing you today is not the County's budget and what I'm showing you as the forecast of the future is not our projection of future budgets. Instead, what we're looking at today is past reality and our forecast of future reality, and very often as you know, reality is somewhat different than what is budgeted. But what we're looking at here is what we think will actually happen, based on what has happened in the past.

Any forecast, and certainly this one, is based on certain assumptions and as we go through the presentation I'll talk about many of those assumptions. But any forecast is only as good as the assumptions that are behind it. If you use different assumptions, you're going to come up with a different conclusion than what I'm showing you today. So what I'm going to be showing you is based on our assumptions in the finance division, our best information about what we think is going to happen with Sedgwick County. But different analysts would come up with different assumptions and, because of that, they might come up with different projections.

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

Fourth, I want to make the point that any numbers that you see in this presentation are not intended to be a precise estimate of what we think is going to happen. In fact, we're sure that any one of these numbers is going to be somewhat different by the time we actually get to that point in time. Instead, what we're doing with this financial plan is attempting to show trends and general conclusions, and we're confident that those trends and general conclusions are pretty accurate. The individual numbers, however, we know are inaccurate. Any one of them is going to be different when we actually get to that point in time, so I would encourage you not to lock in on any particular number.

Finally, this forecast is not what we expect to happen in the future, and we're going to be talking now about a planning horizon, a forecast horizon that is five years. What I'm going to be showing you today is not what we expect will actually happen five years from now. Instead, it is what we expect would happen five years from now if, between now and then, the County didn't do anything differently than what it's doing right now.

The purpose of these financial forecast is to do just that, to show us what the outcomes are going to be five years down the road and if we don't like that picture, we have plenty of time to change it. We have plenty of time to take different actions so that, five years from now, we have a different picture than what I'm going to show you today. That's what we actually expect will happen. We think that, because of what I show you today, you're going to see some things that you may not like and you're going to ask us to take different actions than the County has taken in the past and when we take those actions, the outcome five years from now, will be different than the one that I show you.

So with all of those caveats, let me begin by talking a little bit about some economic indicators, and of course the local economy and the national economy have a great impact on Sedgwick County's financial condition. First, some good news, we've talked a lot in this community over the past several years about unemployment and the unemployment rate. The good news is that the unemployment rate appears to have peaked.

In fact, I told you much the same thing a year ago, and in the summer of this year, as indicated by the peak where you see the arrow, one of the aviation manufacturers furloughed a sizable portion of its workforce for a period of time, so that caused a spike in the unemployment rate, which was temporary. But now we've returned to the normal trend, or at least what we think is the normal trend, which is downward. We believe that the unemployment rate has hit its ceiling and is going down and will continue to do so.

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

That's not to say that we aren't continuing to be in a lot of pain in this community. Foreclosures, which are a prime indicator of our ability to collect property taxes, continue to rise in this community and they have risen every year for the past five. Two years ago . . . three years ago now, our friends at Wichita State University did a forecast of layoffs in the aviation sector in this community and that forecast said that, over a two year period, 2001 and 2002, the aviation sector would reduce jobs to the tune of about 7,100 and they were forecasting that by the end of 2002 we would have hit bottom and we would have started climbing back up.

The reality has been somewhat different and somewhat worse. In fact, by the end of 2003, we had lost nearly 13,000 jobs in the aviation sector and we continue to receive some announcements, although fortunately in much smaller numbers, we continue to receive some announcements of additional layoffs in the aviation sector.

This table is very small print and so you may not be able to read it, but let me just give you the highlights. The good news is that because of those layoffs in the aviation sector and because of growth in other sectors of the economy, growth in jobs in other sectors of the economy, over this past two or three years our community has reduced its dependence on aviation as an employer. That's good, because diversification always is good. The down side of it is that many of the jobs that have been created in the past three years have been lower wage jobs than the aviation jobs that we lost. And so while there's been a shift in the employment in this community away from aviation, there also has been, all things considered, a reduction of income in the community because we're losing relatively high paying aviation jobs and replacing them with somewhat lower paying jobs in other sectors.

Towards the bottom of this chart, you can see that in the past two years the aerospace products and parts sector, as it's called by the economists, has lost 27.6% of all jobs, which total employment in the community has gone down 4%. Looking up towards the top, you can see that unemployment, the number unemployed has increased 32% over that period of time, even though the unemployment rate has declined.

Now how do you reconcile that? Well, the unemployment rate is the measure of the ability of people who are looking for work to actually find it. The unemployment rate has come down, because a larger share of the people who are looking for work have found jobs, but there are more people looking for work now than there were two years ago and so the number of unemployed, the absolute number of people unemployed in this community has gone up.

### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

Now I've shown you this chart before and it's now been modified, as you see in the headline. The point that I've made with this chart in the past has been that what we're going through is something that the community has gone through about once every ten years. And for people who can't make out the small charts, what we're looking at here are various indicators from a recession in 1971, from a downturn in the local economy in 1982 and 1983, from another downturn in 1992 and '93 and then the one with the question marks shows the downturn that was forecasted by Wichita State University in 2001, for the 2001-2003 period.

The point that I had been making with these charts is that every ten years or so, the community has gone through a downturn in aviation. And each one of those cycles, the impact on aviation has been more dramatic than the impact on the general economy. That is, the loss of jobs in aviation has been greater than the loss of total jobs and despite the loss of jobs, personal income and the County's property tax base and sales taxes have actually increased generally through those downturns and the question marks on the bottom right hand side just say that, at the start of this period, we didn't know what was going to happen with the local economy, but there was a reason, based on that history, to think that a) the County government, its financial system, would not be as severely affected as you might expect and b) it would be a relatively short term, predictable business cycle and within two or at most three years, we would have climbed out of it and we'd be back to normal, just as we had been in the 1970s, in the 1980s, in the 1990s.

Well, we're now moving into the fourth year of this and so I've changed my tune. I think that what we are seeing now is not the same experience that we had 10 years ago and 20 years ago and 30 years ago. I'm beginning to think that what we're seeing is more an indication of what this community went through in 1920 when the broom industry, which at that time was the dominant employer, left the community or in the 1880s, when the cattle industry that at that time was the dominant employer left the community. I think what we are on the beginning edges of is the substantial reduction of aviation as an employer in this community. We've seen that with the layoffs that have occurred over the past several years and we continue to see it with some of the actions from the aviation manufacturers.

We see the out-sourcing that's occurring. We see one of the manufacturers moving relatively high paying assembly jobs from Wichita to another country and replacing those jobs with relatively low paid finishing jobs that they moved here from another American community. We see it with the talk in the media about Boeing perhaps getting out of the manufacturing business, perhaps selling Boeing, Wichita to another company.

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

So I think that what we're looking at now is something that's very different than what we thought, for the last several years, we were actually looking at and that is going to have a pretty dramatic effect on the community and certainly on County finances.

We have addressed a number of challenges over the past couple of years. The state government has gone through pretty severe budgetary problems of its own and because of that, they have eliminated some revenues that they used to provide Sedgwick County and other local governments. They reduced dedicated funding that they've provided to a number of programs that Sedgwick County provides. The local economy has also affected us and I've just talked about some of those factors. All of those have been major challenges for us, and they've manifested themselves in things like the decline of the sales tax that we've seen for the past number of years.

The result of all that is that we have this chart here, which shows a fundamental imbalance now between the growth trend of County revenues and the growth trend of County expenditures. And on this chart the blue line shows expenditures. The red line shows revenues. And what we want to see there, obviously, is revenues and expenditures to be roughly the same every year, but what we see going out in time and those lines getting farther apart. Expenditures are growing faster than revenues."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "So can I ask you, just in my own proverbial Kansas kitchen English, we're spending more money that we're making."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "That's right. Over the past year and a half or so, we've taken a number of actions to address this problem. We have prioritized projects. We've deferred some projects and saved some money from that. We've cut costs in a number of areas. We went through a series of budget reductions last year and the year before. We have made some actions in the way we deal with County personnel that have altered the trend, the growth trend for personnel costs. We've reduced services that we formerly relied on contractual partners to provide. We've increased various County revenues. We adopted a 2004 budget that was based on 2002 spending patterns. In other words, we required operating departments to suck it up and ignore the fact that prices had risen for the last couple of years and figure out how to do services in 2004 generally with the amount of money that they had in 2002.

In 2004, we actually expect revenues will be about \$297,000,000. And you've seen this chart before, most of our revenue, the largest source of our revenue comes from Ad Valorem tax, that's the green on this chart. The second largest source of revenue are user fees, that's the black on the left side, which produced now almost as much revenue as property tax. We talk a lot about sales tax, but it actually isn't a very large share of the total County budget. It produces about 7% of total County revenue.

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

The financial plan, the forecast suggests that, over the next several years, our total revenue growth is going to be slow, but relatively steady. We expect, over the next five years, to see revenue growth at the rate of about 4% a year.

This chart shows our revenues by type and the purpose of the chart is to show whether or not there are going to be any changes in our reliance on any particular revenue source. Is there a question?"

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Well, could you go back to that slide again, the one that was right before this one. Okay, now what's that red line indicate?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "The red line indicates the rate of growth, the rate of change from year to year. The blue bar indicates the absolute amount of revenue and the numbers at the bottom indicate . . ."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "But I mean, are you showing a big spike this year in revenue from 2003?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Yes. Yes, that's correct and the spike is because the rate of growth in 2003 was abnormally low. You see, in 2003 we only had 1.8% growth and that's because that's the year in which we lost demand transfers and various other state revenues."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay. And what's coming in this year that causes it to go so high? Are we getting demand transfers back?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "No, we're not getting demand transfers back but we're achieving a more normal growth rate compared to 2003's rate of growth. Between 4 and 5% is our normal rate of growth."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "And is that because of all the kind of tough decisions we made during the budgeting process last year?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Yes, that's right. Okay?"

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Yeah, thank you."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Okay. So the purpose of this chart is to show whether or not we're going to increase our reliance on any particular revenue source and we're looking here at four major categories of revenue. The green represents taxes, which is all taxes not just property taxes. The blue represents intergovernmental revenue, the dark blue represents intergovernmental revenue. The light blue is user fees and the gray is everything else that we collect, so you can see that almost

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

all of our revenue comes from those three broad categories: taxes, intergovernmental revenue and fees.

And looking at these charts, you can see that over the next several years we expect somewhat greater reliance on fees and proportionally less reliance on the other funding sources. In other words, we're shifting the cost of government from general taxpayers to the people who directly benefit from government services.

Now I want to go fairly quickly, at least I hope I'll do it fairly quickly, through some of the individual revenues and talk just about our assumptions, because as I said at the outset, the assumptions really are key to the forecast.

For property taxes, as is always the case in our financial plans, we are forecasting the amount of property tax revenue that we will get based solely on growth of the tax base. We are assuming that the property tax rate, the factor that you control, will remain constant throughout this planning horizon, at 28.8 mills.

The growth in the tax base that we're forecasting is 3% in '05 and 4% in each of the out years, in each of the future years beyond '05. So that's what produces a moderate amount of property tax growth over that period of time. 3% and 4% is less than we have experienced in the recent past and we think that that lower rate of growth is realistic for a variety of reasons. One is the foreclosures that I showed you. The state of the economy is such that it's having an increased impact on people's ability to retain homes that they've purchased. It's having an increased impact on their ability to go out and purchase new homes and we've seen that in a reduction in recent months of the number of building permits that are being pulled. And so we think, going forward, there's every reason to think that we won't have as much growth of the tax base as we've had in the recent past.

