

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

March 28, 2007

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 A.M., on Wednesday, March 28, 2007 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman David M. Unruh, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Kelly Parks; Commissioner Gwen Welshimer; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Don Brace, County Clerk; Ms. Jo Templin, Director, Human Resources; Mr. Fritz Forister, Construction Maintenance Supervisor, Stream Maintenance, Public Works; Sergeant C. Shane Brazil, Sheriff's Office; Mr. Ron Holt, Assistant County Manager; Ms. Jeannette Livingston, Contract Administrator, 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. Linda Leggett, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Ms. Sally Dewey, League of Women Voters of Wichita.
Ms. Vickie McArthur, Kansas Children's Service League.
Dr. Cathryn A. Hay, Member, Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging.
Mr. Charlie Mahoney, Member, Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging.
Ms. Patsy Waller, Member, Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging.
Mr. David Davis, Wichita, Ks.
Mr. Christopher J. Presson, Wichita Thunder.
Mr. John Stone, Wichita As.
Mr. Paul Banzet, Wheat State Morgan Horse Club, Kansas Horse Council.
Mr. Larry Kaufman, 1621 Ridge Rd., Derby, Ks.
Mr. Charles Peaster, 9453 N. 135th Street W., Sedgwick, Ks.
Mr. Mike Scraper, 4480 S. Meridian, Wichita, Ks.
Mr. Kevin Rooney, 5206 N. Ridge Rd., Wichita, Ks.
Ms. Sally Dewey, League of Women Voters.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Mr. Brad Snapp of Wichita, Ks.

FLAG SALUTE

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ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Unruh said, "Before we call the next item, commissioners, I'd like to recognize some visitors that we have this morning, Sally Dewey with the League of Women Voters is here and perhaps you could introduce your visitors."

Ms. Sally Dewey, League of Women Voters of Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I represent this morning the League of Women Voters of Wichita. We have been hosting, this past week, a group of ladies from Kenya and they are here this morning to see how you do business.

Would the Kenya ladies like to stand? I would endeavor to say your names, but you wouldn't remember them. You do it for me."

Ladies from Kenya stated their names (too far from podium to hear).

Ms. Dewey said, "Thank you, ladies. They're here primarily because they are interested in being in local government and they understand the importance of grassroots support and representation, so they have been with us for a week looking around Wichita, and I thought their visit would not be complete until they see a local government body in operation. Be careful what you do this morning."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay."

Ms. Dewey said, "Thank you for letting us visit."

Chairman Unruh said, "Well Sally, thank you for arranging to have them here this morning. We want to welcome you to our meeting and we appreciate the fact that you want to get involved in local government. We can tell you from experience that there are a lot of rewards and a lot of challenges, so you I'm sure understand that, as you look about how you can become involved. But welcome to Sedgwick County and if you have questions about our meeting, things that go on, well you can ask Commissioner Winters. He's been around longer than anyone.

All right, welcome and thanks for being here. Madam Clerk, call the next item please."

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PROCLAMATION

A. PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 2007 AS “NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, I have a proclamation to read for your consideration.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect is a community problem and all citizens should become involved in supporting families in raising their children in a safe, nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, approximately 4,620 children were reported abused and neglected in Sedgwick County last year, with the majority of child abuse cases stemming from situations and conditions that are preventable; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect not only directly harms children, but also increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems such as heart disease and obesity, and risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure each family has the support they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among social service agencies, schools, faith communities, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I Dave Unruh, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2007 as

‘Child Abuse Prevention Month’

in Sedgwick County and call upon citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities and businesses to join efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.

Commissioners, you’ve heard the proclamation. What is the will of the Board?”

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MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to adopt the proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “And here receiving the report is Ms. Vickie. Is that . . .?”

Ms. Vickie McArthur, Kansas Children’s Service League, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’ve been before you several years in a row over this proclamation for the prevention of child abuse and each year I stand up here, give a lot of statistics about what children have encountered in the Sedgwick County area and today I think I want to go a different direction, because we read it in the paper, we see the horrific conditions that some of the children are found in our community. But what I want to talk about is a little story that I’ve been blessed to hear about a family that I do not know, and I’m thankful that I don’t know them in the profession that I work, but a family that was marginally making it in our community, but being able to provide for their children.

