

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

August 14, 2002

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 A.M., on Wednesday, August 14, 2002 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Ben Sciortino; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Betsy Gwin; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Dr. Mansoor Tahir, Chief Epidemiologist, Sedgwick County Health Department; Sheriff Gary Steed; Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Division of Community Development; Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging; Mr. John Rowland, Senior Accountant, Department on Aging; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care (COMCARE); 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

Dr. Garold Minns, Director of Clinical Services, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita.
Mr. John Conlee, Senior Services, Inc.
Mr. Olin Hiebert, Advisory Council on Aging.
Ms. Kelly Blades, Good Grief of Kansas.
Ms. Judy Finnell, Executive Director, Senior Services, Inc.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Lakshmi Kambampati, of the Hindu Temple of Greater Wichita.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, July 10, 2002

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Regular Meeting, July 17, 2002

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meetings of July 10th and July 17th, 2002.

Chairman Sciortino said, “Commissioners, I believe you’ve had an opportunity to review the Minutes of July 10th and July 17th. What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meetings of July 10 and July 17, 2002.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Next item.”

PRESENTATION

A. PRESENTATION REGARDING WEST NILE VIRUS.

Mr. William Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioners, before this presentation begins I want to remind you that Dr. Minns is here, along with an employee of the Health Department. In our agreement for health officer we’ve entered a contract with Kansas University Med School here in Wichita to provide us an individual. But part of the contract is also that if experts are in the field or Dr. Frederickson is not around, that the K.U. Med School will provide sufficient coverage for us and this is exactly what’s occurring during this last week or so. So I want to point that out that this contractual relationship with the K.U. Med School is working, as witnessed by the following presentation.”

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Yes sir, please."

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Dr. Mansoor Tahir, Chief Epidemiologist, Sedgwick County Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you very much for this opportunity to inform and report to you about different activities the Health Department is doing in response to the recent West Nile scare.

Let me begin my presentation with a brief background of the West Nile Virus. The West Nile Virus causes West Nile Fever and this fever is spread by infected mosquito bites. The virus was first isolated in West Nile district of Uganda in 1937, hence the name West Nile Virus. Before 1999, it wasn't known in this part of the world. This map shows the spread of West Nile Virus in the United States over the years and as you can see that the virus has reached our state recently.

This table summarizes the human cases of West Nile Virus over the years and you can see that in 1999 there were only four states involved and as of yesterday there have been reports of 145 human cases with eight deaths in 35 states and D.C.

Now I will describe different response activities we at the Health Department are involved in. We are participating in a statewide surveillance program for West Nile Virus. And this program is being conducted by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The response activities we are doing include heightened surveillance of West Nile Virus, public education and different mosquito control activities and plans.

I'm going to start, one by one, by going over the different components of our surveys. This surveillance program was initiated last July in 2001. The different components of this surveillance system are mosquito surveillance, avian surveillance meaning surveillance of birds, equine surveillance meaning surveillance in horses and other animals and human surveillance, meaning to see whether the virus is present in humans or not.

As far as mosquito surveillance is concerned, we are actively doing this surveillance since last year and in this surveillance what we do is we set up about nine to ten mosquito traps at different locations throughout the County. The purpose of this traps in to collect mosquitoes and to see their density, their population and their different types because this virus effects mostly a specific type of

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mosquito. So if we see that specific type of mosquito in over-population that indicates that there might be some problem with West Nile Virus.

After collecting those mosquitoes, we send those mosquitoes to test for the presence of West Nile Virus and we send these at K. State labs. Another important tool for doing the mosquito surveillance is to monitor the complaints of citizens about mosquito problems. By this we get a clue that if we get a large number of complaints about mosquitoes that gives us a clue that there is a high problem of West Nile Virus and by that it means that we are at greater risk of having West Nile Virus.

Another component of the West Nile Virus surveillance is avian surveillance, meaning surveillance in birds. What we are doing is we have sentinel chicken flocks, actually we have four sentinel chicken flocks around the County. Frequently, we draw out blood from those chickens and see for presence of West Nile Virus.

This virus especially effects the wild birds so checking the wild birds for West Nile Virus is also an important activity that we are doing. Again, monitoring the dead bird report from citizens serves as an early warning system if we get a lot of complaints, if the public calls us that they have been seeing a number of dead birds and it's a recent phenomena, that means that there is a chance that West Nile Virus has hit the birds in our area. These dead birds, if we collect them, then we send those for lab testing.

Recently, we have started surveillance activity for horses. We will test different horses and we will send those specimens to K. State lab. If we see any probability that the disease might be detected, then we will send those specimens for confirmatory tests to National Veterinarian Surveillance Lab. But before we send these labs to this lab, the KDHE has the right to see those specimens also.

Human surveillance is an important component of the surveillance program. We have different protocols and fact sheets prepared for medical care providers and we have distributed these fact sheets and protocols among area physicians and veterinarians. We are encouraging area physicians to report to us if they see any unusual illness, especially among older populations, because the older population is at higher risk of getting this disease. We will support physicians in obtaining and shipping of samples for West Nile Virus.

Another response action with regard to West Nile Virus is to educate the public. The single most important preventive and control measure for West Nile Virus is informing the public about the true nature of the disease and how they can protect themselves from getting West Nile Virus. There are various educational websites available for general public to get up to date information about West Nile Virus. These three websites are developed by Kansas Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and we are referring people to these websites as authentic sources of information.

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Another aspect of public education is informing the public about the disease and we are using a variety of media to convey our message. Mass media has been a real help for us in recent times. We have prepared different fact sheets that are easy to understand and we are distributing those among the public. Recently, with the discovery of West Nile Virus in Kansas, there has been an increased volume of calls from the public. They want to know about different activities we are doing and how we can protect themselves, what they can do at an individual level. And on average, over the last ten days, we have been receiving about 50 calls per day.

We are planning on holding informational meetings for the general public and in case we have a case of West Nile Virus in our county, we will definitely plan numerous informational meetings. At our section at the Health Department, we have a ten-member staff who are diligently working to respond to the situation and in addition to those ten staff members, we have the capacity to increase our staff if needed. We can borrow staff time from other sections of the Health Department.

Now the most important and the most controversial component of the response activities is mosquito control. Prevention of exposure from mosquito bites is the primary way to reduce the risk of West Nile Virus. There are a number of different ways by which people can reduce their chance of getting West Nile Virus disease. Personal protection and source reduction are two methods that people can take at individual levels to protect themselves against mosquitoes and we are constantly and continuously educating people how they can use these two methods to protect themselves.

Larviciding and adulticiding, larviciding means killing of larvae of mosquitoes or immature mosquitoes and adulticiding meaning killing the adult mosquito or flying mosquito by spraying or fogging. These two methods are two different approaches of mosquito control at governmental level. Now, larviciding is preferred over adulticiding and there are various reasons for that. Larviciding is a target-specific method, meaning if we apply this method we will only kill our target population and that is larvae. So, due to this reason, it is much more effective than adulticiding. And larviciding is a simple method to apply and most importantly, it is environmentally friendly.

We at the Health Department have the capacity to initiate larviciding if indicated and also, right now, we are in the process of expanding our capacity. Initiation of larviciding will depend upon different trigger events and I just want to inform you about two trigger events. Number one, if we see multiple human cases in our county, that's going to be a trigger event. And the other trigger event is if, by our mosquito surveillance, we detect that there is an overpopulation of that specific mosquito, that is also going to be a trigger event. And these are just two most important events but there are some other factors too. One of them is if citizens demand that they need larviciding or adulticiding, then that also is considered as a trigger event.

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Now people are asking us why we're not spraying. They see on TV that shows different stories that, wherever they have found West Nile Virus, they see trucks going around the streets and spraying. Now this is something that we need to educate the public about because the adulticiding is the least effective and the most controversial method for mosquito control and a lot of people don't know about that. First of all, it is not a target-specific method. Flying mosquitoes, you cannot kill all the flying mosquitoes, but you can kill concentrated larvae in a pool or someplace.

And also, it has been well established in scientific literature that unnecessary spraying has more adverse health effects than benefits and not only to humans, but also to animals and environment. Wherever spraying is used, it is used as a last resort, either after exhausting all other available methods or in combination with other available methods. Also, spraying is only done in those areas which have a high prevalence of mosquito-borne diseases. This is really important, so I'm going to repeat it again. Spraying is only done in those areas which have a high prevalence of mosquito-borne diseases. Now, Kansas has a very low prevalence of other mosquito-borne diseases and why I say that because from a period from 1964 to 2001 in Kansas, there were only 64 cases reported that were mosquito-borne disease and in comparison to Kansas data, if we see data for Louisiana, there were over 3,000 cases for the same time period.

Given the present situation and in the absence of any trigger events, we at the Health Department don't advise to start spraying for mosquitoes immediately or in the near future. If and when a decision for spraying is made, it should be made in consultation with Kansas Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These are the two authoritative bodies that have set out different guidelines. We have to comply with those guidelines.

Finally, I will conclude my presentation with this message. The most convincing approach to fight mosquitoes is not necessarily the most visible one. Thank you very much and if you have any questions or concerns, you can ask me. And after my presentation, Dr. Minns is going to present disease-specific information about West Nile Virus."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioners, any questions or comments at this point? I don't see that there are any questions at this time but there might be after the next presentation. Thank you."

Dr. Garold Minns, Director of Clinical Services, University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here representing Dr. Frederickson who is out of town today but he has asked me, on his behalf, to come and present to you a brief presentation, explain to you what the human manifestations of this disease is.

As Dr. Tahir has already reviewed with you, this disease is caused by a virus called the West Nile Virus, named after the country in which it was first seen. In humans, it usually causes a mild

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illness, but may cause a severe illness in a very few of the people infected. And as I already reviewed with you, wild birds are the natural reservoir for this disease.

So in nature birds harbor the virus and it's transmitted by mosquitoes to other birds and all kinds of birds are infected. For the birds the fatality rate depends on the species. For crows and Blue Jays it is a fairly lethal infection. For many other birds it is not lethal at all. So that's why we monitor for dead crows and dead Blue Jays when we are looking for the evidence of this virus. Actually, humans and even horses are incidentally infected. The virus is mainly a bird infection.

As reviewed, this disease is caused by the bite of infected mosquitoes. Even in the states where we're seeing the disease, the percentage of mosquitoes infected with this virus are quite low, less than 2%. For reasons we do not understand, out of 150 people infected with this virus by mosquito bite, only one will show any symptoms that are serious. About 20% will develop symptoms that are non-serious. We have learned from other states where this disease is seen that it is most likely to be a serious infection in the elderly and those with weakened immune systems.

One thing we would like to emphasize, it is not spread from person to person or from animals to humans, so it is not spread from horses to humans and as far as we know it is not spread from animals to animals. It is not spread from horse to horse, only by the mosquito bite.

After the mosquito bite and infection, if illness appears it usually appears within a two-week period. Eighty percent of people infected will not know they even have the infection and will have no symptoms at all. About 20% will develop flu-like symptoms. If recognized in the physician's office, we'll diagnose that as West Nile Fever. However, if the patient doesn't come to the physician, they will just think they had a mild case of flu. It will resolve and they'll have no other complications. But for some reason 1 in 150 people infected will develop a severe illness requiring hospitalization and it particularly infects the brain, causing encephalitis or inflammation of the brain and its linings.

As I mentioned, the mild infection that most people get presents merely with fever, headache, eye pain, muscle aches, joint pain and occasionally a rash. But the severe cases, they have extreme muscle weakness, inflammation of the brain with encephalitis leading to paralysis and, in very severe cases, coma. In more mild cases, it may just lead to memory loss, confusion or other central nervous system manifestations. And in rare cases it can actually be fatal.

Unfortunately, there is no specific treatment for this virus infection. There are no medications that have been shown to kill the virus. So our treatment at this point is primarily supportive to relieve the symptoms and support the patient while their own immune system recovers from the infection. There is no vaccine currently available for human use. There is a vaccine that is available for horses and is being administered now in Kansas to horses in the counties where we've seen this. We think that of most of the patients who develop infection that their immune system will allow

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them to be immune from this disease for the rest of their life. We do not recommend a-symptomatic people to get blood testing to see if they've been infected at this point.

Interestingly, of those who develop this severe encephalitis, many of them will have prolonged symptoms. Over half did not return to their former level of functioning and only one third were fully able to get out and be ambulatory in the community and many will have severe fatigue, memory loss and muscle weakness and even depression after the infection that persists.