Now this is the sales tax and I've put a bunch of information on this chart and I need to explain it to you a little bit. The light gray bar shows the last sales tax forecast that I gave you a year ago. It shows the absolute amount of revenue that we expected at that time to receive each year. The dark blue bar shows our current sales tax forecast. The dark red line, the solid red line shows the rate of growth that we are now forecasting for sales tax. The dotted red line shows the former rate of growth that we were forecasting.

The gap, the difference between the light gray bar and the dark blue bar is sales tax revenue that a year ago I projected we were going to have in each of those years that I'm now telling you I don't think we're going to have and so we have to adjust our plans accordingly.

When you add all those together for the five-year planning horizon, we're looking at a loss of



### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

something on the order of I believe it's \$10,000,000 cumulatively. Half of all of our sales tax is provided to fund the County's road program and so the County's road program is directly affected by the change of assumption that we've made with sales tax and that is driven by our recent experience. As you can see, sales tax has gone down every year since 2001 and in fact, if you went back a year, you'd see that it went down in 2000 and if you went back a year before that, you'd see that in 2000 it went down from 1999, so we're on a trend here that is not good and we now think that that trend is going to continue for another year or two."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "So retail sales here in Sedgwick County have projected to have dramatic drops, because that's how we tie in our sales tax, right, retail sales?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Yeah."

**Chairman Winters** said, "So does that mean that if the County or the state raised the sales tax that there would be no real effect on citizens here?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "No, it does not mean that."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Our citizens are paying less in sales tax today and your projection is that they're going continue to pay less in sales tax."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "I wouldn't say that any individual is paying less in sales tax today."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Well cumulatively, they must be, because we're receiving less."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "That's right, that's correct, but remember sales tax is not just paid in Sedgwick County by Sedgwick County residents. It's paid based on all of the sales that occur in Sedgwick County, regardless of where the purchaser resides. So all I can say, and what this chart is based on, is a finding that total sales, total taxable sales in the community, has been going down. Where that's coming from, I can't say."

**Mr. William P. Buchanan**, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioners, there is a factor that we need to also consider. The state legislature, for a number of years, has been pretty liberal in their willingness to exempt various groups, agencies and products from sales tax. And every time they exempt a group, product or item it affects how much we collect."

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay. Well Chris, the lights came on the bar, everybody has got a question here. How far are you from the end or do we want to stop right here and talk about this for a minute right here?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Oh, we probably ought to stop."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right. Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you. Have you factored in here or taken into account the effect of Internet sales? I mean, is that part of what the calculation is? And what, if the legislature continues with its destination sourcing legislation, that will probably have a net negative affect on Sedgwick County sales tax revenue. Speak to that."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Okay. I was going to say that the impact of the Internet probably is a factor in these declines that we've experienced over the last several years, as well as the exemptions that the legislature has adopted. But no one knows precisely what that impact is. No one in Kansas has been able to quantify that. We know it's there but we don't know how much of a factor it is."

The sales tax simplification legislation that was adopted last year changes the sourcing rules for sales tax, as you know. That change of sourcing, what they call destination based sourcing, will cost Sedgwick County money. It will cause sales taxes that we use to collect to now go to some other jurisdiction. Again, we don't know what impact that's going to have on Sedgwick County's revenues. No one in the state, because we've not collected data in that way, no one in the state can forecast with any precision how any particular jurisdiction is going to be affected, once that new rule is put fully into effect and you know that the law took effect last July 1<sup>st</sup>, but the governor and the revenue secretary said that they weren't going to enforce that law at least until next July 1<sup>st</sup>, and so a few businesses have started to comply with the law, but many have not.

Let me just finish the point. What we do know, what we can say with some certainty because we've seen the facts, is that for the first six months of last year, that is before the destination based sourcing rule took effect, for the first six months of last year, each month the County collected less sales tax than it had collected in the same month of the prior year, 2002. But each month, the gap between 2003 and 2002 narrowed, so it looked to us as if Sedgwick County was still collecting less

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

revenue, but we were slowly climbing back up. We were starting to get back to where we had been in previous years. That's the first six months of 2003. Destination based sourcing and the new legislation took effect July 1<sup>st</sup>. The last six months of 2003, that trend of the first six months reversed itself perfectly. That is, each month of the last half of the year we collected less revenue than we did the prior year and each month, with one exception, each month the gap grew. In other words, the trend that looked like we were starting to climb back up, the trend reversed itself and we started falling off again.

We don't know what causes that. We know that it's not something that's unique to Sedgwick County, because other jurisdictions around the state have made the same observation. We don't know if it's fairly attributed to destination based sourcing because a lot of businesses haven't yet complied with destination based sourcing, but it is reality.

Let me put one final point on this. The other thing that the legislature did with sales tax simplification was extend the use tax to local sales taxes. The use tax is what is paid when you make a purchase someplace else, outside of Kansas, and bring that commodity into this jurisdiction. It's subject to taxation as if it were purchased here and instead of a sales tax we call that a use tax. Well, before the legislation was adopted last year, use tax was applied to state sales taxes, but with the exception of cars and boats, it wasn't applied to local taxes. Now it applies to local sales as well and so, in the last six months of last year, we saw a big increase in the amount of use tax, or the use tax component of these numbers that we received from the state every month. But that growth of use tax was more than offset by the reduction of sales tax.

So where I'm headed with all this is to say that once destination based sourcing is fully implemented and everything is stabilized, we really don't know whether the loss of sales taxes that Sedgwick County will experience will be more than offset by the increase in use taxes that we'll start collecting. The preliminary indications are that it will not. That we will be a net loser, but that's very preliminary and I'm reluctant really to draw any conclusions from it."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Okay. Well, thank you and I suspect also that we're going to be a net loser and probably substantially so, but you're telling me you're just following the trends as you have them without specific calculation or estimation of what might happen, because it's too unknown."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Yes."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Okay, thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you. Commissioner McGinn."

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Thank you. Well, that was kind of my question. Thanks for the depressing answer."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "That's my specialty."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Yeah, that's something that we continue to think about though is the affect of the Internet on our local merchants, but in reality it may end up hurting our County, as far as this destination sales tax.

And then the sales tax exemption, just kind of a comment, I guess that's something that I think would be interesting to know how that has changed over time, if the state has been more liberal in allowing these sales tax exemptions. I guess my question would be have they thought about where the offsetting funds will come from once they do this? I just wonder if that factor goes into their thought processes or not and if you want to comment, I'll stop there."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "I can assure you, it's brought to their attention every legislative session but it apparently hasn't been much of a factor in the thought process, because the exemptions keep getting adopted."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Well, and I say that because it gets back to this, you know when I look at our sources of revenue that we need in order to provide the services that our citizens want, as we lose that source, you know it's back to the most hated tax, which is property tax.

And then I'd like to also, I guess, understand this and of course not today, but how this total picture fits in with state income tax. You know, is our three-legged stool getting out of wack, as the state says we don't need to give demand transfers to local government, that's okay but then I guess the question for us is they still want us to provide human services to our citizens and what tool are we going to have to be able to do that? Is it sales tax? Well that's pretty much a gloomy picture, it looks like. And then we're told not to raise property taxes, I know it's a hated tax, but then we're back to state income taxes and I know these are things they're dealing with right now, but I bring it up because that's the tough situation we're in and I certainly don't want to raise property taxes, but I sure hope they look at that, because they don't want us to raise property taxes, but yet they don't give us the tool, sales tax or otherwise, in order to provide those services.

And then the only other thing that I happen to think about on this sales tax thing is the flow of traffic through our community and it's kind of back to another idea is this whole tourism idea of trying to bring more people into our community and when I saw that the sales tax are going down, I hope that that's not what's translating there. It almost sounds like it's more of these sales tax exemptions. So, I think it's an interesting topic, not something we're going to solve today, but I'm

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

glad that you're on that Chris, and hopefully throughout the year you can explain that to us. Thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Sciortino."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Thanks. A couple of comments and then a question. First of all, I do applaud what you've been trying to work out with Chris and the Manager and even this Commission, in trying to share the total tax load more evenly and not just have all this dependency on the homeowners because that's, as Commissioner McGinn said, that's a hated tax. It really is. I like the idea that maybe we're segwaying more into if you use this particular service, then you should pay for it and not be subsidized by the entire county for the use of that particular whatever it is.

I don't want you to explain any further about this Internet sales tax thing but I'm totally confused. If Sedgwick County will wind up losing money, I have to assume that other counties in the state wind up losing money, that means the state winds up losing money. Why the hell are we doing it? I mean, I can't understand that. Do you have . . . and maybe they don't know why they're doing it is why they're delaying doing it."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "The main street businesses, businesses that have a physical location in Sedgwick County are now at a distinct disadvantage with sellers over the Internet, with their competition over the Internet because they have to charge sales tax and the Internet stores don't. The idea behind all of this is to level the playing field so that main street businesses are more competitive."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Which means they should sell more product, which means we should get more sales tax, right?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Yes, and once Internet sales are taxed and once we are confident that we are collecting those taxes as we should be, then you would expect Sedgwick County and all other local governments will collect increased revenues. But at this point, our ability to collect taxes on Internet sales is very restricted. There are a few businesses that have voluntarily complied with the interstate compact that Kansas is a part of, that is attempting to collect Internet sales taxes. A few businesses are voluntarily complying, but the vast majority are not and they are going to continue to not comply, as long as congress tells them they don't have to comply."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "That's the federal government."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "That's right, the federal government and congress has put a moratorium on sales . . . on the application of sales taxes currently so that we can't force businesses that aren't

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

physically located in our jurisdiction to pay our sales taxes, even if they sell to people who live here. But once all of this shakes out and Internet sales are on a level playing field with sales at local businesses, we would expect that Sedgwick County and every other local government will see an increase of revenue. When that's going to be though is difficult to say. What we're doing with this legislation is setting the stage so that Kansas can be an active participant and a beneficiary when that day arises."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay. Well, I'm not going to take too much more time but that's what I was afraid of. We're not . . . the state isn't getting ahead of the curve. They're getting prepared for when congress acts they can implement it. But you're projecting that when that happens we're going to lose revenue."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "No, I'm saying that right now, before that has happened, we are a net loser, just due to destination based sourcing."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay, I'm taking up too much time. You've got me totally confused. We can talk about this some other time."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right. Well, I'm just going to make one comment and I guess I'm not sure that I want an answer because we don't have time necessarily. But we need to remember that something is out of wack, because in '92 and '93, there were over 7,000 aircraft workers laid off in this town and sales tax never stopped increasing. And so there had to be continued sales of merchandise in Sedgwick County.

Today, over the next five years, Sedgwick County citizens are going to pay \$10,000,000 less in sales tax than they would under normal circumstances. So something is out of balance. Now whether streamline sales tax brings it back in balance, I don't know, but this trend is just not following every other sales tax trend. And so something needs to be changed and it would appear to me . . . I'm sure, during the budget discussion we'll continue to have many discussions about trying to work on this. Chris, go ahead and proceed with your next slide."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Okay, let's turn now to intergovernmental revenue, which is another one of those major revenue sources that I described for you earlier. We are projecting fairly slow growth for intergovernmental revenue over this planning horizon, essentially constant growth at about 2 ½% each year.

We currently collect about \$45,000,000 in intergovernmental revenue, about \$43,000,000 in intergovernmental revenue and that will grow slowly to about \$49,000,000 by the end of the planning horizon. In 2003, we suffered a fairly substantial loss of intergovernmental revenue. That's when the demand transfers were taken away and that's when the state removed the dedicated

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

funding that they had been providing to some of our programs. And so in 2004 you see a spike of the growth it's because we're returning to the norm for some of that dedicated fund.