A fire occurred within their own home, so then they were homeless, but not only were they homeless, but the provider of the family, the father, lost all of his tools that allowed him to make a living. Hopeless, feeling pretty distraught, the community came together to help him. It was a combination of several agencies, all that you read in the proclamation, Safe Community, Schools, Red Cross, several entities that came together to support this family, replace the tools, find him another place to live. He was renting. He didn’t have renter’s insurance. I mean, some of the things that we take for granted that aren’t for some of the families that are living at a marginal means.

Now do I know that we prevented child abuse? I don’t think we do, because we don’t know when

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we prevent something, but what I do know is that when families feel hopeless, when parents feel hopeless, that they come to the last straw that they have, that that is one of the biggest risk factors that we have when children are young and have needs to be met and as a parent I can't meet them, it's very easy for me to gravitate into a place where I take it out on the children.

So I just thank the commissioners every day, when you make decisions that support our community, that support our ability to be a loving community to families that may not have all the strengths that we have, as we sit around the table, so I thank you for this time and I really want to just say that that is such an important part of our community is that inter-relatedness.

One of the events that we will have this year, in April, is the Wrangler event, and thanks to Delta Dental, they've been able to help us support that, so on April 21st at the Wranglers you can enjoy a lot of giveaways. We're really encouraging families to come out and celebrate their togetherness and their ability to support each other and raise children in the healthy and safe environment of Wichita, Kansas.

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, well thank you very much for being here this morning. It was a very poignant illustration, I think makes your point very well, about how we can work together and not knowing when we prevent something, but we have to continue to do the good work to accomplish that goal. We have some comments here, so just a minute. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well thank you. Vickie, thank you very much for the work you do. I know you've been here a couple of years with this, so I know it's an ongoing process. I do recognize some of the other members that are here with you, supporting this. Could you either introduce them or could they stand and introduce themselves?"

Ms. McArthur said, "I'd like for them to stand and introduce themselves."

Commissioner Winters said, "For those of you who are here supporting this proclamation. Yes, tell us who you are please."

Supporters of National Child Abuse Prevention Month introduced themselves (too far from podium to hear).

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you all for being here in support of the work that I know you're all very much about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

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

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I've got my blue ribbon on, so . . ."

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Ms. McArthur said, “And I have packets for all of you, so that you have the blue ribbons, the blue wristbands and all of those wonderful things.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well mine is from about four years ago, so I’ve held onto it and I put it on every April. My history goes back a ways, with the old Child Abuse Prevention Council, from about 1982, when I was a Target store manager I sat on a committee and so I go back a little ways with this issue. Back in the days, Judge Burgess was very active with Child Abuse Prevention Council and it’s real interesting that . . . I’m going to stop and pass this on, so nobody doesn’t get their goody bag. Nobody will listen to me up here until they get their goody bag I’m sure.

It just happened that yesterday I was at a United Way meeting and we’re working on the Impact Councils for Children and Families, and who would be at that meeting, and I hadn’t visited with him on this issue in a while, but Judge Burgess, and when it was over with, we spent a good half hour not only catching up about what we’ve been working on, but catching up on this issue of you know we’ve been working on, but catching up on this issue of well, we’ve made such great progress, and at one point we understood that child abuse prevention locally was a bigger issue than we could handle and the Children’s Service League stepped in at the state level and created this organization that really worked on it statewide, but locally too and I’m very proud that I was kind of in that incubation stage to the work that you’re doing today, because it’s so important.

The sad thing is that we still have people that don’t get to participate easily in the American Dream. You know, jobs come hard, healthcare comes hard, education is not always easy when you are struggling to make ends meet to try to get your kids there, and that puts a lot of stress on families and one of the outgrowths of that is child abuse and neglect.