We've already reviewed how this is to be controlled. Controlling mosquito bites for the individual is the most important. We've already reviewed what the public health officials are doing to control this. One thing I want to emphasize before we take questions however, while this virus is new to the United States, the disease is not, the illness is not. There are actually many other viruses that are in the same family as this virus that have been in the United States for years. Actually, in the 1970s, a new virus appeared in the United States called St. Louis Encephalitis, which is a cousin to the West Nile Virus and it too causes an encephalitis in some people. So this is actually not a new syndrome, it's not a new disease. It's just a new member to the family that already exists in the United States.

Fortunately, we've not seen any cases in humans in Kansas. Interestingly, in New York State in which it first appeared they've had no cases this year. So it is a fairly rare illness. If you think, we've only seen less than 500 cases in the United States since 1999. If you think of the population in the eastern half of the United States, it really is a fairly unusual disease.

Lastly, I'd like to commend the Wichita Eagle/ Beacon and the series they have done. I think the explanation that they've given about this infection has been very balanced and complete and I think anyone who has further questions could start with that publication, since I think they've done a fine job in reviewing it. Any questions you have?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you, Doctor. I don't see any. I do have just a couple. How do the mosquitoes . . . Do they transmit themselves just by the propagation or how do the mosquitoes become the carrier of the disease? I mean, is it moving from the east coast to the west coast, but once it goes past us then we're free of it and then Colorado has to deal with it and it just keeps moving westward?"

Dr. Minns said, "Your first question is the birds are the reservoir and the mosquito gets the infection by taking a blood meal from the bird and then the virus gets in their body. They then bite another bird and transmit it to another bird and that continues the cycle. When they don't find

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enough birds to feed on, they'll find a horse or a human and will, in the process of taking the blood meal from the human or the horse, they inject the virus into the body and that's how the human or the horse gets infected.

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. So this can be around forever."

Dr. Minns said, "It probably will remain in the United States from here on, just like St. Louis has. The disease started in New York. It has gradually spread westward. It is now in the Midwest. We fully expect it to get clear to California. Whether it gets to Hawaii or not depends on how far the mosquitoes can fly. Actually, we think it probably has come over through shipping or planes or whatever."

Chairman Sciortino said, "We do have another question. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. Just briefly, I certainly appreciate both of you being here to address the Commission and the public on this issue. I was interested in thinking about the trigger events that would spark a next level. Are you confident that we're in a good place to monitor events that could be significant? I think one of the things we want to continue to assure the public is there's no way we can live in a perfect world but there are ways you can prepare to try to be ready if events get more intense. Do you believe we're . . . at the Health Department, we're doing all that we need to do to make sure that we're watching for these trigger events?"

Dr. Minns said, "Yes, I do. We have been watching for this virus since we first saw it in New York State in 1999. We have been working in collaboration with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in Topeka and we've been coordinating our activities with theirs and they've been doing surveillance in horses and birds and mosquitoes for some time now and have been watching for this very closely and frankly, I think that's why we found the case in Cowley County so quickly. We've also been doing education for veterinarians and physicians, trying to teach them what the manifestations are and asking them to test patients or horses if they see any with symptoms. So I think that the State of Kansas and Sedgwick County has been very on top of this."

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Just one other thing, Doctor. Should anyone in the public, based on this presentation or what they read in the paper, wish to contact you and ask you questions or ask the Health Department, what number should they be calling?"

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Dr. Tahir said, “They should call Health Department’s number, and that is 660-7300.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay, thank you very much. Any other questions or comments? Well, thank you all very, very much.”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Next item please.”

PUBLIC HEARING

B. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2003 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

Mr. Buchanan said, “We were here a couple of weeks ago and we have had one public hearing on the 2003 budget. We have had the last up day, which was two weeks ago, which at that point you set the upper limits of how big the budget should be. We’ve done the appropriate publications and notifications of that day and publicized the budget and today is the last day for public hearing and it’s appropriate, at this point Mr. Chairman, for you to open the hearing and hear from the public.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. At this time I will open the public hearing on the 2003 Sedgwick County budget. Speakers are asked to state their name and resident address and limit their comments to five minutes. Comments must be directed only towards the issues that are related to the adoption of the 2003 Sedgwick County budget. Speakers will refrain from any personal attacks, irrelevant comments or slanderous remarks and from any conduct that would detract from the orderly process of this meeting. Speakers and others who do not conduct themselves accordingly will be removed from this Commission Room meeting.

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So now the public portion of this meeting is opened. If anyone wishes to address us on the 2003 budget, now is your time to please come forward. Give your name and address and again you have five minutes to address us, sir.”

Mr. John Conlee, Board Chair, Senior Services Incorporated, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Let me begin by expressing my sincere thanks for this Commission’s steadfast support in the efforts to improve life for our older residents.

Although we are incurring a 10% cut in our Meals on Wheels funding from the State because of their budget woes, we are not asking this Commission to make up that shortfall. Our board is addressing the situation and we believe we are equipped to effectively solve this problem. We have increased our fund-raising efforts. We have intensified recruitment for deliveries by volunteers. So we will not, and I repeat will not discontinue this service to any current recipient.

We do ask that this Commission restore the small increases recommend by Sedgwick County Advisory Council. These were in two areas. One was the area of senior centers and the other was senior employment program. The senior centers, there are four of them, one is in downtown, one in Linwood, one at Northeast and then there is the Orchard Park. They provide valuable resources to older citizens and their families. They provide opportunities for physical and mental activities, education and perhaps most importantly, socializing for people who would be isolated without the support system these centers offer.

Our Senior Employment service has seen a dramatic increase in the number of job seekers seeking our assistance over the past year. Attendance has more than doubled. More than half of these people are between the ages of 55 and 59. They are not retired and they are generally without health insurance and are actively seeking full-time paid employment. Some of these people are still be making mortgage payments and keeping their children in college. As you may well appreciate, the job search for people 55 and older is more than twice as long as it is for someone who is younger, and they are having to dip into their savings that would supply security in later years. Others are retired and they are reentering the job market, not because they are bored with retirement, but because they can’t afford to pay for their prescriptions, utilities and other necessities.

We provide a service in that job program that is fairly effective, in terms of dollars spent versus the dollars returned. We have a 70% replacement rate using the State’s formula. If you assume a job at

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\$7.00 an hour, which is a fairly low amount, 52 weeks a year and just half-time employment, the return to the citizens of Sedgwick County is in excess of \$3,000,000.

I want to reiterate our appreciation for your continued support, to make it clear that the funding cuts with which we are dealing this year are State cuts. They are not your responsibility. We are not asking that you make those up through your Aging mill levy. It has been a stable source for our and other aging programs and you have been a responsible and reliable partner in developing and providing needed services and we thank you. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to try to answer them and, in the likely event that I cannot, my executive director is here and she can."

Chairman Sciortino said, "The likely event. John, let me just say something from the beginning. I've been very impressed with what Senior Services have been doing but let me clarify something, because you indicated something here that was pretty impressive to me. On this employment level, am I reading that right? In 2002, the Senior Employment program actually placed 422 people 55 years of age or older that came to you that didn't have a job that you were able to help them secure a position. Is that correct?"

Mr. Conlee said, "That's correct."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, that's pretty amazing."

Mr. Conlee said, "That's the figure I used for the \$7.00 per hour, half-time work of \$3,000,000 returned to the county."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And I have to assume some of those jobs maybe even got higher than \$7.00 an hour but you just took the low number. Well, that's very impressive. I also commend you on looking for other sources for income to partner with and you feel comfortable through the private sector, what have you, that you can make up the shortfalls on the Meals on Wheels? Because that's something that was concerning to us."

Mr. Conlee said, "We do at the present time and if we can't, we'll come back. But I don't think it will be necessary. We've had a good response from private funding sources and from an increase in the volunteers who deliver the meals. If we don't have sufficient number of volunteers, our staff has to do that, and therefore it is an expense which we would otherwise not have."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I understand. Well, just as a general comment, I want to commend Senior Services Inc. on a tremendous job that you've been doing. Is there any other questions or comments on this presenter? I don't think we have any at this time. So, thank you very much.

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Is there anyone else in the room that would like to address us? Yes, sir. Please come forward and again, if you would give your name and address and limit yourself to five minutes please.”

Mr. Olin Hiebert, Vice Chair, Advisory Council on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I don’t envy you for seats on the dais this morning. I know you have difficult decisions to make. But I also know that I have met with most of you, over a period of years, on one occasion or another and I know you’re fair-minded individuals. So I’m sure that you will render fair and just judgments.

The Advisory Council looked at all proposals that it received with a critical eye. We knew that with the budget constraints, we could not fund everyone as they requested. We looked at outcomes and how the providers spent the money over the past year to see if an increase or a decrease was justified. Each proposal was scored and we used that scoring to help prioritize the requests.

The Council on Aging does have three requests for supplemental funding. Number one, \$12,413 for senior centers. Number two, \$728 for Riverside Health Foundation Senior Companion program and thirdly, \$5,975 for Senior Employment.

The Council also felt that the Good Grief support group is important. However, the money that we had we felt would best be used in more medical-related services, as indicated in our most recent needs assessment, such as health screenings, Guadalupe Clinic and Medical Services Bureau. Those are all the requests that we have. If you have questions, I will do my best to answer them.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I believe we do have one question or comment. Commissioner Gwin.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Mr. Hiebert, thanks for being here. Give me those numbers again. The \$12,413 were for the senior centers. That includes some of the ones that Mr. Conlee addressed previously, isn’t it?”

Mr. Hiebert said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Okay. And then your next item was for how much?”

Mr. Hiebert said, “\$728 for Riverside Health Foundation.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “And that’s for the Foster Grandparents?”

Mr. Hiebert said, “Senior Companions.”

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Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay."

Mr. Hiebert said, "And the third one was for \$5,975 for Senior Employment."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay, now some of that . . . \$2,800 of that is requested in Mr. Conlee's presentation. Is that . . . Does that include his also?"

Mr. Hiebert said, "Annette can help me on this. Yes, it does."

Commissioner Gwin said, "It does. Okay. All right, so I could lower your amount by the amount that Mr. Conlee had requested."

Mr. Hiebert said, "Yes, that would be right."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay, all right. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's it."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Well, those are basically the same questions I had but now I have a . . . I need a clarification I guess on the Senior Employment. I've got one set of numbers and then you raised another . . . the \$5,974 which leaves a net of \$3,179. Where does that go? Annette, can you come up and help us out a little bit, please? I'm looking at the numbers that Senior Services gave us the other day. The Aging Council recommendation versus the Manager's recommendation for 2003 and I have a difference of \$2,800 but Mr. Hiebert, you said \$5,979. So if I take the \$2,800 and that leaves \$3,179 and I don't know where that goes. Got to find the right person there. All right."

Mr. John Rowland, Senior Accountant, Department on Aging said, "It was a supplemental request funded by the Department on Aging by moving around some of the funds from some of the other agencies, such as Good Grief."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay. Well so do we need \$2,800 or do we need \$5,979? That's what I don't understand."

Mr. Rowland said, "You need the \$5,900. The \$2,800 has already been approved by the Department on Aging, by shifting around funds from other agencies."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Wait a minute. So the \$2,800 has already been approved. So Mr. Conlee requesting . . . He sold past the close? That was already approved?"

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Commissioner McGinn said, "It's not approved according to the Manager's recommendation."

Mr. Rowland said, "The budget is not approved until today. That's correct but with the Department on Aging and the Advisory Council, we had allocated those funds to them from other agencies."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, so they already have the \$2,800."

Mr. Rowland said, "Right, as soon as you approve the budget today."

Commissioner McGinn said, "So now we need to understand the \$3,179."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. On the . . ."

Mr. Rowland said, "On their budget for this year, 2002 it's \$47,955. They asked for \$56,730. We approved them for \$50,755."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Which was the same as the Advisory Board's recommendation."

Mr. Rowland said, "Right. That's \$2,800 increase."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. And then there's an RSVP Senior Services budgeted at \$22,660 last year whose recommendation for the Advisory Board and recommendation on the recommended budget is still the same, \$22,660."

Mr. Rowland said, "Right. That's correct."

Commissioner Gwin said, "So, those might be moot."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Bill, could you . . . This is getting to be about as clear as mud. So could you . . ."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Sure. If I may make a suggestion, Commission, the budget analyst for the Department on Aging and John and other folks, give them fifteen minutes or so to sort this out and be back to you to answer these questions."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay. That would be good. All right, thank you. That's all I had."

Chairman Sciortino said, "We may have other questions after we get clarification. Was there anything else? Was that the end of your presentation?"

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Mr. Hiebert said, "That's the end of the presentation."

Chairman Sciortino said, "All right. Thank you, sir. Does anyone else wish to address this Commission on the 2003 budget? Yes, ma'am."