Most of the County's intergovernmental revenue comes from the state government. That's indicated on this chart by the dark blue, which is state grants and the green, which is demand transfers and you see we used to get about ten and a half million dollars in demand transfers. Now we only get about four and half million dollars. The highway demand transfer is the only one surviving. But all together, about three-quarters of all of our intergovernmental revenue comes from the State of Kansas.

User fees have been growing and are projected to continue growing at the rate that at the end of this planning horizon we think that user fees will be the largest category of County revenue. We think that by 2009 the County will be receiving more money from user fees than we're receiving from taxes. That's a little bit deceptive though, because included in user fees are internal revenues. The County has several internal service operations that provide services to other County agencies and the fees that those County agencies pay for those services are counted in the financial system as a user fee. That's shown on this chart as the gray at the top. You can see that user fees are growing, even without that gray wedge at the top, but the gray wedge is growing more rapidly than anything else and that's because of health premiums, which is the blue on this chart.

What we're looking at now are just those internal services. The fleet charges that are paid for maintenance of County vehicles is the green and it's expected to be relatively constant over the next several years. Employee health premiums however are growing more rapidly than anything else in the County budget. In the recent past, employee health premiums increased 15%. For 2005, we are projecting an increase of 9%, based on information that we've received just recently from the County's providers of health benefits. In 2006 and beyond, we're projecting 12% increases annually in the cost of the county's employee health plan.

If you take out internal services, medical service fees provide about two-thirds of our fee revenue, what's called external fee revenue here are the fees that we are collecting from people outside the County government structure. And the medical services are the green on this chart, far and away the largest source of revenue that we receive in user fees.

Medical service fees in turn are dependent on Medicaid rules. This chart breaks down the medical service fees according to type. The dark blue is Medicaid fees, the green is Medicare, the light blue is insurance, the gray is patient payments and miscellaneous payments. So you can see that the dark blue is far and away the largest source of medical services fees and Medicaid rules are what dictate

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

how much of this revenue we can collect.

Now I'll tell you that across the country every state has gone through budgetary problems, almost every state has gone through budgetary problems in the last several years and almost every state has addressed those budgetary problems in some fashion by modifying their Medicaid rules. They've tightened up eligibility so that people who used to be eligible for Medicaid funded services no longer are eligible. They've reduced reimbursements to healthcare providers so that physicians that used to get \$100 for providing a particular service now may only get \$75. Kansas has done very little of that kind of manipulation of Medicaid rules and so we've continued to experience healthy Medicaid receipts. The longer the state's budget problems continue, the more tempting it's going to be for the legislators and the folks who run the state Medicaid programs to turn to the rules as a way of reducing state expenditures. And if they do that, it's going to have a direct impact on this revenue source for county government and in turn, it's going to have a direct impact on our ability to continue providing services that we currently pay for with these fees."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Well, wait a minute. That money comes from the federal government, right?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "It comes to us from the state government."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "No, I understand that but I mean, if the state doesn't give that to us to spend, they can't put that money in their general fund and spend it on something else."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "No, that's correct, but the way Medicaid works, every state is required to provide a match of the federal dollars that they receive and because the growth of Medicaid funded services has been so great . . ."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I got it, I got it."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Okay. Any further questions about this one?"

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Make their budget on the backs of the people that need it the most."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Okay, very quickly, EMS fees are one of those things that we adjusted last year in an attempt to address the budget, and so you see a spike in EMS fees in 2004 and we expect about 5% growth of this revenue source, which is the principal funding source for our EMS service



## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

for the next several years.

Okay, turning now to expenditures and I'll try and pick up the pace a little bit. In 2004, we expect to spend about \$294,000,000. You can see that nearly everything we spend either buys labor which is the green, employees, or it buys contractual services, which is the gray on the left-hand side of this chart. All together in excess of 85% of every dollar that the County spends goes either to County employees or to contractors who are providing services for the County.

Our growth trend for expenditures has been reduced from the actions that we've taken over the last 18 months, but we still expect expenditure growth to be greater than revenue growth over the next several years. On this chart, the blue bars show the absolute amount of expenditure that we are forecasting out into the future. The dotted red line shows the forecasted rate of change in expenditures that I was showing you in the last financial plan I gave you. The solid line is the current forecasted rate of change. So you can see that we've reduced the rate of growth of expenditures but it still is larger than the rate of growth of revenues.

Expenditures by categories, I've already said that nearly everything that we spend is either personnel, which is the light green on this, or contractual services, which is the dark blue. And you can see, over time, you can see sort of that the dark blue, the contractual services are growing more rapidly than personnel services.

Our personnel costs are expected to grow at the rate of about 4 ½% over the next several years. The cost of personnel services is a combination of a variety of factors. It's based on the number of employees we have. It's based on what we do with those employees pay and it's based on what we do with those employees' benefits. And I've already told you that the health plan is the fastest growing cost item that we have in our financial system.

Overall, in personnel, benefits is growing much more rapidly than compensation. The dark blue on this chart shows wages. They're expected to grow from 2002 to 2009 about 21%, 22%. Benefits, which is the green at the top, are expected to grow about 100%. They're expected to double in that seven year period of time. Contractual services, as I said, are expected to grow even more rapidly than personnel. This is a pretty busy chart. The blue bar shows personnel cost. The green bar shows contractual service costs. So we spend more on personnel than we spend on contractual services and that's expected to continue to be the case. The red line shows the rate of growth that's forecasted for personnel. The yellow line shows the rate of growth that's projected for contractual services."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Is that a governmental version of out-sourcing?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Yes, in large measure, yes."

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay, so if we're out-sourcing more of the work, why do we need more people?"

**Mr. Chronis** said, "I don't know that we do need more people. Again, what we're looking at with personnel costs is a combination of a series of factors and the number of people is only one of those."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Okay, so here's the spaghetti chart and this kind of puts everything together. I'll try to clear it up a little bit. What I'm trying to show here is the impact of actions that we've taken over the last two years to address this imbalance between revenues and expenditures. On this chart, the lightest blue dashed line at the top of the page shows the forecasted expenditures a year ago. The lightest red line at the bottom shows the forecasted revenues a year ago. From the last financial plan that I gave you, the gap between those two represents the difference between revenues and expenditures and it's pretty large.

Since then, we've done a couple of rounds of budget adjustments, we've adopted a '04 budget that is substantially less than last year's budget and so after we made the budget adjustments in 2003 we had the dashed lines. We brought down revenues . . . or brought down expenditures, we raised up revenues, we closed the gap a little bit but there still was a gap.

Then we adopted a 2004 budget that was even lower than the 2003 budget and so that gives us the solid lines on this chart and you see that we've closed the gap even more. If you look farther out you can see that we've reduced expenditures, we've raised revenues, but we continue to have a gap and because of that gap, we continue to have operating deficits. Again on this chart what you can see is the evolution of our forecast, as we've gone through a series of adjustments over the last couple of years. The dark red bars show our original forecasted operating deficits. By the end of the planning horizon, which at that time was 2008, we were forecasting annual operating deficits of about \$38,000,000.

In that same year, because of adjustments that we've made over the last year and a half or two years, we now are forecasting an operating deficit of only \$5,000,000. So we have greatly reduced the damage to the County's financial position, but we haven't eliminated it yet. By the end of the

### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

planning horizon, because we haven't eliminated those deficits, we continue to forecast that our available year-end fund balance will have been exhausted. By the end of this planning horizon, 2009, we will be in deficit mode if nothing changes. And again, the purpose of this financial forecast is to identify this very fact so that we can make sure something does change between now and then so we don't have this outcome.

Now what I've shown you up till now is the financial plan based on the 2004 budget that has been adopted. Since 2004's budget was adopted in August of last year, a number of projects have surfaced and now are on the front burner and we need to factor those into the financial plan. We are now talking about possibly acquiring some land for a landfill. We're factoring in two and a half million dollars for that in 2004. We now are talking about doing expanded economic development initiatives with the assistance of the new Economic Development Coalition. I'm suggesting that we factor in a million and a half dollars to our expenditure forecast for economic development initiatives that we might have to provide. We have recently seen the study that a consultant provided to show us ways to reduce inmate population in the jail. That study will require us to undertake certain programs that are going to add costs. That's indicated by the light gray on this chart and we've not made any decisions about any of those programs but it's clear that either we do those programs or something like them, or we build new jail space, which will be even more expensive than the gray bar that I'm showing you here.

And finally, we have a new juvenile detention facility under construction and that expanded facility is going to need to be staffed at the end of 2005 and so I'm building a million dollars into the forecast in 2005 and a little over two million dollars into the forecast in the out years, as the additional staffing and operating costs of that expanded juvenile detention facility."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "And all of these were factored into your numbers that you've been showing us."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "No, they are not factored into those numbers, which were based on the adopted budget. I'm factoring them in right now. I'm going to show you what the impact is."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "It's going to be worse than what you've already said."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "There you go and so here you see it. The solid blue line and the solid red line are the chart that I showed you back at the beginning. The dashed blue line shows how expenditures change when we add in those additional projects, so you can see that the gap has

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

grown a little bit, and because of that, we are factoring in increased operating deficits. So now we are back in the mode of having an operating deficit in 2004, instead of an operating surplus in 2004, as we budgeted and going on out into the future, we're looking at growing operating deficits each year and the growth is about \$10,000,000 a year. And because we have larger operating deficits each of those years, we deplete the fund balance much more rapidly. Instead of depleting the fund balance in 2009, we now are saying if we do all of those additional projects and don't make any other changes we'll deplete the fund balance in 2007 when it will be a negative \$14,000,000.

So here are, and this is the last slide I'm sure you'll be glad to hear, here are the actions we will be considering to avoid those operating deficits and that depletion of fund balance. The actions that we can take, that are within our control, are to reduce the amount of staff that we have on the County workforce to provide current services, to somehow reduce the costs of the county employee health plan and we can do that in a number of ways. We can change the cost sharing arrangements between the County as employer and employees. We can reduce the level of benefits that the plan provides, which will have the impact of reducing costs. We can reduce eligibility for the benefit plan, make it less available to employees. All those are possibilities and we'll be looking at all of them and I should note that when I was doing briefings on this with you individually, in the past several weeks, Commissioner Norton asked us to produce some alternatives for employee cost sharing arrangements and we've produced those and will be talking with you over the next several weeks as we put together the budget.

The third action we can take is to reduce contracted services. Remember, that's the second largest expenditure category that we have, behind personnel. And then finally, looking at revenues, we can increase the property tax rate. Remember, this financial plan assumes the property tax rate will remain constant over the planning horizon. That's the one item that you have within your power to adjust and make significant impact on the revenue side or we can obtain authority from the legislature to establish new revenues or to increase other revenues, for example to increase the sales tax from 1% to something higher than 1% but that generally will take legislative authority, which we don't presently have.

So those are the range of possibilities that we can look at in order to avoid that outcome that I depicted on the prior slide. All of this information will be used to build the 2005 budget and we are starting to do that right now, tomorrow in fact we'll have a meeting of the County's management team to go over this presentation and to start the discussions about the preparation of the 2005 budget.

By the time we present that budget to you, I expect that we will have taken some of these actions to some extent and we'll be describing for you what changes we've made in the financial plan as a result of that when we present the budget to you. I'll be happy to answer any questions that you

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

have.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right Chris, thank you very much. I think you have laid the groundwork for our beginning budget process, both for 2005 and going on into the future and you’ve done a good job of laying out, exactly as you said, a forecast based on today’s picture and today’s reality and I’m sure, Commissioners, we’ll have many more discussions through the budget building process. I would have to think right now that there is little desire from this Commission to raise the mill levy rate in this County. I think we need to figure out how to live and work within our means and within our budgets and what we project those budgets to be. So, Commissioners, I think Chris has done a good job. I see no questions. We’ve had some discussion during the process. Again, I don’t think we’re going to be able to answer all the questions about this today, but I think it is a foundation. So, unless there is a burning question . . .”

**MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to Receive and file.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Now Commissioners, before we call the next item, let’s do a bit of logistics. Is everybody prepared to work right on through the lunch hour today? Have we got any lunch hour commitments or do we need to take a quick break right now for just a few minutes and then proceed to work right through the lunch hour? All right, we’re on recess for 10 minutes. Thank you.”

**The County Commission recessed at 10:58 a.m. and returned from recess at 11:09 a.m.**

**Chairman Winters** said, “Okay, we’ll call back to order our meeting of March the 10<sup>th</sup>, after a brief recess. Madam Clerk, would you call the next item.”

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

### 2. AMENDMENT TO THE 2004 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) TO INCLUDE INSTALLATION OF EXHAUST EXTRACTION SYSTEMS AT COUNTY FIRE STATIONS.

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Before you start that, Mr. Manager, why is this on this budget? Shouldn't this be the Fire District budget item?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "No, because it's a Capital Improvement Program. The Fire District is included in the Capital Improvement Program."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "So it's appropriate for us, sitting as the county commission? Okay, thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right."

### POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

**Mr. Pete Giroux**, Senior Management Analyst, Budget Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We've had a request from the Fire Department to add a project to the 2004 Capital Improvement Program. It's a result of a successful grant application that you approved last year and we were notified of the award earlier in this year. That grant provides 70% of the funding for this project.

What the project does is install exhaust extraction systems in each of the County fire stations and that's particularly important because we have of course sleeping quarters in those facilities. It allows us to keep the vehicles in top condition.

The systems remove 100% of the exhaust from the building. They also include a diesel filter that captures 99% of those emissions. Fund source, again, 70% from FEMA and the fire department will match with 30%. Staff and the CIP Committee have reviewed the project in detail and recommend approval. Do you have any questions?"

**Chairman Winters** said, "Yes we do. Commissioner McGinn."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Thank you. I guess I just don't understand how some of this originates. I suppose there's probably a grant for just about anything out there and I'm thinking it may be a very needed system, but in tough times I'm not sure why we're doing this. I think about garages that work on cars, they stick this little tube on there and stick it out underneath their garage door and it works just fine as far as getting the exhaust out of the building so that they can work on

### Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

their machinery or their equipment. So I guess I'm not sure how this all got started and I'm just thinking about the tough decisions we're about to make and why we can't just kind of do things the way we've perhaps done in the past."

**Mr. Giroux** said, "I might defer to the Fire Chief on this. I know this is the third application for a grant and this is the first time we've been successful."

**Chief Gary Curmode**, Fire District #1, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Number one, this was the fire grant that came after 9/11 and again, we had tried three different years to get a grant. We were the first time successful. It meets a lot of the regulations that are also required from Marvin Duncan's fleet maintenance shop. They are required to have the same type of system to get rid of the diesel particulate and the emission so that it doesn't cause any harm or safety to the employees.

Our fire station is not only the health and safety of our employees, but also the citizens. We have numerous school groups that stay in the apparatus floor. We spend a lot of money every year on repainting the walls of the station and the interior corridors that are, again, discolored from the diesel emissions. So if it discolors the walls, you're also taking that particulate into the lungs.

We've watched very carefully, we've tried to stay again abreast of all the safety regulations and the NFPA regulations and recommendations and this is something, again, we've tried to do since I've been here for 10 years and probably prior to my arrival I think it was tried twice.

There is an expense, but the money we save in maintenance cost of sick leave and additional preventive maintenance through paint and other products of combustion and there's also, there is benzene in diesel smoke that potentially can cause cancer. So we're trying to look at the overall safety and welfare of not only the employees, the citizens of Sedgwick County Fire District #1, and also the maintenance of our buildings."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Well, I don't disagree for the protection of our employees and citizens, but like I said you put this plastic pipe and you make it go outside and it's not going inside of your shop, it's going outside. And so I guess my other question is that you said it's a requirement . . . is this a requirement of the Clean Air Act or OSHA or you said Marv Duncan has a requirement?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "It's a recommendation by the National Fire Protection Association in that they look at recommendations that will incur a safety environment in both the work place and that's one that also incurs . . . It's not in the NFPA for the fleet maintenance facility, but they also work in that atmosphere and it's the same thing that we're looking at here. Our apparatus is very large. You can't easily drag a type of a flexible hose, if you will, out to the back door because they'll take

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

up half the apparatus floor. You have to have certain types of tracks that come in the ceiling and they are heavy duty and again, our apparatus are all different sizes. We can't get one that fits all. There's a special one for the aerial platform. There are different ones for our engines. There are different ones for the rescue trucks. They're all shaped differently and so it's hard to make a fitting that fits those that meet a safety regulation."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Well, I guess I lived on the farm too long, because we make due and we figure out how to do those things. My biggest concern is I'm sure we've got somebody out there that's continuing to look at grants and see if we can get it and I just wonder if anybody is looking at the side where we have to figure out how we match that grant. And so I'm sure that this is something that will ensure that our employees stay healthy and those kinds of things, but I just felt I needed to make that comment. Thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Sciortino."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Well, I'm glad you did, Carolyn, because I've been having problems, things that have been coming up on the Bid Boards and this kind of dovetails into this also. I guess this means that they turn on the piece of equipment inside the room with the doors closed, right?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "That's correct."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay, why are we doing that?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "Well, when you open the apparatus . . ."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "What does that mean, open the apparatus?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "Excuse me, when you open the apparatus doors to leave the fire station, as soon as those doors go up, the heated apparatus floor, all the heat goes out of the apparatus floor. That in turn, when we go out, we have to leave the doors up for a couple of minutes to exhaust the fumes, which then we have to reheat the apparatus floor, which costs us increased utility costs. And so this is going to save us in that aspect as well."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I don't do that in my garage. I open the garage door and I drive my car out and I close the garage door immediately. Do I need one of those in my garage?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "The dimensions of your car versus the fire apparatus and the large apparatus floor, it's not comparable. You know some homeowners do have an attachment they'll put on to the outside . . ."



## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Okay, my point is we just heard a presentation that is pretty gloomy and basically it says we’re spending a hell of a lot more money than we’re anticipating getting in. These are the kind of things that I would hope somebody else, other than the Fire Department, and I’m looking at Bill Buchanan and Chris Chronis and Bob Lamkey in this particular area, but in more of a general area because I’m going to get to a general point too, are looking at and saying, ‘Okay, look I don’t care if this was in the budget or not, I don’t care if we got the grant or not, we just can’t do it this year, we’re going to have to figure something else’.

You know, I had the thing last year [sic] about questioning the Sheriff on why he’s buying Impalas as opposed to Tauruses. There’s an item coming up on the Bid Board right now about street sweepers that I have a question about, but it would really make me feel a lot more comfortable if somebody else from Bill, maybe you department, is looking at this and say weighing everything in today’s reality, we still think that this item should be let for bid, not only because it was in the budget, but because we still think it makes sense, or is saying maybe this is something we can defer.

You know, and I don’t know, but it’s kind of late in the game when an item gets right in front of us, I don’t know if that’s where Carolyn was going, to start to ask questions about it and it would really give me comfort if somebody else was looking at these items prior to them coming to us.”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “Mr. Chairman, if it would please the commission, let me just talk about the CIP process a little bit. We have a Capital Improvements Plan that you adopt every year and this one is an adjustment to that plan. To get to the planning document and to get on the agenda, this item had to have been prepared by the fire chief and submitted to Bob Lamkey, who then would submit it to the Capital Improvements Committee. Pete Giroux staffs that, David Spears chairs it. On that committee are finance people, Schlegel, Ron Holt and Chris Chronis.

So once it gets past the committee, it then comes to me before it even gets on the agenda to sign off on. So there is a review process, with both Chris Chronis and I playing a role and despite the vote of the chairman of the committee, David tells me what the vote of the committee is and tells me who is objecting and who is . . .”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Does that hold true for Board of Bids and Contracts, if something is going to be let out for bid, does that kind of scrutiny hold true too for that?”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “The Board of Bids is . . . when we get to that item, no it’s a little different process.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Okay, well I’d like to have that explained to me, maybe when we get to Board of Bids and Contracts I’ll ask you about that.”

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

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

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you. Chief, is this a system for each firehouse?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "Yes, Commissioner. Basically, each station has to be configured slightly different. We have to go in and get the measurements of the track system that will . . . each exhaust, depending where the exhaust is, whether it's on the top, whether it's on the bottom or whether it's on the side, we have to find out where it is. There has to be a track made and then what we call a drop of the tube, and that is adjusted for each station."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "And how many station?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "We have eight stations and one temporary station."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "So this is eight systems that we're going to get this in."

**Chief Curmode** said, "That's correct, Commissioner."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "And our participation in this is \$65,000. It seems to me like this is a good investment. I mean, there are certain things you do to keep your business safe and up to date and you know, we've got a first-class fire department and the Fire District and I think it's reasonable. As someone who has been in automotive repair for 40 years, you can probably tell that I sniffed a lot of exhaust. But at any rate, the typical exhaust systems are not without expense. When you buy those hoses, they're not cheap, they don't give them away. They wear out frequently. You've got to figure out where to store them. They're always laying around for you to fall over. It's just, if you have an option to do something up to date, on the cutting edge that is efficient and healthy for this kind of money, to me I think it's a good investment and I'll be supportive of it."

**Chief Curmode** said, "Commissioner Unruh, just to tag on to what you said, when the flexible tube is on the exhaust, when the engine starts up, the exhaust goes into the tubing. It's extracted. At the same time, fresh air is going to be coming into the location of the station. Then it goes into a filter type where it's caught, it's captured if you will and that way it's captured about 99.9% of the particulate and that way we keep the atmosphere clean, the apparatus walls clean and we save in cost and also we can get the doors back down to maintain utility costs at a minimum."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "So, do you hook this in . . .?"

**Chairman Winters** said, "You're not next. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "I was next."

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Chairman Winters** said, "Oh, I'm sorry, she was. Commissioner McGinn."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "What's the average fire call we have per station? I mean, are we raising those doors and closing them three times a day for a fire?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "We're averaging about 6,000 calls per year. Calls range from 116 to 120 to one station down to 15 to 20 in another."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Okay. First response, I mean that's a great deal of where we're opening and shutting the door. Is this coming out . . . this is coming out of the Fire District budget though."

**Chief Curmode** said, "Yes. What we did, we reprioritized some of the needs. We've always had a concern and, prior to even when I arrived, that the staff at the stations had concerns on the clean air and so forth. In '95, '96 and '97 I did present that in our budget process. It was eliminated in the process on its way to the commission. So again, because it was a large amount of money and we had other priorities to an apparatus, some other major things and the manager approved those options for us, so this was a time when the government would assist us with 70% of the money and again we took the current budget money we had an reprioritized, put some things off and used existing funds to get this grant. And then you had to wait a year to see if you got it.

So we had brought this up and got permission to apply for the grant almost a year ago, and then they started awarding them in September. We didn't find out till January that we got awarded, in the 23<sup>rd</sup> round of fire grants."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Well, I just . . . I'm sure this is a worthwhile piece of equipment. I just . . . Last year we raised the mill levy in the Fire District and I have a concern about that continued trend of not having enough money to fund the fire department but that may lead us into a whole other discussion. So, thank you Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Just a point of interest. We were briefed on this at the time of the grant application. Is that correct?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Yes."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "We were given all this information, we knew what it was."

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "How long ago was that?"