We know that in our community. Unfortunately, it’s one of those silent, hidden maladies that you have in their community that happens and it’s hidden in households and behind locked doors, and until it’s pervasive out in the community, a lot of people don’t even think about it, but we’ve got to solve it because it is part of the future of our community and Kansas Children’s Service League does such a wonderful job trying to keep that on the front burner in our community so that we don’t ever forget, As comfortable As our lives, those of us in this room, that there’s many, many kids out there that aren’t getting a fair shake and have problems in their family and aren’t As loved and have As devoted parents As maybe we’ve had or we’ve become and we have to continue to remember that, so good job. I support the proclamation and we’ll see you next year, I hope.”

Ms. McArthur said, “You certainly will, thank you very much.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thanks for being here and thanks for all of you who are supportive of this for being here. Thank you. Madam Clerk, call the next item.”

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APPOINTMENTS

B. RESOLUTIONS (THREE) APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING.

- **CATHRYN A. HAY, Ph.D., (COMMISSIONER WELSHIMER'S APPOINTMENT)**
- **CHARLIE MAHONEY (COMMISSIONER WELSHIMER'S APPOINTMENT)**
- **PATSY WALLER (COMMISSIONER UNRUH'S APPOINTMENT)**

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioners, for your consideration this morning are three resolutions of appointment to the Advisory Council on Aging. Commissioner Welshimer is recommending the appointment of Dr. Cathryn Hay. Commissioner Winters is also recommending the appointment of Charlie Mahoney and Commissioner Unruh is recommending the appointment of Patsy Waller. These are all four-year terms. You can adopt these resolutions all in one motion, and I recommend you do that."

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

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye

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Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “And County Clerk Don Brace is here to administer the oath of office to those individuals who are present.”

Mr. Don Brace, County Clerk, said, “I don’t know if Dr. Hay is here or not. Please raise your right hand.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging, so help me God.

Dr. Cathryn A. Hay, Mr. Charlie Mahoney and Ms. Patsy Waller, Members, Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging, said, “I do.”

Mr. Brace said, “Congratulations.”

Ms. Waller said, “I really appreciate this opportunity to be participating in Sedgwick County government. I’ve lived here for a long time and have not been free to step up and help and I hope this appointment will allow me to share my talents with the county. Thank you very much.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you.”

Mr. Mahoney said, “I also appreciate it. Admittibly, I’m a pretty young person to be on Department on Aging, but as such, hopefully I’ll be able to bring some new and unique ideas from a fresh perspective.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, thank you.”

Dr. Hay said, “I would just say to Mr. Mahoney that it’s going to happen to all of us. Thank you for the appointment, Mr. Unruh, and I will certainly try to do my best.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, thank you all for your willingness to serve. You know, we consider these to be very important activities to Sedgwick County government and to the wellbeing of our citizens, so we appreciate your willingness and we do have another comment from Commissioner Welshimer.”

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Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well, I just want to thank you so much for doing this. I’m just so pleased that you have agreed to it and I know we’ll be very well served by very capable people. Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Once again, congratulations and thank you all. Madam Clerk, call the next item please.”

RETIREMENTS

C. PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT CLOCKS.

- **Fritz Forister, Construction/Maintenance Supervisor, Stream Maintenance, Public Works, will retire April 1, 2007 after 28 years of service.**
- **C. Shane Brazil, Sheriff Sergeant, Sheriff’s Office, will retire April 1, 2007 after 22 years of service.**

Ms. Jo Templin, Director, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This agenda item recognizes the long-term employment and dedication and commitment to public service. We have two retirees here today and they are joined, as you can see, by many employees from not only Public Works, but the Sheriff’s Office as well as the retiree’s family and friends and we would like to thank each of you for being here to support our two employees who are retiring.

The first retiree is Fritz Forister, who is the construction maintenance supervisor at Stream Maintenance in Public Works and he will retire April 1, 2007 after 28 years of service.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Fritz, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, it’s my honor and privilege to congratulate you and celebrate with you your retirement and all your years of service to Sedgwick County government, 28 years, a long time. Are you going to know what to do when you get up in the morning, after 28 years of coming here.”