Ms. Kelly Blades, Good Grief of Kansas, greeted the Commissioners and said, "And I don't know if it's . . ."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Would you please also state your address for the record?"

Ms. Blades said, "Sure. 1142 South Broadway with Good Grief of Kansas. Something that I didn't mention two weeks ago that I wanted to say today was that the recommendation that the Advisory Council had made was in the areas of our newsletter, postage and our mailings and some of the building maintenance, like utilities and what not. And I wanted to have a chance to explain to you that we send out, whenever a person becomes widowed, we send out an initial letter with our newsletter because in our newsletter we have the services that are available to them. So we send a cover letter with the newsletter twice to each person who becomes widowed. And if they don't have that, then they don't know that our services are available to them. And that was all I wanted to add. Did you have any questions for me?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "I don't think so."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Well, I'm working on it. The 2002 budget amount I think was \$25,071. Can someone from my staff tell me whether or not that includes . . . It's got to, money with COMCARE and with Good Grief of Kansas and with Wellness Professionals. So all of those entities, I think, fall into this support group for those folks who have been widowed. And so then for 2003 the recommendation is \$16,688, if I'm reading that correctly."

Ms. Blades said, "I'm not real sure about that."

Commissioner Gwin said, "So on your . . . for your agency only, what did you receive in 2002 and what is your request for 2003?"

Ms. Blades said, "We received in 2002 \$9,372 and that's what we requested for 2003."

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Commissioner Sciortino said, “And what have they approved for 2003?”

Ms. Blades said, “They approved \$4,800.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Okay, that’s the recommended amount? Okay.”

Ms. Blades said, “And I would like to add too that we do consider our agency to be a health preventative for health problems.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Okay. I think I’m clear.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Any other questions or comments? Okay, thank you very much. Is there anyone else here in the audience that would like to address us pertaining to this budget? Okay, I see that there are no other comments, so I’m going to close the public hearing and restrict the comments to the Bench. Mr. Buchanan, did you have anything that you wanted to talk to . . .”

C. BUDGET ADOPTION.

1. ADOPTION OF THE 2003 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

Mr. Buchanan said, “We sure do. Commissioner, we have in the past used the technology and used the computer to keep track of where we are. It would be helpful I think for you to understand there has been some technical changes and some of them rather significant since we’ve discussed this budget publicly two weeks ago. I’ve asked the Chief Financial Officer, Chris Chronis, to run through those changes and to use the screen to keep track of any changes that you may want to make in the budget. So we’ll proceed with it.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay.”

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m going to be assisted by Lunda Asmani, who is more technologically proficient than I am. He’s going to run the keyboard and I’m going to try and address questions that you have.

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This presentation that you see is what we informally refer to as 'levy live'. It's a model that was developed several years ago that is intended to show you and the audience and viewers on TV the impact of changes that you might choose to make in the recommended budget or that have already been made in the recommended budget. And let me walk through how you read this chart very briefly.

First, at the top, in blue here we see the total mill levy, the tax rate that is estimated to be necessary to fund the budget as it's currently proposed. That mill levy of 28.654 is the current year's tax rate as well.

We began the process with a recommended budget of just over \$303,000,000 and in this column, column B, as we move forward you will see any expenditure changes, either additions or decreases that have been made or that you choose to make today, we will add them to this column and as we add them this red number will reflect the net impact of those changes and this number underneath that will show the resulting current budget.

In this column you see the property taxes that are necessary to support the budget and we included in the recommended budget just under \$84,000,000 of property taxes. That is the amount of tax revenue that can be raised with a tax rate of 28.654, which is the current year's tax rate.

Below here you will see, as we make adjustments in the budget, the property tax impact of those adjustments. Some changes that we make will affect property taxes because the service that you are adding or that you are deleting from the budget needs to be funded with property taxes. Other changes that you might make will have no impact on property taxes because they can be or are funded with some other source and we'll identify those as we go through the hearing.

The final column shows the impact on the property tax rate. And so as changes are made here, you will see those changes reflected here if there are any. At this point there are none. There have been no changes in the property tax rate to date.

What you see on the screen right now reflects the budget that was published following the first public hearing that was held two weeks ago. In that public hearing, you authorized us to advertise the recommended budget, the budget book that we had delivered to you in June and that budget was, as I said, just under \$303,000,000 and it required just under \$84,000,000 of property taxes and estimated a property tax rate of 28.654. At that same meeting two weeks ago, you took two actions that affect the 2003 budget.

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The first action was the sale of bonds and you approved the sale of a little over \$44,000,000 worth of bonds at interest rates that we received through public bidding process that morning that were more favorable than those we had assumed we would get. And so as a result in the 2003 budget we are able to reduce interest expense for debt service by \$584,407.

Additionally, at the meeting two weeks ago, you approved an agreement with the City of Derby involving the sharing of a new fire station by the County EMS service and that agreement calls for the County to reimburse the City of Derby \$300,000 over three years for the costs that they incurred in constructing that facility. Our first payment will be due in 2003 and it will be \$100,000. And so we had to add that back to the budget that was originally recommended.

And so, with those changes, we ended up reducing the expenditures in the recommended budget by just over \$484,000 and we published an advertisement that's legally required that said that our maximum budget for 2003 would be \$302,535,354. And we said in that legally required ad that that budget would be funded with no more than \$83,997,476 of property tax and that it would require a tax rate of 28.654 based on our estimates of property value to produce that revenue. That's what we published.

In the two weeks since that date the budget staff has spent their time going through the recommended budget with a fine-tooth comb and also going through the Minutes of Commission meetings that have taken place since the recommended budget was originally delivered to you back in June, because you've taken a number of actions since then that will have some impact on the 2003 budget and we want the adopted budget to reflect those impacts.

And so I'm going to now move to a second sheet that starts us where we left off with the legally required ad. At last up day, we published a budget that was just over three hundred two and a half million dollars and it required \$83,997,000 of property taxes, as we just said. In the budget staff's review of the actions that you've taken and of the items that were in the recommended budget a number of changes have been identified that need to be made to the budget. Those changes, in aggregate, have the effect of reducing expenditures by almost \$751,000 and reducing required property taxes by \$902,000.

Those changes, in summary, are the result of basically three categories of activity. The first category of activity has to do with property evaluations. As you know, we recently received word of several appeals to the State Board of Tax Appeals by County property owners and those appeals were received valuably by BOTA and as a result of BOTA's award of those appeals, of their favorable rulings in those appeals, the County will receive lower property taxes next year because of lower evaluations. The amount of lower property taxes is almost \$900,000.

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Second major category has to do with grant funding and we spent a fair amount of time since the budget was originally released, the recommended was originally released, talking about the impact of State funding changes on County services, primarily in Corrections, to some extent to Aging, to some extent in Developmental Disabilities, to some extent in the Highway Fund. Many of those changes we learned about after the recommended budget was at the printer being prepared for release. And so while we've known about those changes and we've been talking about those changes, the published recommended budget doesn't reflect them and so we've had to go in and make the appropriate adjustments in grant funding available to support certain expenditures and that amounts to something on the order of \$760,000 of reduced spending. It doesn't affect property taxes at all.

The third major category of activity has to do with a variety of actions that have been approved by the Commission in the two months, or almost two months, since the recommended budget was released and those actions have the effect of increasing the required salaries or personnel cost budgets in the District Attorney, the Register of Deeds and the Forensic Science Center and they have the impact of reducing the personnel budget in the County Manager's Office. And so when we take all of those adjustments into account, we end up with this picture, a budget that as it currently stands is \$301,784,415 and that requires a property tax rate of 28.648. That property tax rate is six one-thousandths of a mill below the rate that we have in the current year and that we advertised as the maximum rate that we could levy for 2003. That six one-hundredths [sic] of a mill equates to just a little over \$19,000.

In other words, and I'm about to turn the speaker or the microphone over to you so that you can start talking about what changes you want to make in the budget, to the extent that you want to add things to the budget the first \$19,000 of additions will, at least I will recommend, be funded with property taxes in order to keep the property tax rate at the current tax rate of 28.654. To the extent that you choose to add items to the budget that exceed \$19,000, then my recommendation will be that you fund those items from reductions of expenditure that are in the budget. And the specific expenditure that I would recommend that you use is an account that we refer to as the Reserve for Health and Life Benefits.

As you know, the County operates a rather expensive health benefit plan for its employees and most of that health benefit plan is self-insured, self-funded. What that means is that the County has not passed the risk of that plan off onto an insurer through an insurance policy. Instead, the County has retained that risk and we are obligated to pay whatever the claims experience is. We have included in the budget an amount of money to pay those claims based on our history and an industry standard rate of growth in health costs for next year. If claims should actually increase above that level, the County is obligated to pick up that additional cost somehow and that will be costs that aren't in the primary health budget. So we have this reserve for health and life set aside in case we have excess claims.

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I think that you can safely reduce that reserve by perhaps as much as \$100,000. I would not recommend that you consider reducing the Reserve for Health and Life by any more than that amount of money. If you choose to add expenditures above that, then we have to look to other sources within the current budget to make reductions and we'll do those if we get to that point.

But with that rather lengthy overview, I think it's appropriate now for you to ask whatever questions that you have and to start deliberating among yourselves about changes that you wish to make in this budget before you consider a motion to approve it."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, thank you. Bill, did you have something you wanted to address with us prior to . . ."

Mr. Manager said, "Yes. There were some questions asked about some senior services and I think we have an answer that's understandable."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Commissioners, would you like to hear the response to that before we go with the questions here?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "You all were given this sheet and what we've discovered is, in fact, the Senior Employment, this \$2,800 which was being requested had already been funded by the Department of Aging. They reworked some of the numbers. It's in the budget. So that's taken care of. Now this is about the extent of my knowledge of what happens next, so John Rowland."

Chairman Sciortino said, "This is a tiered presentation."

Mr. Rowland said, "Tag-team. And they had asked for \$9,000 total. We had given them \$2,800. The supplemental that we're asking for is for \$5,975. The \$5,975 and the \$2,800 equals the amount that they requested and that's the amount that we're asking from you guys today, \$5,975 as a supplemental request for Senior Employment."

Commissioner Winters said, "In addition to what's in this recommended . . ."

Commissioner McGinn said, "What's already in there."

Mr. Rowland said, "Right."

Chairman Sciortino said, "My math didn't work out. You said that they had asked for \$9,000 but we included \$2,800 . . . Okay. Where's the gentleman that first made the presentation to us? John Conlee, is he here? Judy is here. Let's have Judy . . . Judy, I'd like for you to come up here and just tell us in Kansas kitchen English how much money do you want?"

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Mr. Judy Finnell, Executive Director, Senior Services, said, "What's the full total? Five thousand what?"

Mr. Rowland said, "This is your budget this year, this is what you've asked for, this is what we gave you and then you're asking for \$5,975."

Ms. Finnell said, "All right and there was just confusion. We misunderstood what the Department on Aging had told us. We were attempting to just support what the Advisory Council did. We are asking for an additional \$5,975, which I hope is the same figure John just told you. And I think for the employment program it's such a needed job that I would hope you could support that and I'd answer any other questions."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, thank you. There wasn't any other discrepancies on the rest of the Senior Services Inc. presentation about the funds that they were requesting for the Downtown, Linwood, Northeast, Orchard Park? The only question was this."

Mr. Buchanan said, "That's right."

Chairman Sciortino said, "That cleared it up for me a little bit. I think now we just have some comments or questions and Commissioner Norton was first, so it's your turn."

Commissioner Norton said, "On the Seniors, what is the total ticket? You have \$5,975, seven hundred and change for Senior Companion and then the downtown senior center, the other senior centers, what is that total amount? Somebody got that?"

Mr. Rowland said, "What was the question?"

Commissioner Norton said, "What was the total amount extra for seniors?"

Mr. Rowland said, "For the Senior Services or senior centers?"

Commissioner Norton said, "All of it together."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I come up with \$11,255."

Commissioner Norton said, "I thought it was almost 12."

Commissioner Winters said, "Let's just start with Senior Services."

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Commissioner Gwin said, "Senior Services I've got \$5,280 for senior centers within the city limits of Wichita. Anybody else have that?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "What I did is I just took the \$5,975 . . . I just added all of them together for a grand total of \$11,255. I took the net difference between 5,975 less the 2,800 was 3,175. Added that to this 8,080 and it came out \$11,255."