**Commissioner Norton** said, "A year or so ago, because it's been a long process. So you know, we were in tough budget times when we said go ahead with this. So to say now that we're in tougher budget times and not want to do this, now that we've got the grant, I don't think is good thinking. What are we doing presently?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "Right now, we're not doing anything for the exhaust. We have nothing we can do for it."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I mean, do you keep the door open?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "Well, we have to. We have to open the door and then shut it and if we're going on a house fire, all the apparatus leaves the station, so when we shut the door, all that diesel smoke is contained. So when we come back, we have to ventilate the station, which increases our utility costs, so actually it's going to be a savings over a period of a few years."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, and different than your home garage, which you probably don't heat. You do heat the interior, because you don't want the levels of temperature to vary in your station and you certainly don't want it to get cold, where it takes it longer to warm up your vehicles when it's time to go, because diesel doesn't warm up real fast.

What are City stations doing?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "All the City's have vehicle emission systems. In the event that we'd ever do a joint station, if that was something the political entities wanted to happen, or if a station allowed one of the City units to come in, that's one of the first things they're going to look at, we need emission systems for apparatus because we have them. So we're trying to, again, be good partners. When we fill their stations, we use their hookup and visa-versa. They don't use ours, but they do fill our stations also."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well I'll probably be supportive of this. I had a chance to run some automotive stations when I was with Target because we had stations and we always had an emission system that made sure that you captured it, that it kept it safe, it kept it smelling better and it does, if you have to open those doors a lot to flush it out, it takes a lot of money to reheat or re-aircondition, either one. So, that's all I've got, Mr. Chair."

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, thank you Commissioner Norton. I think I’m going to be supportive here right now I think, but as you said an important fact is we did have a briefing when we applied for the grant. But I’d kind of say after Chris Chronis’ presentation this morning, all bets are off. And anybody that comes after the presentation we just had wanting to spend money is probably going to be in a different arena. So, I think that we probably need to go forward with this one, but again things may be different. Commissioner Sciortino.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Yeah, I agree. I’m going to support it, basically because what Commissioner Norton mentioned. We had already approved the concept but I agree with you, it’s a whole new ballgame.

I just want to throw something out that I heard and I won’t even say where I heard it from, but I like this idea of making the users more accountable instead of overloading the taxpayers. I view the fire service that we provide is kind of the umbrella insurance that we have services readily available but then maybe if there’s a fire call, we charge that person that we’re on the scene helping him a fee for actually delivering the service to the people. I didn’t want to disclose where I heard it, but I will if you want me to. It came from the Chairman. He was whispering in my ear, thinking is that something that we could consider and that’s pretty radical but why not, if we’re talking this segway into making the users more accountable for the fees, as opposed to loading the taxpayers. That’s just a thought.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Commissioner McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Well, I’m going to move forward too but I think it is just the timing of this topic, right after the presentation but also . . . and we’re going to be alert a year ahead now, but on the fact that we need to be very cautious about how we look for grants. Grants can be a great thing for our community. They’re dollars that don’t come out of our local pockets and they can help us do some great things, but at the same time, I believe that you can find a grant for just about anything and so we need to make sure it’s a grant that helps us meet our mission. Thank you.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Thank you. Commissioner Norton.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well, just one of my final thoughts. You’re right, it’s really tough to just get that budget information and then spend money. But I think it comes back down to, for me, what are our values. Do we value that this is important for our employees right now, and if we value that, should we spent the money whether we got the grant or not. The City is obviously doing it and we have no way to mitigate this in our community. It even looks better that we say we’re

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

going to do it for our employees but we can also parlay some federal grant money to offset the cost. So I think you have to apply it to your values, do you think it's important to take care of your employees and take care of the facility or not. And even in tough budget times, you can try to continue to do that. And I think we knew that a year ago, and I think we continue to think that today. So I will be supportive, but I agree with Chairman Winters that as we look forward now, that it's going to be tougher and tougher and tougher to come up with those little pots of money, even when there's grant money applied to make these kind of decisions because it is just not an easy economic time that we find ourselves in. So, that's all I have Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Sciortino."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Thanks. Bill, could you possibly provide us, because I'm hearing from I think the majority of us that it's a whole new ballgame, can you give us a list of how many of these grants are in the pipeline? You know, ones that maybe we heard a year ago, a year and a half ago or something and maybe at that time wasn't paying as much attention to it. But I don't know how laborious that would be, but if we could find out if we got all the grants, here's all the money we've committed to and here's what it's committed to, maybe we could start making some decisions as to maybe we want to withdraw our application on something. I don't know what it is, but that would be helpful to me. Thanks."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, Commissioners, we've had this discussion. What's the will of the Board?"

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to Approve the CIP amendment.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

### **VOTE**

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

Chairman Thomas Winters                      Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you, Chief. Thanks for your help. It was very informative. Next item."

**E.      AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE FOR ADVERTISING SPACE AT KANSAS COLISEUM.**

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.

**Mr. John Nath**, Director, Kansas Coliseum, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is our standard agreement for the sale of advertising space at the Coliseum. It is probably very important and very timely to note that American Family has been our partner in the past and they are increasing their investment level with us for marketing rights from the previous \$3,500 a year to \$9,500 a year. We recommend approval."

**Chairman Winters** said, "That's the first good news we have here in a couple of hours."

**MOTION**

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

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

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

### F. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES.

#### **DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES – COMCARE**

##### 1. **AGREEMENT WITH HORIZONS MENTAL HEALTH CENTER FOR COMCARE TO PROVIDE AFTER HOURS MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY SERVICES.**

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.

**Mr. Tom Pletcher**, Clinical Director, Comprehensive Community Care (COMCARE), greeted the Commissioners and said, "For Marilyn Cook, who was called away to a meeting with United Way on the development of children's mental health services.

This agreement is with Horizons Community Mental Health Center. It's a new one and identical to the agreement that we have with Butler County and Sumner County to provide after-hours crisis services for their centers. Horizons was contracting with another provider for these services and was unhappy with their responsiveness and recently as COMCARE's crisis program to provide these services.

We are anticipating approximately 75 calls a month. Per the contract, Horizons will pay us a monthly fee and then a per minute fee as well for phone and face-to-face crisis intervention services. We would recommend that you approve the contract."

**Chairman Winters** said, "And Tom, Horizons is Pratt, Kingman County, Harper, Barber and Reno counties?"

**Mr. Pletcher** said, "That's correct."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay, thank you. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Just a comment. Sometimes we take a little heat about we provide services and we shouldn't be in that arena. It's interesting to me that more and more are coming to us and saying 'You do a pretty good job, we've been with the other guys and even though you're government, you do a pretty good job'. So sometimes that debate that we shouldn't be in the provider business doesn't hold water when you find out that they go out and look at all the others and come to Sedgwick County to provide that service and I think it's just a note that when we get



**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

those calls and say ‘Oh, don’t compete’ that we’re delivering a pretty good product and other people are recognizing that.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Well I think this is . . . you often talk about, Commissioner Norton, about if we have resources and infrastructure, how can we make sure that’s shared in other places and to have a 24-hour, seven day a week crisis line is an expensive proposition and if we can utility that around this part of the state, I think it’s a good deal. Do we have Motion to approve this contract?”

**MOTION**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Next item.”

**2. AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH CENTRAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING CENTER, INC. FOR COMCARE TO PROVIDE AFTER HOURS MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY SERVICES.**

**Mr. Pletcher** said, “This is a renewal of the agreement with South Central Mental Health Counseling Center of Butler County’s Community Mental Health Center for COMCARE’s Crisis Intervention Services staff to provide after-hours crisis services to clients of their community mental health center or residents of Butler County. This is a contract that we have managed for

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

several years. The contract allows for payment of phone or face-to-face contacts. We receive approximately 30 to 40 calls a month on this line. We would ask that you approve this contract.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, and this is just similar to the contract we just did.”

**Mr. Pletcher** said, “That’s correct.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, any discussion? What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Next item.”

**3. CONTRACT WITH UNITED METHODIST YOUTHVILLE TO PROVIDE INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR YOUTH.**

**Mr. Pletcher** said, “This is a renewal of a contract with United Methodist Youthville for Youthville staff to provide individual community support services for youth with a serious emotional disturbance who are in the foster care system.

Individual community support services are face-to-face activities that assist children and

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

adolescents to function more independently in the community. These are services determined and authorized by COMCARE's treatment team on our children's program. UMY has been successfully providing these services since 2002. We would recommend that you approve this contract."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, thank you. We have a question. Commissioner Sciortino."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I don't know exactly who I have the question to, but is this the organization that was having some serious financial difficulties here last year, they went bankrupt or they were having some problems?"

**Mr. Pletcher** said, "I hate to speak for them, but yes, I believe that that is the case."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay. And are we comfortable . . . I mean, are we going to be paying them only for the services after they've been rendered so it isn't we're prepaying for services and then if they have financial problems, they've got the money and we don't have the services?"

**Mr. Pletcher** said, "That's correct. This is only on a fee for services delivered basis. So it is only after services have been delivered."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay, all right thank you. That's all I had."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Very good. What's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino 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 David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

Chairman Thomas Winters                      Aye

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

- 4.        AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH ROBERT F. MCINTYRE, M.D. TO PROVIDE PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES, INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SERVICE HOURS PROVIDED.**

**Mr. Pletcher** said, "This is an amendment to our agreement with Dr. McIntyre, which increases the total amount of our 2003 agreement with him by \$3,000 to cover the cost of consumer care through the end of the contract term. We would request that you approve this amendment."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, Commissioners, questions? If not, what's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the Amendment to Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

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

- 5.        AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY CONSULTATION SERVICE, INC. (FCS) PROVIDING FCS COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER STATUS, REFINING THE LEVEL OF TRACKING ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES.**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Mr. Pletcher** said, “This is an amendment to our affiliation agreement with Family Consultation Services. The affiliation agreement is the one that allows FCS to maintain their status as a community mental health center and to receive a portion of state aid and certified match monies. The revisions in the contract first add an objective for timely appointments that allow us to specify a certain period of time between the first contact and when the person is first seen. It adds an outcome for the state hospitalizations and local hospitalizations for children that they are serving. And thirdly, adds a quarterly clinician report requirement as a measurement instrument for them to report to us on the people that they are serving. We would ask that you approve the amendment to this agreement.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right. So Tom, we already have the contract with Family Consultation. This is just going to amend to add these provisions.”

**Mr. Pletcher** said, “That’s correct. All we are doing is specifying the outcome measures that we are asking them to report to us.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, very good.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the Amendment to 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 David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Thomas Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, “Next item.”

**6. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH FCS TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, ELIMINATING THE FOSTER CARE LIMITATIONS ON THERAPY AND MEDICATION.**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Mr. Pletcher** said, “This is an amendment to the community based services agreement with Family Consultation Services and the amendment does two things. First, it separates out the satisfaction results of youths from their parents and guardians. Secondly, it better defines the therapy and medication management grant’s target population.

Originally, money was given to them for the increase of children served through the foster care contract. The revision of this goal eliminated the foster care limitations on therapy and medication management and expanded it to all children that they see for therapy and medication management. We would request that you approve the amendments to this contract as well.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right. Commissioners, questions or comments?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the Amendment to Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Next item.”

- 7. AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY, INC. TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION SERVICES FOR THE COMCARE CAMPUS CONNECTIONS PROJECT, EXTENDING THE CONTRACT FOR FIVE MONTHS.**

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.

**Mr. Pletcher** said, "This is an amendment to our contracts with Communities in Schools to provide evaluation services for our school-based services known as Campus Connections. Funding for this comes from a portion of the state's children initiatives funds from the State and Caring Communities grant, which operates on a calendar year basis. The amendment extends the current contract for five months to June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year and adds \$21,586 to the contract. The extension increases the contract from \$33,192 to a total not to exceed \$64,778. We would request that you approve this amendment."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right. Commissioners, any questions on this amendment to this contract?"

