

**Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, July 20, 2005**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**SITTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF FIRE DISTRICT #1**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**July 20, 2005**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:45 A.M., on Wednesday, July 20, 2005 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman David M. Unruh; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Ben Sciortino; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner Lucy Burtnett; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor and Ms. Linda Leggett, Deputy County Clerk.

**ROLL CALL**

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

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

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:**

Regular Meeting, March 30, 2005  
Regular Meeting, April 6, 2005  
Regular Meeting, June 8, 2005

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meetings of March 30, 2005, April 6, 2005 and June 8, 2005.

**Chairman Unruh** said, "Okay Commissioners, you've had an opportunity to review the Minutes of those meetings. Are there any additions or corrections?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Regular Meetings of March 30, 2005, April 6, 2005 and June 8, 2005.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

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**VOTE**

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

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

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**A. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2006 SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1 BUDGET.**

**Mr. William P. Buchanan**, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have the Fire District budget before you. It's a budget of \$13,615,131. I would suggest and recommend that you open the public hearing."

**Chairman Unruh** said, "Okay, at this time I will open the public hearing and ask if there is anyone that wants to speak, ask questions or make comments relative to the Fire District budget. Anyone in the room that wants to speak to the Fire District budget? Seeing none, I will close the public hearing and ask if there are any comments by the commissioners? Seeing none, we'll call the next item."

**B. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY MANAGER TO PUBLISH A NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2006 SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1 BUDGET.**

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Commissioners, this is the same piece of business that you just did for the general fund. This authorizes us to publish the budget for \$13,615,131, approximate equivalent mill rate of 18.6 mills. I'd recommend you approve that authorization."

**Chairman Unruh** said, "Commissioners, are there any questions or discussion?"

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**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to authorize the County Manager to publish a notice of public hearing regarding the Sedgwick County Fire District #1's 2006 budget of \$13,615,131, the total budget includes a legal budget of \$13,600,131 with an \$11,966,089 Ad Valorem tax levy dollars, which is approximately equivalent to 18.6 mills and establish August 3, 2005 as the final hearing date on the 2006 Sedgwick County Fire District #1 Budget.

Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

**Chairman Unruh** said, "Is there any discussion on the Motion?"

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "I do have one comment, Mr. Chairman."

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

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "Every year I go through and I'll probably get a call again this year, the difference between the big number and the legal budget number, what's the difference. And finally, this year, after six times, I got Chris Chronis to explain it to me in lay language that I understand. So I'd like to just say it for the public."

**Chairman Unruh** said, "We would appreciate that."

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, "He gave me the Indian Ink version and then we negotiated and he got comfortable with my lay language and he incorporated it. Basically, the state mandates that we establish a budget and once that budget is established, no property taxes can be increased and we have to stick with that budget. That's the legal budget.

But there are items that are excluded from the budget, grants, somebody makes a donation to the Sheriff's Department of 25,000, we have the right to spend that money and that's the basic difference between the legal budget. Like for example, in the Fire District, there was a donation of about \$15,000 that somebody gave us and that could be added to our legal budget and the same thing on our county budget. The difference between the legal and the full budget are the grants and again, other donations that people may make, PBC, that type of stuff can be added to it, but the legal budget can't be messed with.

That's the lay language I got. The Manager is nodding basically that that makes sense to him. He's going to say something. Clarify it, if that is not a good laymen's terms."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Perfect."

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**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Good. I finally understood after six times of going through this.”

**Chairman Unruh** said, “Okay good, well I’m happy about that. Commissioners, any other comments on the Motion. Seeing none . . . Oh, I’m sorry.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “I’d say go ahead and do the Motion and I do have some questions that will take us forward.”

**Chairman Unruh** said, “All right, well we have a Motion. I believe it’s already moved and seconded, so now is the time for discussion, unless you . . . are you wanting us to vote on it before you make the comment.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well I don’t know that I’m going to have a problem with setting the budget. As we move forward and decide how to move the money around and where it goes and everything . . . I can ask one of the general questions anyway. As we set this, did we considered what’s going to happen to all the stations that are in the relocation?”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “That’s part of the financial . . . that’s part of this budget and part of the financial plan.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well, as we get towards really nailing down the budget, I’d like a little more dialogue on that, because I do have some questions about that, as we get into this. I mean, some of the stations have taken a pretty heavy increase and then some that have even got decreases and others that I thought were going to have some expanded capacity are decreasing also, and that concerns me.”

**Chairman Unruh** said, “Okay. Well, those . . .”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “About where the money is being spent and explain how the relocation has changed that, because as I decided that I would support the relocation, part of it was that maybe Station 34, closest to Haysville, down on the south side, would get some different mission and some more manpower, yet the budget has gone down by \$40,000 and I don’t understand what we’ve done, if part of me buying into this was that that station would be solid and their mission would be increased and maybe manpower would be increased and yet the budget goes down and it goes up exponentially in some other areas, I’d like some explanations on that.”

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**Mr. Chris Chronis**, Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioners, we'll get you the details for your answer but the simplistic answer is that the fire station relocation plan that you're referencing is contemplated in this budget, but it has no impact on operations in this budget. Those new fire stations won't come on-line until farther downstream. They won't affect the 2006 operations. In 2006, the individual station operations are not expected to change at all from what they are today. There may be some changes in the funding of individual stations, merely because of the way the Fire District chooses to allocate costs among the stations, but what people see on the ground, what resources they see in individual stations to the best of my knowledge, remains the same in 2006 as it is today."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well then, I have a bigger concern now then."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "I beg your pardon?"

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I have a bigger concern now."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "And that is?"

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, Station 31, which is one I think we're going to move and close, is going up \$100,000. I mean . . ."

**Mr. Chronis** said, "Well, as I said, there may be some changes in the way the fire department has chosen to allocate costs among stations and we'll get you the details to show how those changes have transpired. But in terms of service delivery, there are no changes."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "There's no shifting of equipment or manpower and again, we'll get the details of why those costs have been allocated in that fashion."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Yeah, I'd like to know that, because then if the station relocation doesn't effect this at all, then I have a problem with some of those stations. I'd like to know why they're going up that exponentially and some other are actually decreasing. I'd like to know that."

**Chairman Unruh** said, "Okay. Well that information then will be forthcoming and I'm certain that the same information will be available to all the commissioners."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "It will be."

**Chairman Unruh** said, "Any other questions or comments at this time? We have a Motion on the floor. Madam Clerk, call the vote."

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**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Unruh** said, "Thank you. Is there anything else to come before the Commission sitting as the governing body of Fire District #1? Seeing nothing else I will adjourn this meeting."

**C. OTHER**

**D. ADJOURNMENT TO ITEM F OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DAVID M. UNRUH**, Chairman  
First District

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**BEN SCIORTINO**, Chair Pro Tem  
Fifth District

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

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

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**LUCY BURTNETT**, Commissioner  
Fourth District

ATTEST:

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**Don Brace**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_, 2005