Commissioner Norton said, "That was it. I just wanted to clarify that."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I have some requests that I'd like to have reinstated into the budget but before I begin, I would like to I guess talk just a little bit about the budget adjustments that Chris Chronis talked about, some of the changes that had to occur. One was a very positive change and I want to compliment our County Manager on that. I know that the public may not have received all the proper information. When we hired Ron Holt to be the Department of Fun for us but it's really some of our cultural and museums that are very important to this community, to oversee those that was not . . . I mean, it kind of was taken as a created position but how the County Manager handled that was our previous Assistant Manager, Jerry Harrison, had those responsibilities and instead of hiring someone from the outside to be the Assistant Manager we hired somebody from within, Kathy Sexton who is already doing many of those responsibilities as well during this transitional period. And so we really ended up saving dollars because we used someone who is already doing some of those jobs and then kind of almost just took this other piece that Jerry Harrison did and hired a person to just take care of that as well. So we actually ended up saving 70-some thousand dollars there. And so, thank you Mr. Manager for working on that transition.

The other areas that I'd like to see reinstated back into the budget have to do with the senior services. I'll listen to my other colleagues on this, but I can go along with the recommendations of the Senior Services, what they talked about on senior employment and some of these senior centers downtown. I appreciate their comments on Meals on Wheels. I know that that really hits the hearts of many in our community. It's a very good program. When the State, and I know they have some difficult times ahead, but I hope they think about, when they go in to doing some cuts, how it effects us at the local level. Nutrition is a very important part of keeping our seniors healthy and keeping them in their homes as well. And I think when we have a healthy community, it saves us all money in the long run because we're not having to put them in hospitals and those kinds of things. So, I

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hope that when they go back to work that they look very hard at some of those programs that maybe they look like easy programs to cut early on but they may have an effect later on of how it effects the communities later. And so, I appreciate though the Senior Services group in talking about how they're going to go try to raise money to fund this program and I hope you keep us informed of how that's going.

The other items I have are Park City just asked for a small amount that they did not get. I'd like to reinstate that from the \$4,146 to the request of \$4,247. That's a \$101 increase.

Sedgwick Senior Club, they would like to have \$4,352 from the \$1,652 that was recommended by the Manager. That's about a \$2,700 increase. The reason they are wanting those dollars is they are trying to get kind of a quasi-roving director situation started in their area and they're working on a pilot project right now. I see that the roving directors are very important. We have one right now that goes from Bel Aire to Maize to Park City, I believe those are the three. Anyway, she has done an excellent job and she is very valued by those senior centers that have her.

I think some of us that were here three year's ago, I think we tried cutting that position and we had busloads of seniors saying that is not a good idea. I have also been out there to some of those senior centers and seen how effective she has been for those programs. And so I'd like to give Sedgwick that opportunity. Also, I'll share I know a lot of people think that Sedgwick and it is split between two counties but their senior housing areas happen to be in Sedgwick County. And so, I'd like to support that.

And then Valley Center, just an increase of \$125 from \$4,975 recommended by the Manager to \$5,200."

Commissioner Gwin said, "That's how much? I'm sorry."

Commissioner McGinn said, "\$125.

The last item that I would like to see reinstated and I don't believe we had talked about that earlier here today but it was an item that was brought to us through a public hearing and that is the Foster Grandparent program. Recommendation was \$30,000 and I believe the request was for \$32,800. Is that right, Chris?"

Mr. Chronis said, "That's correct."

Chairman Sciortino said, "So that's how much increase then?"

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Commissioner McGinn said, "An increase of \$2,800 and that is all I have for now."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay."

Mr. Chronis said, "Commissioner, could I get a little bit of clarification? On the three senior centers that you mentioned, for Park City you identified \$101, for Sedgwick \$2,700, for Valley Center \$125. In each case, the difference between what is in the recommended budget and what those centers requested originally is a little bit more than that. Is it your intent that we fund their original request or the numbers that you cited?"

Commissioner McGinn said, "I was looking at the committee recommendations."

Chairman Sciortino said, "She's wanting to increase it up to the committee recommendations."

Mr. Chronis said, "Okay, got you. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "All right. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of comments about the budget. We've spent a lot of time working on this \$300,000,000 budget and now we're kind of putting the last screws in a couple of issues that are really, when you think about the policy implications of the budget, we've already had those discussions in a number of meetings. We've spent over a week in budget discussions hearing from all department heads and citizens alike. It was hard work. Doing budgets is hard work and that is one of the reasons I wanted to thank Manager Buchanan for his efforts, for Chris Chronis and Renfeng Ma and all of the budget folks that work in this department. This is . . . We're talking about some issues here but really a lot of the hard policy issues on public safety and all those kinds of things, we've had detailed discussions with them and I certainly appreciate all the work that the budget department has done.

I've got just a couple of small items that I'd like us to think about. In just following along with Commissioner McGinn's on the senior clubs. I'd like to . . . Garden Plain is trying to get started out there. We've not been funding them at all. They made a request for \$4,200. The recommendation was to give them \$500. I'd just like to make that \$2,000 so that they could take a year and see if they can get started.

And then I really appreciate the work that the Aging Advisory Council has done and I looked at this score sheet about the senior clubs and how they were scored and I would hope that our Aging Department could really work on some of these that continue to say that they need to work on their

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outcomes and they need to do a better job, if we could figure out how we could help them do a better job. But I'd really like to understand how we select these senior clubs better to receive funding. So, I would like to add just \$2,000 to that one in Garden Plain.

I will be supportive, we talk about the senior services, the employment and the additions that they've requested, Judy Finnell and John Conlee, I'll be supportive of that.

The one last issue I'd like to talk about for a moment is Extension and I know we've had discussions about Extension in the past and I know that we have some concerns. They're going to have their budget reduced from Kansas State and the State of Kansas by about almost \$59,000 and I know when state funds are hard to come by in this day and age. We know that the state's budgetary situation is not the best that it could be. If there is any other support on the Commissioners, I would be supportive of attempting to make up that shortfall that the state is going to put on Extension.

I think we probably can safely say that we have one of the best extension service operation facility-wise in the Midwest. Probably could even say that we have perhaps the best extension facility in the nation right here in Sedgwick County. And it is a great facility. They're involved with young people, they're involved with families, they're involved with the sustainability of Sedgwick County production and agriculture and they're involved in environmental issues. I really think that they're doing an excellent job and I'm disappointed to see the state reducing their budget. So, Commissioners, I know that we've had comments about this. I know a number of you believe, and I do in a sense too, believe that we're not going to be able to step up and fund everything that the State of Kansas refuses to fund. I know there's going to be some tough choices but I would just put that out there for your consideration."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And what was that amount?"

Commissioner Winters said, "\$59,000. It was 58 thousand something, but 59 roughly."

Mr. Chronis said, "I have \$58,941."

Commissioner Winters said, "Yes, that's the number. If any of you is interested in talking about that, I'd be interested in supporting that. If you're not, I understand that also. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. I don't see any other comments. I have just one small item. First of all, I want to be just a little bit more generous with my compliments to Bill Buchanan, Chris Chronis, the entire group of individuals at the County that worked on this budget. We actually foresaw a year ago, a year and a half ago that there might be some serious downturns in state funding and we started working on a plan as to how we could absorb some of these reductions

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in funding without cutting into muscle and bone and too often you hear government just verbalizing and talking the talk but not really getting in there and making some of the tough decisions.

And if you want to look at the detail, I mean there are some positions as Commissioner McGinn indicated, assistant manager position of a hundred some odd thousand plus dollars that just won't be filled. That's just not going to be there. The workload has been spread upon existing employees and Mr. Buchanan is going to do without an assistant manager. There's been some other serious reductions in non-essential spending. Mr. Chronis is to be complimented. The economy being the way it is, we were able to negotiate a much more favorable bond rate. Now that was a windfall for us. There is another gentleman by the name of Phil Rippee that went in and was able to negotiate a little more favorable rate on some of our insurance premiums for our health insurance.

These are things that the public doesn't hear about but it manifests itself in a downturn, where it looks like we're going to be able to augment some of these cuts that the state has made for senior services and still not raise the mill levy. And folks, I've got to tell you, in this day and age that's a lot of hard work. And Mr. Manager, I hope I'm embarrassing you sufficiently but I just want to say thank you for a job well done.

Now that I've said that, I want to increase the spending. The only thing I want to do is, in keeping with what we're talking about some of these senior services, I would like to request that on the Oaklawn Senior Center, they had requested \$14,765. The recommendation was \$13,918 and I'm recommending consideration of giving them what they've requested. That would be an increase of \$847.

Commissioner Gwin said, "Their request was \$14,765 and the committee recommendation was 13,918. Isn't that a difference of 405?"

Mr. Chronis said, "The recommended budget for Oaklawn is \$13,513. That's a \$1,252 reduction from their original request and it's a \$405 reduction from the Advisory Committee recommendation."

Chairman Sciortino said, "So I'm only asking for a \$400 increase?"

Mr. Chronis said, "If your intent is to go to the Advisory Committee recommendation, yes, \$405."

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Chairman Sciortino said, "\$405, okay that's what I'm recommending. And if you all were listening to what Mr. Conlee said about what that senior employment does to the economy, they're going to cover that just in the amount of additional job placements they're going to put for senior citizens. So I look at this as a hand up, it's not a hand out and I compliment Senior Services in not coming to the Board just with a hand out, the state cut Meals on Wheels, please pay for it. They've made a commitment that they're going to go out and try to find the money on their own and that's just fantastic, because we're not a source of funds, you are. And when individuals will say, 'Hey, we'll work with you' and we need a hand up here in this area but not a hand out, I think you're going to find this Board very willing to see if we can't accommodate you on that area. So, that's all I had to say, except people are sometimes very, very quick to complain but very slow to compliment, and I think this year our staff did a yeoman's job in holding the line on tax and still funding the services. Any other comments or questions? Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I just have some questions at different points in the budget and I wanted to ask about them. Under Project Impact, page 78, the Project Impact person goes away and that's been a very important program. It's part of the Ready to Respond. It has made safe communities and I'd like a little dialogue on that. It appears that there's salary in the budget but that is salary that has already been used and is split between two years. So, Manager?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "The Project Impact is a grant that the position expires in February. We think there's a way to utilize that person in the Division of Public Safety for division-wide issues and we've provided funds in the 2003 budget so that position transfers from Project Impact to the General Public Safety account and that individual will work for the Public Safety Director. So, we think this is a way, not to pigeon hole or narrow this individual, but to clearly broaden the scope of the assignment and utilize what we know about the person."

Commissioner Norton said, "The person will be working on similar issues to Project Impact but also Ready to Respond, communication, emergency management issues?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "Exactly."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay, good. I'd like to talk a little bit about hazardous household waste, it's page 196. Obviously we're ramping up the budget for opening that and I'd like just a little dialogue about that's a lot of money. Is it enough money? Are we covering ourselves for what we anticipate that facility doing?"

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Mr. Chronis said, "As you know, that facility will be located at the County Complex just south of the Public Works building. It will be open later on this year and we have a portion of the year's funding for that facility in the current year's budget. Next year, we have to fund 12 months of activity at that facility and that's what's driving most of the growth that you see. The facility will be funded partly with County staff and you've already approved those positions but it also will be funded with contract staff and we have just received the bids from vendors to provide that service and you considered those bids in the Bid Board Minutes at your last week's meeting. They may be on today's meeting actually, now that I think about it. You will be considering them later today and that will account for roughly \$300,000 of this budget. That contractor will provide staff support at the facility to handle the hazardous waste materials, do the sorting, load into the trucks and so forth and provide the transport to the final destination for those materials and provide for the tipping fees at those final destinations, disposal fees at those final destinations. That's \$300,000 of the budget.

That service has been based on the current levels of activity that exist at the facility that was originally a city facility. The county took it over about a year ago. We have counted in this budget, we've anticipated in this budget some increase in the level of services that will be required because of the new facility. It will be open for longer hours. We plan to do a better job of promoting it to the community so that they know it exists. So we expect that the level of activity will increase and we've contemplated that in this budget.

However, there is a considerable amount of uncertainty about what those levels of activity will be. If they exceed our expectations, then it's likely that we will end up spending more at this facility than you see in this budget and so, in the Solid Waste Fund, which provides the revenue source that pays for this budget, we have included reserves that we intend to use if necessary to cover that excess expense. We think that we've got a prudent budget here, based on our expectations and we think that we've got a prudent reserve set aside if the reality exceeds those expectations."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Page 398, Solid Waste Enforcement, the personnel and benefits jumped 33% and it still have the same FTE. Can you tell me a little bit about that?"