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Yes, I do. Does this just get us in line with the differences in budgeting processes? Is this one of those that gets it on equal basis, so we won't have to worry about that every year?"

**Mr. Pletcher** said, "That's correct. We're just trying to bring it in line with budgeting and planning cycles."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay."

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the Amendment to 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 David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

Commissioner Ben Sciortino      Aye  
Chairman Thomas Winters      Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, “Next item. Tom, thank you very much. Good job.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Seven items he took over for Marilyn. Boy, heavy lifting.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Yeah, flew right through them too.”

**DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES – DEPARTMENT ON AGING**

**8. AGREEMENT WITH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOR LEASE OF SPACE AT 525 NORTH BROADWAY, WICHITA USED BY THE DEPARTMENT ON AGING FOR THE RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM.**

**Mr. Ray Vail**, Director of Finance, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is a lease agreement for the space for the Retired Senior Volunteer program with First Presbyterian Church at 525 North Main [sic]. We ask that you approve the lease and authorize the Chair to sign.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Commissioners, I am a member of this church and I’m going to abstain from voting on this item. I did not participate with the church or with COMCARE in making this decision, really didn’t even know it was going on, but since I am a member of that church, I just want to be clear that I’m going to abstain from this vote. Commissioner Norton.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well, just a comment. This is the RSVP program that looked like it was going to fall away last year at budget time and I think it looks like it’s gained legs and it’s found a place and hopefully it will have life in continuance. It’s just sad that Jacqueline Grand is not around to see this new incarnation, because she worked so diligently and so hard for so many years to keep that program alive. So I’m hopeful that this will have a new location and a new life beyond last year. So, that’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Commissioner Unruh.”

**Commissioner Unruh** said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make a comment of appreciation to the leadership of First Presbyterian Church for allowing use of their facility for better than a fair price to carry on this program. I mean they’re hardly going to cover their cost of janitorial and electricity costs I think but it’s appreciated, it’s a good program and it’s good to have



**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

that sort of partnership with the First Presbyterian Church.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Should we raise it, give them more money?”

**Commissioner Unruh** said, “No, I think that they’re doing good and I want to say thank you to them.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Are there any other questions?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Next item.”

**9. CONTRACTS (21) PROVIDING MILL LEVY FUNDING TO SENIOR CENTERS IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.**

- **CITY OF BEL AIRE - BEL AIRE SENIOR CLUB**
- **CITY OF CHENEY – CHENEY SENIOR CLUB**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

- **CITY OF CLEARWATER - CLEARWATER SENIOR CLUB**
- **AMERICAN RED CROSS – COLVIN SENIOR CENTER**
- **CITY OF COLWICH – COLWICH SENIOR CLUB**
- **CITY OF DERBY – DERBY MULTI-PURPOSE SENIOR CENTER**
- **GATEWAY OF GARDEN PLAIN FOUNDATION – GARDEN PLAIN SENIOR CLUB**
- **CITY OF HAYSVILLE – HAYSVILLE MULTI-PURPOSE SENIOR CENTER**
- **CITY OF MAIZE – MAIZE SENIOR CLUB**
- **CITY OF MT. HOPE – MT. HOPE SENIOR CENTER**
- **CITY OF MULVANE – MULVANE SENIOR CLUB**
- **NATIONAL HISPANIC COUNCIL – LA FAMILIA MULTI-PURPOSE SENIOR CENTER**
- **OAKLAWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT – OAKLAWN SENIOR CENTER**
- **CITY OF PARK CITY – ROVING SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR**
- **CITY OF PARK CITY – PARK CITY SENIOR CLUB**
- **CITY OF SEDGWICK – SEDGWICK SENIOR CLUB**
- **SENIOR SERVICES, INC. – DOWNTOWN MULTI-PURPOSE SENIOR CENTER**
- **SENIOR SERVICES, INC. – LINWOOD MULTI-PURPOSE SENIOR CENTER**
- **SENIOR SERVICES, INC. – NORTHEAST MULTI-PURPOSE SENIOR CENTER**
- **SENIOR SERVICES, INC. – ORCHARD MULTI-PURPOSE SENIOR CENTER**
- **CITY OF VALLEY CENTER – VALLEY CENTER SENIOR CLUB**

**Mr. Vail** said, “Yes Commissioners, this is the mill levy contracts for the 21 senior centers in Sedgwick County for fiscal year 2004 and we ask that you approve these contracts and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to Approve the Contracts and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

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

**VOTE**

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

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

**10. SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR CONTRACTS WITH WICHITA TRANSIT TO PROVIDE GROUP TRANSPORTATION THROUGH THE WICHITA HOUSING INITIATIVE.**

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.

**Mr. Vail** said, "Commissioners, this is a contract with Wichita Transit to provide rides for clients served by the ROSS HUD program operated by the Wichita Housing Authority and administered by Sedgwick County Department on Aging and we request that you approve the contract and authorize the Chair to sign."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you. Commissioners, what's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Approve the contract form and authorize staff to sign upon compliance with all other County resolutions and policy requirements.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

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

### VOTE

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

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

### 11. **MODIFICATION OF AGREEMENT WITH INDEPENDENT LIVING RESOURCE CENTER TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES, ADJUSTING COMPENSATION TO ALLOW FOR AN APPLICATION PROCESSING FEE.**

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.

**Mr. Vail** said, "Commissioners, this is a modification to an existing contract with ILRC to allow them to be compensated for their application processing, which is a 20-page application. We ask that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chair to sign."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay. Ray, what was the cost of this? What's the fiscal note here? Are we paying this fee?"

**Mr. Vail** said, "It would go under the existing funding."

**Chairman Winters** said, "No additional expenditures."

**Mr. Vail** said, "No."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Where is that. I can't find it on my . . . 119, I've got that. It says \$55,000 isn't it?"

**Mr. Vail** said, "This would just allow them to receive compensation for completing the application form, like I said, it's 20 pages long."

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Who gets compensation?"

**Mr. Vail** said, "ILRC."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "And who pays for it?"

**Mr. Vail** said, "No additional funding."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "But who pays it?"

**Mr. Vail** said, "We pay it to ILRC under the existing contract."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "We're paying it but ILRC hasn't been giving it out?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "We have an existing contract. They bill us for services. We're adding this service, the application process, as one of the additional services."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "The contract remains \$55,000."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "They're just going to do more for the same amount of money."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Yeah."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "They're going to be able to bill us for this process that they weren't able to bill us before."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "And that will go against the \$50,000."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Yes."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay. Commissioners, what's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the Modification of Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

### VOTE

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

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

### **12. BYLAWS OF THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING.**

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.

**Mr. Vail** said, "Commissioners, this is to address changes to the Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging bylaws, changing the meeting time and defining quorum and various other issues and I ask you to approve this changes and authorize the Chair to sign."

### MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to Approve the Bylaws and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "I'd like to make a comment that the Advisory Council on Aging has been working on this for, I think over a year now, haven't they?"

**Mr. Vail** said, "Yes, over a year they've worked on it."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "And working on bylaws is really not a fun thing to do and I'm glad they do that because you know sometimes we get bylaws on the books and we don't look at them for a long time and next thing you know, our society has changed, our missions has changed and those kinds of things. So I just want to thank them for enduring through that and putting this in

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

place for us. Thank you.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Thank you. Commissioner Sciortino.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “I want to echo that too, because it’s a lot of hard work. Somebody here then had to look at them and approve and say ‘Yeah, this is acceptable to the County’. Was that yourself, sir?”

**Mr. Vail** said, “Our Legal Department.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Now Legal Department just pertains to legal things. Are the bylaws acceptable outside Legal. Have they said anything in the bylaws that we’re uncomfortable with, notwithstanding it’s legal to say it, do we accept the bylaws? Have we looked at them and thought they were appropriate?”

**Mr. Vail** said, “Yes. Management and staff for Aging has reviewed them.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, thank you. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board? We already have a Motion and Second? Okay, any other questions? Seeing none, call the vote.”

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Is that it, Ray? Well again, express the Commission’s gratitude for them on their work on those bylaws because, as Commissioner McGinn said, that is a lot of work so we need to keep telling those people we appreciate their work a lot. Next item.”

**G. HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- 1. AGREEMENT WITH UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE-WICHITA MEDICAL PRACTICE ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL CONSULTATIVE PROGRAM.**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Ms. Lori Vandeford**, Controller, Health Surveillance and Disease Prevention, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We have withdrawn this agenda item from today’s meeting and will be resubmitted at a later date.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, do I have a Motion to withdraw.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to withdraw Item G-1.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Next item.”

**2. GRANT AWARD FROM KANSAS HEALTH FOUNDATION, TO BE USED FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTINUING EDUCATION.**

This item was deferred at the March 3, 2004 Commission Meeting.



**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Ms. Vanderford** said, “The Kansas Health Foundation generously supports the Sedgwick County Health Department throughout the year by donations and grants. These funds are used for professional development, ongoing education, membership into professional organizations within the County and within the state, as well as other methods of health promotion that the County does within the community. I ask that you approve this grant of \$5,000 and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of appreciation.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right. Commissioners, are there questions? Any discussion? What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Accept the Grant Award and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of appreciation.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Thank you, Lori. Next item.”

- 3. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR THE HEALTHY FAMILY KANSAS PROGRAM, EXTENDING THE PROGRAM FOR ONE YEAR.**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Mr. Ted Jobst**, Director, Integrated Family Health, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This renewal agreement with SRS extends the Healthy Family Kansas program and provides funding for two nursing positions, an administrative assistant and interpreter for our Healthy Babies field nursing program. We recommend that you approve the agreement."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right. Commissioners, are there questions or comments about this? What's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to Approve the Amendment to 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 David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Thomas Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you very much, Ted. Next item."

**H. APPLICATION TO KANSAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2004 STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING.**

**Mr. Duncan** said, "This morning we are asking you to authorize and approve the application for federal fiscal year '04 state and local assistance funding and asking you to authorize the Chair to be

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

authorized to sign that application.

The grant is a grant that we receive on an annual basis. It defrays part of the operational cost of our program and there's no match requirement. Are there any questions that I could answer regarding this?"

**Chairman Winters** said, "Somebody must have told you to say that before you came in here."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I like him as much as Nath."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "I have been watching the meeting, sir."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Are there any questions or comments?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Approve the Application and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

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

**I. PUBLIC WORKS.**

- 1. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AT INTERSECTIONS OF SECTION LINE ROADS WITHIN OR ABUTTING EAGLE TOWNSHIP, AND PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT THEREOF.**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Mr. David Spears**, P.E., Director/County Engineer, Bureau of Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Item I-1 is a resolution establishing traffic control at all intersections along section line roads in Eagle Township. The township board requested a change from eastbound/ westbound yield control to change that to stop control at the intersection of 101<sup>st</sup> Street North and 135<sup>th</sup> Street West. This is the only change to the original resolution. I recommend that you adopt the resolution.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Thank you. Is there a Motion?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Adopt the Resolution.

Chairman Winters seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Next item.”

- 2. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND CLASSIFYING CERTAIN STREETS TO THE VALLEY CENTER TOWNSHIP SYSTEM. DISTRICT #4.**
- 3. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND CLASSIFYING CERTAIN STREETS TO THE ATTICA TOWNSHIP SYSTEM. DISTRICT #3.**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

- 4. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND CLASSIFYING CERTAIN STREETS TO THE ATTICA TOWNSHIP SYSTEM. DISTRICT #3.**
- 5. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND CLASSIFYING CERTAIN STREETS TO THE ATTICA TOWNSHIP SYSTEM. DISTRICT #3.**

**Mr. Spears** said, "Commissioners, I'm going to take all of these at one time and I'll explain them as we go here.

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 road system. In this case, Item I-2 establishes that 'North Valley Road' and 'Valley Farms' become the responsibility of Valley Center Township.