Mr. Chronis said, "This year, 2002 is the first year we have been able, because of software limitations, that we've been able to break the budget down into the level of detail that it currently

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exists in. We weren't able to show personnel costs at this low level of organization previously. And so, the 2002 budget was largely an educated guess about what personnel costs and related benefits costs would be in individual cost centers. It previously had been budgeted only at much higher levels of organization, typically at the department level. And in the 2003 budget, now that we have six months of experience under our belts with the new structure, we're able to do a much more accurate job of budgeting for expenditures by the particular category. In this case, as is the case in a number of cost centers throughout the organization, we found it necessary to budget relatively more benefits than would appear to be warranted just by the number of positions simply because of corrections in the way the budget is constructed in the current year."

Commissioner Norton said, "So this is really not a salary increase, it's just a percent change of what your estimate was last year. That's fine. Next page 399, which is Solid Waste minimization, contractual services shows a 36.2% increase. Could you talk about what contractual services are, what that money is being spent for?"

Mr. Chronis said, "Yes, if I can find the right note sheet I can talk about it. It largely consists of the advertising budget for the Solid Waste program and as you know we done a rather aggressive advertising program over the past year to encourage people to make great use of recycling activities. The advertising budget is \$302,000 in the recommended budget and that compares very comparable to the adopted 2002 budget. It's essentially the same carried forward."

Commissioner Norton said, "I guess my concern is that's a lot of money for advertising and I'm not sure we're getting our bang for our buck on recycling. But one thing that concerns me under the 2003 performance measurements is that it doesn't have anything to do with our percent of recycling that we measure ourselves by. We've said we're going to get to 50% and no where in this documentation does that talk about that and that's what we said our benchmark was going to be as to whether we're going to keep throwing money into an advertising campaign or to keep riding the horse we're riding on recycling."

So I have a concern that \$300,000 is a lot of money. Now I understand this is Solid Waste fee money and it can't really be used for anything else but it could certainly be reduced, set aside for storm debris removal and other solid waste kinds of things that are important to the community. I'm just not sure that we're getting our bang for our buck on this advertising. Amy is cute but I

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don't think she's inspiring anybody to recycle. I'm not so sure that money couldn't be spent better looking at avenues to get people into the recycling business, not particularly subsidized but find some people that could use the products that need to be recycled. It's got to be market driven and right now it's not. I'd be interested to know what percent we're at right now. You know we hadn't heard that. We're very proud of that number but I think we need to make it public because we haven't gotten to 50% that I know of because we'd be sending up red flags and jumping up and down and screaming and having a party. So I'd like to know, number one, what the performance measures are going to be that will indicate if we're spending that money wisely. Secondly, if we leave this in here, are we contracted for that advertising money to date?"

Mr. Chronis said, "We will have to come back to you with an answer to your question about the level of recycling activity currently. I don't think any of the three of us standing up here know that right off the top of our heads. I failed to tell you what the rest of that contractual service budget was however. That also includes the funding for the drop-boxes that are located throughout town and there are more drop boxes included next year, I believe, than there were this year. Contracts for those services will be brought to you towards the end of this year."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. And that leads me to another one and maybe this is another dialogue we have later, but I'm concerned with drop-boxes because the locations are pretty good but you can't take everything to every location. You know that's very confusing to people. Somehow, if we're going to do recycling, we've got to figure out how it's a one-stop shop that if you really want to recycle you can take paper and plastic and cans and whatever you're recycling to one location and be done with it. And I like the drop-boxes. They may be the only thing we can do but maybe we take some of this money and use it to create some recycle centers or to do something else. Think outside the box of what we've been doing, because whatever it is we've been doing ain't working. So, just a challenge and if you would give me that information."

Page 401, which is just one more page, Metropolitan Area Planning Department, 11.3% increase. That's pretty hefty. Could we talk about that a little bit? I don't know that we always get our bang for our buck from the MAPD and 11.3% increase is pretty hefty."

Mr. Chronis said, "The Planning Department is a joint effort of the City and the County and the City is the managing partner for that. In other words, the City is responsible for determining the level of services, the level of budget activity that will be required at that facility. The County's responsibility primarily is to pay our appropriate percentage of the budget that is recommended by the City. We do have an opportunity to question that budget but our practice has been to rely heavily on the City's budget staff to determine what the recommendations will be for MAPD. In

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2003, the budget has increased because they are doing one large capital acquisition, some sort of a specialized copier that is used for reproducing maps. That's a major expense for them.

They also have had some personnel actions take place that have caused changes in their personnel budget from 2002 to 2003. And the final change has to do with charges that are paid by Planning to the internal services that are provided by the City of Wichita to the Planning Department, particularly data processing services. Planning's charge for data processing services is increasing in 2003."

Commissioner Norton said, "So what you're saying is that we trust that the City of Wichita, in their wisdom, will make the right decisions for the planning commission and we will abide by that trust."

Mr. Chronis said, "As I said, we have an opportunity to question their recommendations and we do so but in the final analysis we generally end up with something very close to what their original recommendation was."

Commissioner Norton said, "I think it's okay for one entity to control something and the other person to trust that they're going to do the right thing. We have other issues that are similar to that and we would ask for their trust."

I've got one more question highlighted here. Under neighborhood development, page 411, I'm very much supportive of trying to revitalize neighborhoods and understand that whole thing but we're talking about we're going to move from 50 new jobs to 60 new jobs and I'd like to know kind of where those jobs are coming from. We're going to build estimated 25 revitalized homes and five businesses and where does that come from? Why do we put those numbers in here and where are they? I've been at . . . I've challenged us to look outside of one or two neighborhoods and look at some of the other ones that are coming on line and it's been tough to do that because we have limited resources but I'd like to know where these are coming from."

Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Community Development, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The jobs are coming primarily in the McAdam's neighborhood. We've been able to relocate one business and expand another. Not we, we have facilitated at relocation and expansion and those are new jobs created by two particular businesses in the McAdam's neighborhood. The housing has to do with . . . Oh, I'm trying to remember. Both in McAdam's and in Oaklawn neighborhoods where we've been able to get some grants and do some partnerships with community development corporation, both Community Housing Services and Power CDC and get brand new houses built in those neighborhoods which hasn't had new housing in years and years and years. And those are

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good numbers. Those aren't just wish they were. We feel pretty confident about those."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Well I guess if ever a place we could put a little more money in a budget, this may be one that I would be very supportive of and I don't know if we've got any more this year but we've got some inter-city places, some inter-city neighborhoods that . . . Thanks for the support, Irene. Well, I think we're challenged to think about the unincorporated areas and the small towns but I've got to tell you, there's small towns within the city limits of Wichita that have been great neighborhoods and great almost small towns for years and they're deteriorating and if we can help with that. This is a place where, you know you talk about economic development, you can throw a lot of money into big economic projects and it really starts in neighborhoods with people feeling good about themselves and revitalizing because they have to take the first steps and we can only help. This would be a place where I think if we have some money we could put a little extra in. They didn't present anything extra to us, so maybe that's going to be a moot issue.

The only other thing I had was I wanted to talk about the movement of dollars in the EMS systems and we had talked about that, Chris, that some . . . Let me see if I can find my notes here. Some of the EMS houses looked like they had more people than last year or less and there was more salary in there and it's because of the new accounting. Is that what you've explained to me? Would you kind of go into that just a little bit?"

Mr. Chronis said, "Again, with the new system that we have effective this year, we're able to budget at a lower level of detail than we ever have been able to before. We now build budgets for EMS and for fire services at the station level. If you go back to last year's budget, what you will see for EMS is a single cost center that aggregates the entire nine or ten million dollar budget into one category and you can't tell how much is being spent anywhere. We've never had the ability to track that information or to budget that information. We now do. In building the 2002 budget, again the station budgets were educated guesses about what the actual experience would be at those facilities. Now that we have six months of real experience under our belts, we're able to do a much more precise job of building accurate budgets for each of those stations and that's what you're seeing in the 2003 budget.

The changes from among stations from year to year are largely the result of corrective actions to make the budget more accurately reflect what is really happening on the ground, both in EMS and in fire."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. It just seemed like with the call volume that each one experiences, of course I know that's a moving target, but all of the numbers didn't make sense from past years and now it's starting to make maybe a little more sense. It looks like it will take another year before we'll really have data that will compare to something."

Mr. Chronis said, "That's exactly right. The reason it doesn't look like it makes sense is because

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the past year was built based on a lack of information.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay. The only other thing I had was something on the CIP and are we going to discuss that today too?”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Yes. That’s a separate line item. It comes after this one here.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay. Then I’m . . . I think I’m done, unless we get some answers on some of those other issues.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I think you’re done. I didn’t hear any answers coming but they did indicate that they would be getting back to you. Commissioner Gwin.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’ve made note of some inclusions that my colleagues have suggested and I thought, since we hadn’t really gotten a consensus as to whether or not they should be put on the board, maybe I could, if you don’t mind I’ll start that process.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “There is another question, real quick.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Before we go on to that, I do have one other topic that I forgot to say something about. Page 194, and that’s storm water management, I had a concern that we didn’t put much money into capital projects for storm water management and I still think there’s major drainage issues out there, not only on the south side but in other areas and we’ve created this great department that’s doing wonderful work, it’s completed some wonderful projects in my district anyway and now we’ve pretty well gone from a million six two years in a row to \$200,000 worth of capital money and that flies in the face of what I’m trying to accomplish.”

Mr. Chronis said, “When we began that program two years ago, the first year of activity was funded with bond proceeds. Last year, some of those projects carried forward and were still under progress. But the new projects that were added last year were funded with money that was set aside specifically for drainage projects. This year, many of those projects are carried forward as well and so the staff that we have doing projects has pretty much a full plate, will have pretty much a full plate carried into 2003, completing what is already on the books.

Additionally, in building the 2003 budget, we didn’t have a dedicated funding source for storm water improvements as we have had in the past. Instead, storm water improvements are funded from cash, property tax cash, the same as county facilities, EMS facilities, park facilities. Everything, in other words, is competing for the same funding stream and that funding stream

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hasn't grown, so storm water drainage is going to be evaluated in the context of the merits of those projects relative to the merits of other competing projects of other types for limited funding."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioner, you brought the subject to my attention a couple of weeks ago. Subsequent to that, I've had a meeting with David Spears and Paul Taylor and we have looked at what's going to happen next year and the next couple of years. We're prepared to bring to you at a staff meeting or one of these meetings the proposal and the plan of how we're going to address those issues. There are several different approaches but I think there's enough work, on this initial phase, to keep us busy for several years and it appears as if that's not occurring because of the way we laid out the budget. That in fact is not true. They are busy, active and engaged."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, you just know it's one of my core values. I sit on an economic development subcommittee on infrastructure and one of the topics that has moved into the top five is drainage and storm water management and I think we need to take the lead on that where we can because if it's going to be an issue of economic development and growth in some areas, then it's very important that we continue to keep it on a front burner instead of a back burner. That's my only concern. That's all I have, Mr. Chair. Thanks, Betsy."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Chris, I misspoke earlier. I'm wanting the request amount on the senior clubs, not the committee recommendation and Commissioner Gwin, she'll be announcing those numbers here in just a few minutes.

The other thing, real quick since Commissioner Norton brought it up, the neighborhood development program, I believe we're completing our second year on that and you know that's a program that we just kind of created here at Sedgwick County and it has been a very good program.

You look at the amount of dollars that we put in. It's not very much at all but it does big things and the reason it does big things is because of the partnerships that we've made with like Power CDC, Habitat for Humanity, other entities and sources that are out there that are wanting to do the same kinds of things but what our piece is is to put all those entities together so that we're not all trying to do the same thing but go different directions. So we're really building upon those resources in our community and it's become a good program. But I just wanted to mention that too because Commissioner Norton, you talked about the other smaller communities. If they want to have more information about housing and other things that are out there, they need to access Sherdeill Brethett, who heads that up because he's kind of the link to what's out there and brings that all together. And so I just wanted to share that I think that program has been very successful.

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One other thing real quick. Chris, I talked to you earlier this morning about the Department of Corrections. That was another area we were hit by the State in some cuts and dovetailing on what Commissioner Sciortino said about a year ago we started looking at how can we take care of some of these problems at home without impacting our community, be it the fact that we don't have facilities because they were cut or the manpower or programs or whatever. But I have had some people ask me about Corrections and so would you just share one more time a little bit about what we've done here in Sedgwick County to tackle the cut that the State handed down to us here at home."

Mr. Chronis said, "Well, the State's cut for Corrections was approximately \$800,000 and that was spread through several key services. One was the adult corrections facility that's located on East Central. Had we adopted a budget or if we were to adopt a budget that reflected the state level of funding for that facility, then we would be required to reduce the capacity of the facility and reduce the staffing of the facility. As a way of addressing that problem, the Corrections Director, Mark Masterson and his staff have come up with what I think is a pretty innovative plan to consolidate that facility and the Sedgwick County youth program facility that currently is located at the corner of 2nd and Market I believe it is and they will be consolidated in this facility on East Central with dividers between the two categories of inmates. But by doing that consolidation, we're able to gain greater efficiencies from staff on both sides, both the youth program and the adult program. And so we can manage a larger population with fewer staff resources.

Additionally, we're using some County cash balances to continue that program for at least another year until, we hope, the state is able to get its budgetary problems worked out. In other words, we're able to salvage that program for at least a year through a combination of using County cash and some innovative ways of rethinking how we deliver services.

Another area that's affected by the state funding is the intensive surveillance program. This is one in which we have several probation officers who are specifically assigned to go out at the odd hours to make site visits, home visits of people who are on probation who are suspected of being problem cases. By doing those visits at odd hours, at unexpected hours we think that we are better able to assure that those people who are on probation adhere to the conditions of their probation or if they fail to, we think that we're better able to find that out and take the appropriate corrective action which in many cases means sending them back to prison. That intensive surveillance program is receiving reduced funding from the state and as a result, we're going to have to reduce the staffing that we use for that program which means that we'll be able to do fewer of those kinds of inspections.

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There are also some lesser impacts to be felt at some of the youth facilities that are operated by the Department of Corrections.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay, thank you. And we’re very blessed to have Mark Masterson here at Sedgwick County because he has so much experience in trying to figure out how to tackle this type of thing. But I guess the message I just want to send, you know we didn’t make everybody happy here locally perhaps but I don’t know if we can sustain any more cuts like this again and here in a few months we’re going to be talking about some very serious issues and how do we integrate past offenders back into our community and to do that successfully and make sure our community is safe, we need to make sure that we have the programs in place that help get these folks back into our community. So, thank you for that explanation.”

Mr. Chronis said, “I certainly concur in your remarks concerning Mark Masterson. He has done a very good job for us but also would want to reinforce the remarks you made about state funding and its importance to this program. Many people don’t recall that community corrections originated as an entirely state funded program. There was originally not an intent for the counties to have to use local tax revenue to support that program and throughout the state most counties continue to not use any local tax support for community corrections. A few of the larger counties do use tax support, are required to use tax support but they don’t use nearly as much as Sedgwick County has been using.

Put into perspective, next year Community Corrections has a recommended budget of just over \$21,000,000 and nine and a half million dollars comes from County property taxes and user fees that are generated locally. Only eleven and a half million dollars of that \$21,000,000 budget is provided by the state government.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thanks for depressing me even more, Chris. I think that’s a very good point to make.”

Mr. Chronis said, “A related point is the commitment that the Board and Mark Masterson have made to this service in this community. We feel that this is an important service and we are willing, we have been willing to fund it to a higher level than the state has been willing to fund it historically. And that is unfortunately having to increase because of the state’s budgetary problems.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “And I hope the state understands that Sedgwick County’s makeup is very much different and complex than a lot of the other counties in the state. So, thank you.”

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, have we finished with all of the . . ."

Commissioner Norton said, "Just some kind of general thoughts and comments."

Chairman Sciortino said, "All right, Commissioner. Go ahead."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Just some thoughts for the future, maybe next year that I think need to be talked about and considered. Cowtown Museum, I think we need to be thinking about improvements there. I don't know . . . obviously, there's no money in the budget here but there is going to be some things come up out there that we're going to have to worry with. Carolyn has just worked like a yeoman out there trying to figure out how to do it with volunteer help but it's going to be more than volunteer help real soon and we need to be thinking about that.

I'm very concerned, as we continue to have dialogues about EMS, what our future is going to be there financially and depending on how all the discussions go, that could change the look of budgets and we need to think of that as a reality and be sure we're prepared there.

Emergency Communication technology, are we where we want to be on 9-1-1 and global positioning and all those kind of technologies that are going to be important to our future for a while?

I'm concerned after the article in the paper today about the African American Museum. I know that's another passion of Commissioner McGinn's but they're trying to have some movement there to build us a state of the art African American museum along the river and we've been the key player in making sure that happens and I think we're going to have to step up and be sure we're engaged with that next year. Obviously, we don't have money in the budget for it but we better be thinking about it.

I'm very much a proponent of at least considering what we're doing with the Air Museum, the Aviation Museum and that ties in along the river too. And then finally, with Commissioner Winters, we've had conversations about some things out at Lake Afton and I don't know where that fits into next year's budget, but there are some abilities to expand, some land out there and to work on some of the drainage problems through land acquisition and we maybe need to be thinking about that.

So those are just some thoughts of some things that tie into the budget. They're not in the budget but they're going to be consideration for next year and if we talk about them now, at least we're prepared for next year when they pop up. That's all I had. I'm sorry I keep bringing things up."

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Commissioner McGinn said, "That's great. Appreciate it."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I'm just going to make one small comment and I think Betsy is going to wrap some things up for us. Some of these programs, like you brought up the African American Museum, you brought up most involvement within the incorporated communities about housing, it would be nice if the incorporated communities would maybe partner with us because if they are communities within their circle of responsibility, environment, and I think we would be delighted to visit with smaller communities and if they had an area that's deteriorating and they want to partner with us I think that would be great. That goes along with museums and what have you. But I do think what we've done in some of the neighborhoods within the City of Wichita on our own I think is very commendable and apparently, from according to what Irene has said, it's netted some increase in jobs and I think . . . because we are, actually, all one family, Sedgwick County. Some of our family members live within the incorporated city limits of our 20 cities and some don't but we're all one family. So, okay. We're going to try to start putting some meat on these bones. So Commissioner Gwin, help us out please."

Commissioner Gwin said, "I'll see if I can bring some of this discussion . . . try to get some consensus and see whether you want to put some things on the board or not or whether there's a consensus to. I'll start in the order in which they were presented and I don't mean to steal anybody's thunder but in the interest of trying to wrap it all up.

The first item that Commissioner McGinn suggested was for the Senior Employment program and I'm hopeful I have this number right at \$5,975. Confirmation on that number or support? I need to hear a support. It's a go.

The next one was for the senior centers within the City of Wichita that Senior Services brought us. We'll get to the other ones in some of the outlyings but this amount was \$5,280 for Wichita senior centers. Do I have a consensus for that?"

Commissioner McGinn said, "You might name them."

Commissioner Gwin said, "I'd be happy to. The Downtown Senior Center, \$2,236, the Linwood Senior Center, \$997, the Northeast Senior Center, \$1,103, and the Orchard Park Senior Center, \$944.

The next one I heard Commissioner McGinn discuss and we've had to do some recalculations, as some of you may have noticed while some of the discussion was going on to try to get to the number that Commissioner McGinn wanted to get to. Originally she said, Commissioners, \$101 but that didn't get to the request number, Park City and the amount would be \$202. Do I have a go? It was just a matter of misunderstanding as to what number we were trying to get to. Is that a go?

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Again, the next one and I will speak on behalf of this too that it's the Sedgwick Senior Center. I think Commissioner McGinn is correct that a lot of those folks, despite the fact that city laps over Harvey and Sedgwick County, but a lot of those senior housings are within Sedgwick County. This amount, as corrected, was \$2,865. Is that a go?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "How much was it?"

Commissioner Gwin said, "\$2,865. Is there support for that? I would support it. Okay. The Valley Center Senior Center was the next she supported. I would support it too. The amount, as corrected, should be \$225. Is there support for that?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "Which one is it?"

Commissioner Gwin said, "225, Valley Center. The next issue is the Foster Grandparent program and I guess Carolyn and I have a question on that. Previously, the amount was \$32,800 and this year both the advisory board and the Manager had recommended \$30,000 and it's your intent to go back to the previous amount?"

Commissioner McGinn said, "I would like to if there's support."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Is there support for that?"

Commissioner McGinn said, "It's been a good program."

Commissioner Gwin said, "I agree. I think the Foster Grandparent is not only a good program for the grandparents but certainly for the young people with whom they interact. I think it's a dual purpose success."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And these monies are paid to augment their salaries which means it puts more money back into the community because they're buying products and what have you."

Commissioner Gwin said, "It's a minor stipend for the foster grandparents but I think the huge benefit, as one of the presenters made a couple of weeks ago is maybe not so much to the seniors as it is to the young people with whom they interact. So I think it's a important program. I would support that too."

Then for Commissioner Winters, and I agree with the Garden Plain Senior Center, it somehow needs to get jump-started. They had requested \$4,200. The Aging Advisory Council only recommended \$500 and I don't think there was any recommendation, was there Tom, from the Manager's side? So I kind of concur with Tom. It seems difficult for a center to get started unless

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you give it something to start.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Right now it’s just a club. They’re trying to get started and I think they need enough seed money.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “I could support that. It’s a \$2,000 amount and I think certainly reasonable for them to test and see if they can get something started. Do I see nods?”

Okay, the one Tom I think it’s going to be difficult for you is the Extension Council and I think it probably needs some discussion.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Wait a minute. We’ve got one more there. It’s a very minor one.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Oh, well okay, let’s go to the senior centers, that’s fine. I’m sorry Tom. Let’s defer that because I have . . . I don’t know if I can agree with you in total on that. The other senior center was the one Commissioner Sciortino suggested, the Oaklawn Center and it was \$405 amount if I recall. Yes? And I would support that. Oaklawn has done some really nice things down there and it’s been an active community involved in turning itself around and I commend them for all of their hard work.

Okay, now I have to go back to the Extension budget and Tom and I have had some discussions about this, as we do usually every year. As I have come to appreciate the things that it is that the Extension Council does for Sedgwick County. I think I’m challenged too, however, as to whether or not I can support filling all of the gaps that the State of Kansas has left us. I think if I had an unlimited amount of monies, and I don’t, I probably would be looking at making whole again our Department of Highways who took a what, two hundred and some odd thousand dollar cut and I empathize with the budget woes of the State of Kansas but I don’t know that I can look at the kind of amount of money. What I’m trying to keep to here is as close as possible to that under \$20,000 amount of money that I believe we had based upon these technical adjustments and that doesn’t make me go into the health and life reserve. It doesn’t make me make a mill levy increase.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Could we possibly have the total, what that running total is right now?”

Commissioner Winters said, “\$13,777.”

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Commissioner Gwin said, "I think it's more than that."

Chairman Sciortino said, "You know what's missing there, Commissioner, is the \$5,975 for the senior employment."

Commissioner Gwin said, "I think it's up higher."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Does that mean we're over that?"

Commissioner Gwin said, "But anyway, Tom I appreciate your suggestion on that. I'd like to hear from my colleagues. If there is a consensus to support that request, then obviously we can put it up. But I tend, at this point, not to be able to support it I'm afraid. Anybody else on that?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "Any other comments on . . .?"

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I'm just going to continue to support that. If others need to just make your decision and if you can't support it this year, I'll be back next year."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Well, and I appreciate and agree with all of Tom's comments. And we did give them a little boost last year and I'm glad we did and they do have great programs and we probably do have one of the best extensions in the nation. I guess the problem I have is this is a K-State program, extension program and I think they need to start having discussions at K. State about how important these programs are to them, rather than just cut it and then say, 'Here, County, pick it up'. And I'd be happy to engage in conversations with some of those folks that made those decisions to cut here at the local level. But I think they need to understand some of the challenges that we face when they make those decisions to cut. So maybe they need to make some tough decisions about reassessing some of their programs and hopefully we'll be in better shape next year and we can see where we're at then."

Commissioner Winters said, "So that's no."

Commissioner McGinn said, "That's a no for now."

Commissioner Norton said, "Work with me, Tom. Actually I'm supportive of Tom. I think we have a great facility out there. I make it out there at least every Saturday to pick up vegetables and

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be at the market and walk the building and have been to many, many meetings out there. I think it's a great facility and they do wonderful work. I'd be supportive of, if not all of it, part of the money if there's some kind of a compromise. I think it's another one of those issues that you've described that we've been kind of dumped on from other government entities and if we do put some money into it, I think it's imperative that we draft some kind of letter to K. State and to the State of Kansas and let them know that we're helping out at our level but next year probably isn't going to happen and they're going to start losing quality programs at the local level because the locals cannot continue to take it from all sides. It would be different if it was just one area that we had to make a shortfall up but when you look at Corrections and Aging and all the different places we're having to make it up, it's going to be a tough year. But I think I could support Tom, maybe not for the whole amount, but at least for part of it to take the sting away."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. Commissioner Sciortino, do you have any comment?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, sure. So far it's two to two."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Yes, it falls in your court, sir."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Can I be excused?"