Item I-3 establishes that 'West 179<sup>th</sup> Street Court' becomes the responsibility of Attica Township. Item I-4 establishes that '191<sup>st</sup> Street West Circle' becomes the responsibility of Attica Township and Item I-5 establishes that 'Pine', 'Pine Court', 'Pecanwood', 'Hickory', 'Springwood' and 'Springwood Court' also become the responsibility of Attica Township.

The township boards were informed, by letter, that these resolutions would be on the County Commission agenda. I recommend that you adopt the resolutions."

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

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "I see that the townships were informed on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January and I assume we're moving forward because you did not hear back from any of the township officials that they have any issues or problems with these roads."

**Mr. Spears** said, "We did hear back from some and we met with them in the field and got it corrected."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "We have solved the problem."

**Mr. Spears** said, "Yes."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Solved their problems. Okay. Thank you."

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

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Commissioner Norton** said, "That was really my only question. I've had one instance in a township where they didn't want to accept it until we made some corrections. We did make some corrections. I just wanted to be sure the townships were involved."

**Mr. Spears** said, "Since that time, Commissioner Norton, we've changed our procedure. We send a letter each time now and we offer to meet with them on site at a particular time. We do that and take care of any concerns they have before we get it on this agenda."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay, good."

**Chairman Winters** said, "And I guess just to follow up, I know that Attica did have a problem with a couple of these and those problems have been solved and corrected."

**Mr. Spears** said, "That's right."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay, thank you. Do we have a Motion to adopt the resolutions on Items I-2 through I-5?"

### MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Adopt the Resolutions for Items I-2 through I-5.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

### VOTE

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

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

## **J. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2004.**

**Ms. Iris Baker**, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

meeting of March 4<sup>th</sup> resulted in three items for consideration today.

1) **HYDROSTATIC BROOMS- FLEET MANAGEMENT**  
**FUNDING: VEHICLE ACQUISITION**

The first item, hydrostatic brooms for Fleet Management. Recommend the low bid meeting specifications, including trade-ins, from Van Keppel in the amount of \$94,784.

2) **RAIN LEADERS- FACILITY PROJECT SERVICES**  
**FUNDING: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

The second item, rain leaders for Facility Project Services. Recommend the low bid from Caro Construction in the amount of \$72,460.

3) **BRIDGE TIMBERS- PUBLIC WORKS**  
**FUNDING: BRIDGE & CONCRETE**

The third item, bridge timbers for Public Works. Recommend low bid meeting specifications from JR Crow and Company in the amount of \$86,272.

The recommended action is to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts, make a finding that surplus property in item one is no longer required and authorize disposition of the same. Would be happy to answer any questions.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Well Commissioners, this is . . . it would be under the category, ‘Here He Goes Again’. On item one, I had a conversation with David Spears on this one. This is an item where it’s in the budget, it’s for street sweepers, or street sweeper attachments or whatever they are. I’ve been told that on average each of them gets about 70-some odd hours of use a year, about two weeks. I don’t know for sure if this is something that’s absolutely necessary or not. I know we don’t have a lot of paved streets that we’re driving around just sweeping. I think a lot of this, according to David, is if they have to have new construction, they need a sweeping or if there was a hazardous waste spill, they would need it. These are portable. Do we need one in each yard, or could they be shipped around?”

I’d like to at least get this thing maybe deferred a week or two, where some of these questions could be . . . I’m mean, I’ve talked to David about it and I know that he truly believes that these are absolutely necessary, yet he has told me and he’s done this repeatedly and I commend him for it. If the board wishes to do something different, he’s certainly going to comply and work with the board.

### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

But this is an item that I would really like somebody else to be, I don't know, looking at these before they even get out for bid. I mean, we've all expressed some real big concerns, based on what we've heard this morning. Heck, if need be, I'd be willing to say, don't put one out in my district, in the east yard, thinking that with the other three, if I ever need one, one could get there."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "That's a \$24,000 savings, I'm okay with that."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Well, no I'm serious. I know you're doing it a little bit in jest, but I'm not qualified to say whether or not this is necessary or not. But when something has such limited use, on an annual basis, why do we need four."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Well, I don't have a problem of beginning to have some kind of a new way of discussing about equipment purchases, vehicle purchases, any kind of purchases we have on the bid board. I think that when we get to the day of accepting the bid board though, I think everybody has gone through a process that they expect to have happen."

Now I don't know if we can start the process and if we need to reanalyze how we have our equipment replacement fund operate. If we need to reanalyze your question of whether we buy Impalas or Tauruses, I think those could be valid discussions. I just don't think the day we are set to purchase them is the right time to have the discussion. We need to be back in a discussion either in budget preparation time for coming years or setting policies, because I'm not sure that Commissioners want to get down to the place of deciding whether we buy two-door cars or four-door cars or whether we get involved in management of every issue."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I understand. I don't want to micro-manage it either."

**Chairman Winters** said, "But I think we are now all working with a higher level of sensitivity about purchases and you know, you only have to buy two or three ambulances and you're talking about significant amounts of money. And if we need to ask Fleet people, Marv Duncan and Bob Lamkey to see what will happen if we scoot back buys, instead of trading vehicles at 50,000 we trade them at 150,000 or whether you know, if we buy brooms, these are 20 years old and you know again, it's one of those things, you know after you . . . one of the principle times you may need



## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

these brooms is after severe snow storm and then all at once you've got all your bridge decks full of sand and rock and you've got a problem even too with when we do our chat seal construction. I mean, if you don't have a broom out there and make sure that you've got the road cleared off, you're going to be paying insurance claims for broken windshields just right and left, but whether these brooms that are 20 years old, whether we need to wait until they're 25 years old, I don't know."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Well, I guess the thing I . . . Is Marvin here? Marvin, I just need to ask you a question. This was . . . in private business, you make a capital purchase and you start depreciating out that item and when you're done depreciating, you have a pool of money to replace the item. Is that what we've done here?"

**Mr. Marvin Duncan**, Director, Fleet Management, said, "Yes, sir."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "So you have money set aside specifically to buy these street sweepers and it can't be used for anything but that, right?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "David uses them for several different applications. I think chat sealing was mentioned, bridge sweeping."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "But I mean, it was depreciated . . ."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Oh, can the money be used for other things? It is in a general fleet reserve. I mean, the money kind of ebbs and flows in and out of that reserve. I make money on some things and I lose money on some things, during the trade-in process."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Okay."

**Mr. Spears** said, "Commissioners, on some items where Marvin is short of money, we have a special equipment fund, which is made up of funds that we have saved in our budget from the previous year that we put in there and we'll make up the difference for. On certain items we do that and we're glad to do that."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Let me just finish by one thing. David, you're convinced that it's in the best interest of the County to have one in each unit. I mean, I know you don't throw things into the budget just to try to make it, but I mean are you really convinced that we need four?"

**Mr. Spears** said, "Well, yes sir, I am. The thing is, everybody talks about money and saving money, I mean you could not buy any of them and not spend the total amount of money or you

### Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

could do one or two, but the thing you all have to remember is, from an operational standpoint, when you do these things, it affects us operationally and that means I would have to have one or two guys haul the machine over to where it might be needed and you have to take them off of something to do that. In other words, it will make us more inefficient if we don't have the proper number of equipment.

And I want to point out that I'm not trying to be hard nosed here, but last year we gave up 12 pieces of equipment and we're trying here. We're trying to work with everybody on the budget problems and it does affect our efficiency and there's just only so far that you can go on these things, and at some point it hurts other items. Now you can't see that and the budget can't see that, but we can see that down where we work and that's the problem that it causes.

But like I say, whatever the Board wants to do, we'll work with it and we'll do it the best we can and figure out a way to make it work. But I'm convinced, from an efficiency standpoint, to have four would work out the best.

Now if you look back on this, say those 20 years ago cost \$20,000, you know you've spent . . . they cost you \$1,000 a year. That's less than 100 bucks a month, plus fixing them though. I haven't included that in, but it's really not a great amount of money and I'm not going to make a big deal out of it. If this was a bulldozers or something like that, I'd probably be making a harder stand."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, we have a couple of other questions from commissioners. Commissioner Sciortino, does that conclude for right now? Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you. I guess a question for me is that this has been planned for some time. This was part of the budget process, the money's available and this is the best bid. I mean, those are the things that seem to make a difference to me."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "These were actually deferred from last year. We thought we could get them through another year, but we spent \$17,000 maintaining these poor old brooms last year, and it's imperative that we get them out of the inventory, get new ones in, whether it's four, three or two. It costs a lot of money to keep these old things around."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Well, in light of the maintenance costs and the planning, I mean it comes down to me whether or not we're going to have sweepers or not and it looks like we should have them, so I'm going to be supportive of this."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay, thank you. Commissioner Norton."

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well, I think the first thing is that this was really brought forward by Marv and his group, not Public Works. I mean, this is really a maintenance piece of equipment issues, not Public Works wanting to build their inventory of equipment. It’s on an appreciation scale and it’s about gone, they’re done with, they need to be replaced. Am I not correct there? Didn’t you initiate this?”

**Mr. Duncan** said, “Yes, sir. And I support and maintain whatever has been authorized to be in the fleet, and then I advise departments, as they come up for buy, what their use is, what their condition is, and in some cases we deferred a year or two, after we talk with David and now we’re at the point where we’ve got to do something with them.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “The second thing is have we done any studies as to which yards, which pieces of equipment get more use? Would it make sense to place them in two yards and keep limping along with two others, based on the usage at certain yards, because there are more miles of roads and more areas to cover from some yards than others? So would that make sense? Do you have any data on that, Marv?”

**Mr. Duncan** said, “It’s really an operational question or answer, but I have data that will show what yards use what equipment. For the last four years, since we put our fleet data system into place, we can tell you what kind of usage is happening at the yards and there are some differences.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well, that just may be another way to skin the cat. If we don’t have the stomach for buying four, maybe buying two now, coming back six months from now with revisited data and buying two more may make sense and that way you place them in the two yards that have the most usage and limp along a little bit with the others. That doesn’t mean we don’t have good equipment available. In some cases, David might have to transport it once or twice, but that would be the anomaly, not the rule.

The final thing, and this is off the subject, but I’m beginning and I’ve thought this for a long time, that sometimes we get to this point in the decision making process and we’re surprised and I’ve tried to figure out, over the last two years, how we get to that and somehow we need a pre-bid notification. I don’t know what that looks like, but it would have been nice if we had just got an e-mail that said, ‘You know what, we’ve sent out a bid on sweepers’ and at that point Ben could have

### Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

said, 'I don't even want to send the bid out, I'm not into it, give me more information now', so that we're not talking about this when we're ready to make the decision of spending the money. We should really check that off is we want to buy that equipment earlier, as a policy decision, as opposed to . . . and then let it go through the filter of the bid board, to make the recommendation. I just think I'd like some notification. I've come to that conclusion, more and more, as we get surprised on a truck or a piece of technology equipment that's very expensive that maybe we just need some kind of e-mail that says, 'Here's three items we're getting ready to bid' so that we know what they are."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, well I want to follow up on that for just a bit and maybe the Manager can help us think through that and maybe it needs to be part of the budgetary process, as we even start building our 2005 budget, to know what kind of equipment expenditures we're looking at. One of the things I had written down to discuss with the Manager about the bid board. On one hand I'd like to know what's going on. On the other hand I don't, because I think we've kept our bid board and purchasing process here extremely clean. I mean, we're not tampering in it and once you get the chance, well you know you're going to be bidding this and bidding that, then you've always got the possibility of someone calling and wanting to make sure you include this and include that. We stay out of that. We've got this independent bid board bring us their best recommendation. Sometimes it's low bid, sometimes it's not low bid, but we know that they're completely independent and that way, I think we're confident and we can tell the citizens we're confident that we're buying in a proper manner.