Commissioner Gwin said, "No, sir."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Let me tell you where I'm at on the Extension Service. It is the Kansas State Extension Service, Sedgwick County office or branch or what have you. I heard what you say, Tim, let's see if we can't fund it this year but then tell the state, 'Boy, that's it, we're not going to do any more' and next year they make a cut so we reduce. It's harder to reduce a budget than it is to increase it. I think you'll agree with me there. I have talked to the board members, I've talked to Bev. Make no question about it, I think we, Kansas State has the finest facility, I don't know I'd say almost in the nation as far as a facility for an extension service, that building, the programs that they have. We go out there, at least at a minimum on an annual basis and have lunch with them and I think what they're doing is tremendous but if the state doesn't believe that because what the state is saying when they cut funding is that we don't think this is essential, so we're cutting funding. Now what they do is just say we cut a block of money, you all decide what needs to be cut.

I would be willing to entertain, I don't know what it would take legally, but making that the Sedgwick County Extension, where we take over the responsibility for the entire Extension. And I think that would be another way of us carving out an identity that Sedgwick County citizens can say, 'Oh that's the Sedgwick County program, EMS, that's Sedgwick County, Health Department, that's Sedgwick County,' where no matter where people live in this County, you're not going to

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start hearing 'Oh, I don't live in the County, I live in . . .' or 'I don't live in the County, live in Haysville' or what have you. I don't know what it would take statutorily, I don't know what the will of the Extension Board is but I would be one commissioner that would be very energized to discussing assuming that entire responsibility, including the employees become our employees and what have you and that become another viable department of Sedgwick County and I think, by maintaining control over it, we might even be able to expand their role in this county. But at this particular time, I will not support the suggested increase."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, well thank you very much, Commissioners. I'm not wanting to have to go through this discussion every year but I appreciate your comments and I appreciate your talking about it. I'm going to try to keep working to figure out some way, if it's working with K. State or maybe taking some of the Chairman's suggestions, but thanks for at least having the discussion this morning."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I would go with you out there if you want to talk to K. State."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Well, and that's what I . . . I really would like to have those discussions with those folks that made those cuts and see what we can do."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you all for your consideration."

Commissioner Gwin said, "The only other thing I'd like to talk about, there are a couple of things that were mentioned, though I don't know that I'm prepared to do anything with them yet today. The Senior Companion program is a good program too. I think it does provide some face-to-face one-on-one visitation with seniors so that they're comfortable and happy in their homes. I like that program a lot but I don't know if I'm prepared to suggest that today."

The other issue that I think we've seen letters and have gotten some calls for is the widow support, the Good Grief program. I realize it doesn't serve a lot of people at this time but I think if you look at the list of things that cause the biggest trauma, the biggest upset, the biggest change in a person's life is the loss of a spouse and as this population ages, we're going to see more and more of that and it has a huge impact on the day-to-day life of that remaining spouse. It's one I think I would like maybe to see COMCARE has a role in some of that support. I might like to see COMCARE, Debbie, see what else they can do to continue to be a partner and a support in this kind of loss. I'm not saying it should be only the County's responsibility but it would seem to me that we might, maybe you and other, could help facilitate some other funds for this kind of service over and above what the County can do. It may be, like I said, it may be a small group now but over time I think you're going to see more and more people need this kind of comfort, group support and that kind of thing for that kind of service. It's just my advisement I think for the future and not for this point."

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Chairman Sciortino said, "How much have they asked us for?"

Commissioner Gwin said, "\$4,572 was the shortfall on that, below what they requested and the Senior Companion was \$728. Like I said, I like both of those programs. I don't know whether there's support for either one of them. If there might be, I'd be happy to hear about it. If \$4,572 is too much on Good Grief, then maybe a smaller number. I just don't know. I didn't hear anybody discuss them, so I don't know if there's any support for those numbers."

Commissioner Norton said, "Senior Companion was only a \$700 shortfall, was it not? I'm going to be supportive of that."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Anybody else interested in Senior Companion at this time?"

Commissioner Winters said, "Sure."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I'll support that."

Commissioner Gwin said, "All right, let's put up Senior Companion and I believe the request Mr. Hiebert suggested was \$728. And I'd like some input on the grief counseling. It is difficult but I just need to know what to do."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Let's talk about it. From a personal level, I've had a couple of occasions in my life where I really needed to get with somebody . . . I don't want to go into too much detail, but who was going through a personal grief that I was going through. I've got to tell you, just to be able to be in front of another human being that can nod their head and say 'Yeah, I know, I've been there' and have them share with them an emotion that they went through, you don't feel so isolated any more and the healing starts to come and the word that really arises is hope. There is hope to get out of this pit that you happen to be in emotionally."

I don't know if the lady is still here that was with Good Grief. Debbie, are you here? There she is. What I want to make sure that we don't . . . Say we could support half of it this year. Is that a water drop on the fire and that doesn't help or does it have to be the whole amount or is there some lesser amount that you could . . .? I don't know how to say it."

Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Human Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We would be glad to work with them in any way to see if there's some ways we can get this to balance."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Why don't you do this. Instead of us maybe putting . . . This is just a thought. Instead of putting it on as an adjustment to this budget, would you work with these people

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and see if there's something that can be done and then even through your working if there's a few dollars left over that you need us to come, I'm confident that we can figure out somewhere along the line this year to work on you with that, if that would help. Because our intent is to try to help you. Our intent is that we really believe, I think what I'm hearing from some of us, is that you have a really worthwhile program that needs to continue."

Commissioner Gwin said, "And further, there may be some funding sources out there. I don't know how active you are in searching for those but there may be some other private funding sources out there. Commissioner Sciortino is right. Both of us have been in circumstances where being a part of a support group, talking face-to-face with someone who has gone through what we've gone through does in fact bring about the vision of hope. So I understand what those folks are talking about.

But I think I like the concept. I'd like to see if there might be some private funding out there, Debbie. Think about that, who might be able to augment what public dollars we have in this. And certainly, as the years go on then, I would think this is going to be a program that's going to grow and be even more important."

Chairman Sciortino said, "So what you're hearing from us is we're going to try to figure out a way to help you."

Commissioner Gwin said, "So unless there are other additions, Mr. Chairman I think those are the consensus items that I've heard discussed."

Mr. Chronis said, "Commissioners, these items that you've put on the board add \$20,480 to the budget which is \$1,217 over the amount of property taxes that can be raised with the current mill levy and our estimate of valuation. So if you approve the budget in this form, we would recommend that you cover that \$1,200 by a transfer from the Health and Life Reserve that I mentioned earlier."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. You need to show that on here?"

Mr. Chronis said, "That's right."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Now let me just make sure of one thing now. You are comfortable, by drawing \$1,217 from the prudent reserve, that that in no way puts us in jeopardy that you can see."

Mr. Chronis said, "Yes. And with that action you see that the mill levy amount at the top here is

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restored to zero, with the change is restored to zero and the adopted mill levy is restored to 28.654.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “So there’s no change in the mill levy.”

Mr. Chronis said, “No change in the mill levy and we are looking now at a budget that is \$301,803,678.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “And then on the paperwork that you’ve given prior to that, you also in that Motion indicate a legal budget of \$207,272,177. That remains the same. Is that correct?”

Mr. Chronis said, “Yes it does.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “So despite . . . because of the adjustment, we were able to make none of the numbers that we previously approved have changed.”

Mr. Chronis said, “That’s correct.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Commissioners, I think we’ve done some pretty decent work here at the Bench. What’s the will of the Board?”

Commissioner Gwin said, “I want to make the Motion on my last budget.”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to adopt the 2003 Sedgwick County total budget of \$301,803,678. The total budget includes a legal budget of \$207,272,177 with \$83,114,166 in budgeted ad valorem taxes, which is approximately equivalent to 28.654 mills, subject to review and technical adjustments.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, “We have a Motion and a Second. Is there any further comment? Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “What is the difference in mill levy fund amount compared to last year? Not the mill levy rate but the amount of budget? It’s 114 this year. What was it last year?”

Mr. Chronis said, “Last year’s amount that was included in the budget was \$80,005,774.”

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Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. And what was the total, with grants and everything else, total budget difference from the 300?"

Mr. Chronis said, "The total budget last year is, with grants and everything is \$292,184,048."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. That's all I had."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Mr. Chronis, just for maybe the public's edification, we think we know the answer but would you give the definition of the difference between total budget and total legal budget, just a succinct definition of those two?"

Mr. Chronis said, "The State of Kansas requires us to adopt budgets for most of our operating funds that have local funding support. And those requirements include particular things we have to say about those budgets, particular ways that we have to publish those budgets and particular ways that we have to report them to the state. In addition to those funds, we receive a substantial amount of grant funding and we are not legally required to budget for those grant funded projects, nor are we legally required to budget for capital improvements. We do, in an effort to provide good financial controls and good information to our citizenry about what the government is up to. We include here budgets for all of the County's fiscal activity, not just those where we're legally required to adopt budgets."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Okay. We have a Motion and a Second. I think it's now time to call the roll."

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you very much. Commissioners, do you want to keep going or do you want to take a quick break? Ready to go. Next item."

Chairman Sciortino left at 11:28 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE 2003-2007 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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(CIP) AND THE 2003 CAPITAL BUDGET.

Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, this is the same process that we’ve used in the past and the same process that we used two week’s ago. You have the Sedgwick County Fire District #1 budget in front of you. You’ve had public . . .”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Wait a minute. We’re on the CIP.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “I’m sorry. Good morning, Commissioners. You have the CIP budget in front of you. This is part of the general fund budgets and affects the projects which we do and we would recommend that you approve that plan.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Okay. Are there questions, is there discussion on the CIP budget? Do you have anything?”

Commissioner Norton said, “I had challenged David to get me some information on repaving 71st Street from Broadway to the turnpike and everything. That’s an area right off the turnpike in Haysville that is just in terrible shape and at some point I’d like to see the County help that corridor be fixed and I had asked David to get me some information. I don’t know what that looks like but I wanted to have some discussion about it.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Mr. Spears, you have anything on that for us?”

Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I have some information. Carol Nugent of Haysville, they appeared before the Technical Advisory Committee a few months ago and asked for federal funds for this project and it’s really not going to prioritize that high, based upon competition with other projects within the City of Wichita.

Briefly, it’s about a half mile long. Almost all of it is in the City of Haysville. Maybe one-sixteenth of a mile of that ½ mile is within the County. There has been . . . a consultant has done a study on it. \$896,500, four-lane, curb and gutter, that price does not include design, right-of-way or utility relocation. The traffic count is about 6,200 vehicles per day.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Okay. And that’s not something that’s currently in the CIP?”

Commissioner Norton said, “No. It’s just something I thought we needed to maybe talk about. It’s an important corridor. Eventually, I think 71st Street needs to go all the way to Hydraulic four-lane because of the growth that’s in that area. But it’s something I want to at least have some discussion on. I talked to the mayor and he would be willing to look at just doing . . . what is it called, a top coat or an overlay? David has indicated to me that he didn’t think that would be cost

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efficient, maybe not last as long as needed but the road is in terrible shape. Haysville, I think, could use some help with it and I know we've helped some other small communities with roads that go through their city limits so I thought I'd at least bring it up, use some discussion about to see what we are thinking and can we put it, at least the design, in a budget coming up and then maybe put the work in the next couple or three years."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "So David, on putting things into the CIP, remind us again of the process and how those projects are selected and who makes those decisions."

Mr. Spears said, "A process like this on roads and bridges, Public Works, we make the recommendation to the CIP Committee of which I'm also a member and there's five or six other members on there. And it goes before them. They compete with other projects and the CIP Committee then makes a recommendation to you, just as what you have before you today is what's in the book.

This particular project, I had heard about. It's sort of on the outer ring of the radar and possibly moving in. And we really haven't taken a real close look at it. I got this information from Haysville. We'd be glad to look at it a little stronger and come back to you. Perhaps there is something we could do less than the major project, but we would have to go down and study that, perhaps recycling of sort or something like that. I don't know and I really couldn't say right now."

Commissioner Norton said, "Thanks, Dave."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino returned at 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioners, it is our recommendation that you adopt the 2003-2007 Capital Improvement Program for \$157,931,212, including \$20,329,349 for the 2003 Capital budget."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Do we need a public hearing on that, Mr. Euson?"

Mr. Richard Euson, County Counselor, said, "No."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Any comments or questions? If there are none, what's the will of the Board?"

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MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the 2003-2007 Capital Improvement Program of \$157,931,212, including \$20,329,349 for 2003 Capital budget with changes (if any) from adoption of the operating budget, subject to review and technical adjustments.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you very much. At this time we will recess the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners."

D. RECESS TO THE FIRE DISTRICT #1 MEETING.

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into the Fire District #1 meeting at 11:32 a.m. and returned at 12:02 p.m.

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed at 12:03 p.m. and returned at 12:11 p.m.

Commissioner McGinn left at 12:04 p.m.

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, let's start the meeting now again if we could. So, Clerk call the next item please."

NEW BUSINESS

E. GRANT APPLICATION TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR FUNDING OF A RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

Sheriff Gary Steed, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'll be very brief. Perhaps this is a little

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bit of a highlight or a bright spot in a day of talking about funds and money. But Commissioners, we've known for some time now that we needed to replace our mainframe computer systems, our record management systems and it's quite expensive. I quit asking how much because every time I asked it went up \$100,000 or so.

So we went searching for some funds and we collaborated with Congressman Tiahrt. We located \$1,000,000 worth of Department of Justice funds that will be given to us, administered through the C.O.P.S. program and I'm here today to ask you to approve the application for the \$1,000,000 in grant funding."

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Application.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Gary, that's good work. Thank you. Next item please."

F. AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF DERBY, KANSAS PROVIDING DEVELOPMENT OF SPACE TO HOUSE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS) WITHIN A FIRE/EMS FACILITY LOCATED AT ROCK ROAD AND 71ST STREET SOUTH.

Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioners, you have that agreement before you. We've talked about this. This is a standard form agreement with the City of Derby and we've included money in the budget to do that. I would recommend that you approve it."

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MOTION

Commissioner Gwin 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 Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

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

G. WAIVER OF POLICY TO HIRE AN ADVANCED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONER AT STEP 7.

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Advanced Nurse Practitioners are Masters level prepared nurses who have certification in a specialty area and they can have them in a number of areas. Very common ones are family practice and O.B. and pediatrics. Very few actually choose to go into psychiatry. They do medication management, prescribe medications and in fact fairly recently have been allowed to prescribe controlled substances, such as Ritalin. They do psycho-therapy in an in-patient setting. They can round on patients like a physician could and does.

In the past several years, Advanced Nurse Practitioners have kind of come on their own and their scope of practice has really increased. We have two opening right now at COMCARE on our medical staff and we have an applicant who has significant experience as an Advanced Nurse Practitioner in psychiatry, worked for a community mental health center in the state for a number of years and has in-patient and outpatient clinic experience. He will be working half time in our Community Support Services program where one of those vacancies is and half time in crisis. We are requesting a waiver of the personnel policy and asking to hire this practitioner at a higher rate than starting."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Any questions or comments? What's the will of the Board?"

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MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the policy waiver.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you, Marilyn. Bring us a tough one next time. Next item."

H. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE INSPECTION OF BRIDGE HINGE PINS. DISTRICTS #3 AND #4.

BRIDGE NUMBERS:

- **628-4-4625 MACARTHUR BETWEEN 343RD AND 359TH STREETS WEST**
- **773-Y-4335 375TH STREET WEST BETWEEN 71ST AND 79TH STREETS SOUTH**
- **785-B-4588 279TH STREET WEST BETWEEN 109TH AND 117TH STREETS NORTH**
- **787-Z-1710 263RD STREET WEST BETWEEN 79TH AND 87TH STREETS SOUTH**
- **801-DD-5280 151ST STREET WEST BETWEEN 111TH AND 119TH STREETS NORTH**
- **592-22-448 109TH STREET NORTH BETWEEN HOOVER AND RIDGE**

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ROADS

Mr. Spears said, “Item H is an agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation to do in-depth ultrasonic inspection of hinge pins on six bridges located within Sedgwick County. Two bridges had repairs done in 1998, two had repairs done in 2000 and the remaining two will be repaired in the year 2003. The cost will be shared by both parties at an 80/ 20 split. Sedgwick County’s share will be \$4356. I recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “Next item please. Thank you, David.”

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS’ REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 8, 2002.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “There are five items for consideration that resulted from the meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts of August 8th, 2002.

**1) CRAWLER LOADER- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: VEHICLE ACQUISITION**

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Item one, crawler loader for Fleet Management. Recommend low proposal, including trade-in, from Foley Equipment in the amount of \$134,221.

2) **COURTHOUSE CAFETERIA FURNITURE- FACILITY PROJECTS**
FUNDING: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Item two, courthouse cafeteria furniture for Facility Projects. Recommend the low bid from Goldsmith's in the amount of \$47,873.93.

3) **TELESCOPING SIGN POSTS- PUBLIC WORKS**
FUNDING: PUBLIC WORKS

Item three, telescoping sign posts for Public Works. Recommend the low bid from Welborn Sales of \$30,397.50.

4) **LASER PRINTERS- DISTRICT COURT**
FUNDING: DISTRICT COURT

Item four, laser printers for District Court. Recommend the low bid from PC Mall on items one, two and three for a total of \$25,625.34 and the low bid from SDF Professional Computers on items four and five for a total of \$4,582.55, for a grand total of \$30,207.89.

5) **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOVAL- HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE**
FUNDING: HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Last item today, household hazardous waste removal for Household Hazardous Waste. Recommend the low proposal to contract with Safety-Kleen for an estimated annual cost of \$296,588.40. Be happy to answer any questions and recommend approval of these items today."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Iris, you're making my job difficult here because I always relish you coming in front of us and this time we've picked the low bid on every one. I've always complained about not having enough vendors responding, so you wind up with 45 vendors on one item. You've not only picked the low bid on number five but you made sure it was a local company, which is something else I like, Safety-Kleen. This really upsets me but I have to tell you, I think we've done a tremendous job today and I don't have anything bad to say about anything. I think this is just . . . How did we get 45 vendors making a bid on one item? Is that right, 45?"

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Ms. Baker said, "It was the Internet, on our website."

Chairman Sciortino said, "So you sent it out to six vendors and then posted it on the Internet and 45 people responded. I think that is great. And this thing about household hazardous waste, I mean this went all over the board on prices and Safety-Kleen is a local company. Is that correct?"

Ms. Baker said, "Yes."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, this is great. I don't have any . . . Tom."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I guess I would just have a comment about the household hazardous waste contract here that we're going to enter into. It's my understanding that Safety-Kleen has been the company that's been providing the service currently here in the city."

Ms. Baker said, "That's correct."

Commissioner Winters said, "So with that I know Joe and his folks have done some research and some background where we could certainly take that as a sign of confidence that they know what they're doing and they're going to be able to provide this service for us."

Ms. Baker said, "Yes."

Commissioner Winters said, "Okay. Well I think this looks like a good deal. So, looks good to me. Thank you. That's all I had."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Mr. Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "On number two, our low bid was 47,873. How did that compare to what we estimated when we put the project together? Did we have an estimate of . . . surely that was folded into the original project."

Ms. Baker said, "I'll get back with you on that."

Commissioner Norton said, "I was just interested. Obviously it's the low bid, but how does that compare to what we thought it was going to cost?"

Ms. Baker said, "It came within what we had anticipated or it wouldn't be here yet."

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Commissioner Norton said, “Okay, good. That’s all I had.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Any other questions or comments of Iris on this? I would like to change a little bit of our format. I would like to make a Motion on this item.”

MOTION

Chairman Sciortino moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

Commissioner Norton said, “Let it be on the record, I’m always for something that makes the Chairman speechless.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “And you seemed to fill the gap on my speechlessness today, I’ll tell you that.”

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you very much, Iris. Next item please.”

CONSENT AGENDA

J. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project 606-23-4950; 53rd Street North over the Big Arkansas River. CIP# B-269. District #4.**
- 2. Bankruptcy settlement request by Marina Point Offices, pursuant to K.S.A. 79-1703(b).**

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- 3. Lease Agreement with KVR Properties, LLC extending the lease for space at 714 South Hillside housing Health Department's Behavioral Health Center.**
- 4. Amendment to Lease Agreement with Dana D. Shirer extending the lease for space at 436 West 15th Street housing Health Department's Teen Health Center.**
- 5. Orders dated July 31 and August 7, 2002 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 6. Payroll Check Registers of August 2 and August 15, 2002.**
- 7. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of July 31 – August 13, 2002.**
- 8. The following Section 8 Housing Contracts are being amended to reflect a revised monthly amount due to a change in the income level of the participating client.**

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Old Amount</u>	<u>New Amount</u>
V010118	\$243.00	\$282.00
V010124	\$501.00	\$501.00
V010125	\$290.00	\$325.00
V010122	\$290.00	\$325.00
V96065	\$188.00	\$254.00
V98043	\$294.00	\$375.00
V94064	\$146.00	\$257.00
V2058	\$386.00	\$386.00
V95117	\$194.00	\$178.00
V20104	\$290.00	\$325.00
V010148	\$284.00	\$319.00
V010146	\$130.00	\$176.00
V2086	\$282.00	\$331.00
V010143	\$450.00	\$450.00
V010147	\$283.00	\$323.00
V95118	\$217.00	\$228.00
V2044	\$154.00	\$218.00
V99053	\$600.00	\$542.00

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V94081	\$336.00	\$293.00
V98004	\$284.00	\$314.00
V20134	\$535.00	\$535.00
V01086	\$224.00	\$438.00

9. Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Contracts.

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Rent Subsidy</u>	<u>District Number</u>	<u>Landlord</u>
V020045	\$425.00	5	Helms Rental Properties
V020047	\$550.00	5	Paul Usher
V020048	\$548.00	5	William Favreau
V020049	\$326.00	5	Hearth Hollow Apartments
V020050	\$575.00	2	Chapel Ridge Apartments
V020051	\$286.00	2	Country Walk Apartments
V020052	\$550.00	1	Goerzen Properties

Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioners, you have the Consent Agenda before you and I would recommend you approve it."

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, "We have a comment. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Talk a little bit about number two, Rich. We talked about this bankruptcy settlement on the Marina Point offices and I just want to clarify what kind of bankruptcy it is and what's going to happen to the property."

Mr. Euson said, "Sure. This is a bankruptcy settlement involving an office building called Marina Point office building, which is located in Twin Lakes shopping center. And they owe back taxes, including penalties and interest, of just under \$153,000 and they're going through a Chapter 11 reorganization, not a Chapter 7 liquidation but they're reorganizing and they're asking that we settle the tax liability in the amount of \$75,000. That's a request that's consistent with what we've done before in these cases and we believe it is reasonable, under the circumstances and we'd recommend

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it to you.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I think it’s important that we talked about that at an open session because we are giving some concessions on this but I see that’s an area that has some great problems with filling the office buildings. We have a presence out there I believe with COMCARE and we want to do anything to try to vitalize and keep the businesses in that area, as opposed to bailing out and moving further out. So I wanted to be sure the public knew that even though this is a pretty tough thing for us to do that it is helping someone out to keep their business alive and in Twin Lakes area where we have a presence with COMCARE to try to fill some of the space. That’s all I had.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay. Any other comments? Clerk, call the roll.”

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Anything else to come before this Board at this time?”

K. OTHER

Commissioner Norton said, “I have one. I was at an economic development meeting, I’m facilitating one of the sub-committees on infrastructure and we will be presenting our recommendations here the middle of September and it has been a really tough process to go through when you talk about roads and bridges and transportation and broadband and waterways and water supply and airport facilities and those kind of things that are the infrastructure that will drive economic development. We’re trying to narrow it down to three to five really important issues that we can hang our hat on and recommend to this committee. But truthfully, we’re at about twenty major things that need to be done and trying to get it down to three to five very succinct ones is pretty tough but we are working very hard on what we can do to help stimulate economic development in the Sedgwick County and maybe even the REAP area. So, I just wanted to give you a little bit of an update on that. Hopefully our finding will be coming forth on the six committees relatively soon and will be published and I’ll make sure the Commission has that to look at because I think it will be kind of a strategic plan from the community on maybe how we can participate as a County.”

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Chairman Sciortino said, “All right, thank you. Any other things to come before this meeting at this time?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Just one last thing. I’m sorry. The Mulvane Old Settlers Day is this weekend and they’ll have their parade I believe Saturday morning.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Saturday morning, 11:00.”

Commissioner Norton said, “And it’s a wonderful small town community festival and we would urge people to stop by and I bet Commissioner Sciortino will be there.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I might have a tee-shirt your size if you want to stop by. All right, thank you for that. Anything else to come before this Board? This meeting is now adjourned.”

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:25

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p.m.

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

BEN SCIORTINO, Chairman
Fifth District

BETSY GWIN, Chair Pro Tem
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

CAROLYN MC GINN, Commissioner
Fourth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2002