But somehow I'm like you, I'd like to know in advance some of these major purchases that are coming down, but yet I think we need to be very careful that we don't get too caught up in that."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, Well maybe we're working through something that would work. Maybe in the budgeting process . . . I mean, do the departments . . . I don't know, Marvin or who the heck I'm talking to, do they list 'Okay, for this year we want to buy three more ambulances, we want to buy seven sweepers, we want to buy two tars and barbers for the suspension, I mean do they get that specific in their capital budgeting process?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "I put together . . . I've already done the 2005 buy list for next year and I forward that to budget. At the same time, I send out to the departments that list and I send out a questionnaire, are these things you still need, is your mission still valid?"

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "No I meant, when it comes to us approving, like in 2005 we're going to have to approve the budget, capital and operating. Is it detailed so that we know when we're approving the budget that it includes this for this department and this for this department, or is that just in one big pool of money, and we don't know what we're approving."

### **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Mr. Duncan** said, "You see that in my budget as one line item, vehicle acquisition. But I do have documentation that came up with that number in my budget."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Well, I don't know how laborious that would be to review that."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "You'll see in my budget a line item for 2.5 million for 2005 to buy vehicles and equipment. You won't see an itemized list, although I do have one that I use to come up with that number."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I mean, is that something . . . I mean, I didn't know where you were going with that. I don't want to open up a Pandora's box here."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Well I just think, I mean we're going to be in the budget building process pretty quickly and I think we just need to keep paying attention and we'll probably have more discussions, just like the one we're having on our 2004 buys, but I think from hearing the discussion, staff is probably getting the picture that if there's some big ticket items that may be of interest that we normally don't even see the bid board minutes until late Friday afternoon, so we don't have much free time to think about that."

All right, are we . . . Go ahead, Commissioner Sciortino."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I just want to say, I'm going to probably stick my neck out here for a minute. I don't know anything about this project, but I'm going to make a token commitment to the problems that we have, that are facing us. I'm going to say don't put one in the east yard. Get me the best of the four that are there and keep that in the east yard and buy three new ones for the other yards. It's only going to save us cents on the dollar, but I'm willing to do that just to . . ."

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

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, I think the key is for me is, even though I'd like to keep the filter in there of us not swaying the bid process, in these tough times and I think we continue to talk about it, I think we need to set the pace on what equipment and what technology needs to be bought. And hopefully we're of right mind enough that we're not going to sway the process one way or the other, but I would rather be on the front end of guiding and directing our staff, as to

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

whether we want to even send it out for bids. You know, you talk about wasting time and efficiency, going through the whole process and then us saying no at the end result doesn't make sense to me. We need to be saying no on the front end and don't even let staff go through that whole process of wasting their time, going out for bid, coming up with the things, writing the grants and then saying no because we think we've got this obligation to be fiscally sound. Well, if we're fiscally sound, we've been saying no to your kids on the front end, not after they'd already picked up the toy and brought it to the cash register. That's the hard time to say no. I'd rather say no on the front end."

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

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you. We're . . . A lot of conversation here. I don't know if this is the best time to talk about changing the whole process. I know that I haven't been through all these processes as much as the rest of you, but it appears to me that we have a good process. It's working good, the decisions to do this come through department leaders and division heads and the County manager and the bid board, everybody has a fingerprint on it and I don't think that means we ignore the detail. I don't mean to imply that, but I'm pretty comfortable that by the time it's gone through all these processes and gets to us, then the decision we're asked to make whether or not to proceed, I'm reasonably comfortable that I can make that decision with confidence."

I would not be opposed to having some information on the front side when we're building the budget, but for example this, I hate to make a decision, I haven't looked at those brooms. I hate to make a decision contrary to the people who work with them and use them every day and deliver a service to Sedgwick County citizens of picking up sand, I hate to make a decision contrary that says, 'We don't need that broom' when all of our people who work with them say we do need that broom and it's in the budget and it went through the process. And I'm not too crazy . . . I mean, Commissioner Sciortino, I don't want to keep an old broom around that's going to cost us 8,000 bucks to maintain it when we've got the system right here to put a new broom that's not going to take that, so I'm going to be for this and I'm always in favor of refinement and making things better, but right now I think I'm ready to move on and I'm confident that it's gone through a good process and the term you used was it's clean and I like that as much as anyone. Thank you."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you. That was very good summation, I think, Commissioner Unruh. Commissioner Sciortino."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "It also occurs to me that if we buy three instead of four, that probably throws the whole bidding process out, because the person thought he was bidding on four, then he may squawk on that rate too. I don't know where I was going with it, but I'm just a little frustrated over what I heard this morning, so I'm going to withdraw that emotional idea about buying three of them."

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**Chairman Winters** said, “Well, I think though, I don’t think you should hesitate to bring items like that before the whole commission. I mean, I think our financial forecast did energize us. I mean and we’re going to be talking about all sorts of things such as this during this coming budget season. So Commissioners, I think I’m prepared to accept the Motion to move forward with just accepting this entire bid board package.”

**Commissioner Unruh** said, “Is that a Motion?”

**Chairman Winters** said, “No, I’m ready to accept a Motion.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts, make a finding that the surplus property in item 1 is no longer required, and authorize disposition of same.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Thank you very much, Iris. We do not need to have an Executive Session today. I’m sorry, next item.”

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**K. CONSENT AGENDA.**

- 1. Amendment to Lease with Paul V. Dugan, Sr., d/b/a Westlink Office Plaza, for space at 940 North Tyler Road, Wichita used by the Appraiser’s Office.**

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

**2. Plats.**

Approved by Public Works. The County Treasurer has certified that taxes for the year 2003 and prior years have been paid for the following plats:

C. Duke Addition  
Meadowbrook Addition  
Stone Post Farm Addition

**3. Order dated March 3, 2004 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**

**4. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of March 3 – 9, 2004.**

**Mr. William P. Buchanan**, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The consent agenda is in front of you. Would you please adopt it.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to Approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Winters** said, “Commissioners, we do not need an Executive Session today. Is there any other business or any other community business that you’d like to discuss? Commissioner Sciortino.”

**L. OTHER**



## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Mary and I will be in the Derby Senior Center Friday. I’m going to take a break from the workshop on health and we’re serving dinner. We do this every year and this is the date to serve dinner. This time we’re going to serve Sicilian vegetable soup. Last year we made spaghetti for everybody. So that’s where I’ll be and if you all are hungry for a bowl of soup, feel free to stop by.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “All right, thank you.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “No charge. I think I already filled up. All we’re asking for this year is anybody that wants to have lunch, bring a canned good or a dried food good and we’re going to donate that to the food bank.”

**Chairman Winters** said, “Thank you. Commissioner Norton.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Just a couple of things. I’d like to thank all the staff that came out to the Haysville Expo this last Saturday and worked. They did an awesome job. Haysville had a huge crowd for their trade expo to show off their city. They had over 55 booths and filled up the activity center and we had about 15 employees that showed up, throughout the day, to serve the citizens of the south part of the County and I appreciate that.

The other thing is I was at the Southwest Neighborhood Association last night and they’re going to have a clean up day for their neighborhood in the middle of July and one of the things they were worrying with is the tires that are coming out of their neighborhood and the Manager has left, but I would like to urge us to figure out, with the tire program, how do we serve these neighborhood associations and small cities that have clean ups and integrate it in with our tire program and I don’t know how that works but that’s going to be kind of a . . .”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Well, the scheduled date is April 22<sup>nd</sup> that we’re going to begin the program and I don’t think it will be just that day.”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “Mrs. McGinn, that’s the date that we’re hoping it begins. We don’t have signed contracts yet and so we’re not quite announcing that.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Right, I understand that but I was just saying that this is the date that we’re trying to get going. We have some other things that we’re needing to work out and I know that there have been neighborhood associations wanting to find out more about this program, but that is what we’re hoping for.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “And to make another comment, Mr. Chair, one of the concerns they have is their clean up day has a price tag of about \$6,000 and the city has a pool of money that they

## Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004

dole out and all of the neighborhood associations together can't be funded, at least through the city.

And I'm thinking that, with the tire program, some other things that we could help out with, that maybe we can be good partner, as we talk about cleaning up neighborhoods and waste minimization.

Another thing I suggested to them is that they get hold of our Household Hazardous Waste folks and see if, on that particular Saturday, they can have a vehicle there to pick up all the household hazardous waste and paint and everything instead of have 50 people drive to our place, we show up.

They also . . . one of the things that loaded their boxes and their packer trucks up so much were tree limbs and everything and I'm just wondering if there's another way to get with maybe Sedgwick County Park, since we did the tree recycling program and had chipper/ shredders, maybe we can provide one at a location for a couple of hours to grind up, make mulch in one of the parks, leave the pile and move on.

I don't know if all of those things can happen, but I think if we talk about recycling and reuse and waste minimization and neighborhood clean up, that this would be a place where we could be a good partner. I don't know how it works out, but I know we've got the equipment. If we had a little manpower, we could make their lives a lot easier and get their costs down probably half of what their spending, because there isn't any free dump days anymore and it's all having to be paid for and that's a pretty big deal."

**Chairman Winters** said, "I think if we can continue with this legislation that we're supporting in Topeka to let us be more flexible on that solid waste fee, I think projects like that would be right in the midst so we could talk about it and see how we're really going to budget those fees over a course of a year. And I think that would allow us, and I don't know what your real intentions are, but would allow us to have a more continuous tire program, instead of just getting a hit or miss once every couple of years. I mean, it would certainly be a possibility. All right, anything else, Commissioner?"

**Commissioner Norton** said, "That's all I've got. Thanks."

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

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you. I just wanted to mention that last Saturday I went . . . showed up early at the Sedgwick County Jail and, on behalf of you all, I greeted the YMCA Black Achiever's Program. I think there was almost 30 young folks there who have been identified as being achievers in their situation and this is part of their community involvement, to get to know how the jail works and operates and it was a good group and my wife and I went together and toured the jail with them and Captain Kurtz and Captain Maxwell and the Under Sheriff there to show us around and I'm impressed with the efficiency and the professionalism of our jail and I was

## **Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

impressed with those young people.

The second item I just want to mention, one of the things that's been in the news a lot lately is the Wichita Area Technical College and as your representative to that board, been working with that, trying to help them stay stable under some really difficult circumstances. And I would just want the folks in the community to understand that those tough decisions that they've been making, with respect to their budget, are not something they like to do but they're trying to go through a very logical, deliberate process to make the right decisions and keep that opportunity for technical education healthy in Sedgwick County. And that's all I had."

**Chairman Winters** said, "All right, very good. Is there anything else to come before this Board? We do need to have a Fire District meeting, but if there's nothing else to come before this Board, this Regular Meeting of March 10<sup>th</sup> is adjourned."

### **M. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

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

**Regular Meeting, March 10, 2004**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DAVID M. UNRUH**, Chair Pro Tem  
First District

\_\_\_\_\_  
**TIM R. NORTON**, Commissioner  
Second District

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CAROLYN McGINN**, Commissioner  
Fourth District

\_\_\_\_\_  
**BEN SCIORTINO**, Commissioner  
Fifth District

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Don Brace**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_, 2004