Mr. Fritz Forister, Construction/ Maintenance Supervisor, Stream Maintenance, Public Works, said, “I might not get up.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, well we want to express our sincere appreciate for your loyalty, your dedication and your hard work for our government and for the citizens of Sedgwick County and we wish you the very best, as you retire, and go into a new chapter of your life. But we want to present you with this certificate that commemorates this time and also with this clock, that

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hopefully will remind you regularly of our appreciation for the work that you've done here. So thank you very much and you're sure welcome to say a word, if you'd like."

Mr. Forister said, "It been a long time coming."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, thank you. Fritz, before you get away, Fritz come back just a moment. We've got a couple of commissioners want to say a couple of words. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "First of all Fritz, you haven't finish the Cowskin Creek yet, so you can't leave. Well, I'd like to compliment Fritz, a couple of years ago we had some real drainage problems down on the south side and we fixed some of them with some piping and everything, and we got into a huge project and we finally came to the conclusion that if we just started cleaning out the Cowskin Creek that that would resolve a lot of the problems down there, but it was a pretty dicey operation because property was owned by a lot of different people, there was easements, there was not easements, there was an old drainage district down there, but we started on it and have made great progress and it looks wonderful. I've had great compliments from the citizens but I have to tell you most of that is because of Fritz, because he went in there and with great acumen worked with the citizens, made sure they felt good, that he wasn't going to destroy their property while he was cleaning out something that is awful on the south side, which is the look of the Cowskin Creek.

So I hate that you're leaving and we're still working on that project, because it was a pretty large, horrendous project, but thanks Fritz for your hard work on that, because I know that it was because of you that I wasn't getting phone calls every weekend because of that project and I appreciate it."

Mr. Forister said, "Me and my crew thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I would echo those comments. I know the stream maintenance crew is not one of the flashier departments that we have, but I think you guys do good work and I appreciate the work that you've done in my district and I appreciate the skills that you have in operating that equipment and removing obstructions in streams. I really appreciate your work, all of your whole crew, and Fritz, you've been a great leader for that crew, thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Commissioner Welshimer."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Well, I wasn't here through all of that, but I appreciate you too."

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Chairman Unruh said, "Well, good luck to you in your retirement. Thank you."

Ms. Templin said, "Our second retiree is Shane Brazil, Sheriff Sergeant with the Sheriff's Office, who will retire April 1st, 2007 after 22 years of service."

Commissioner Parks said, "Shane, Sergeant Brazil, on behalf of the Sedgwick County Commissioners, I'd like to present you with this certificate for your long years of service and not only the respect from your local . . . represented here today, your local Sheriff's Department, but the other towns and communities in the county and in fact in the region. You're highly respected, you put your life on the line every day, you are highly decorated and just an honest person and Sergeant Brazil was always a great person to work with and we're going to miss him. And on behalf of the County Commissioners hopefully you won't have to look at this too often, but in pleasant memories and try to be careful out there."

Sergeant C. Shane Brazil, Sheriff's Office, said, "I will, thank you very much."

Commissioner Parks said, "I would welcome you to say a few words."

Sergeant Brazil said, "Thank you very much, commissioner. I do have a few things to say, written a fairly short speech, if you can bear with me, there's some things that I wanted to get off my mind over the years. First off, I want to thank all my co-workers, my family and my friends for being here for me today. I appreciate your support and loyalty over the years. It's been very important to me. I want to thank the commissioners for recognizing my years of service to the citizens of Sedgwick County. It's been a pleasure to make a positive impact against crime in our community and I hope I've raised the quality of life for our citizens here.

I greatly enjoy my chosen profession, however here's the bad part you don't want to hear probably. I only hope or wish that some of our county administrators would realize that law enforcement is a profession and treat it As such, with fair pay and benefits. Law enforcement officers lay their lives on the line every day they put on a badge of office for their community. Administrators needs to remember this every time they consider taking away an officer's benefits, freezing his pay or refusing to provide him with a fair wage. Agencies across the nation are realizing this and increasing the pay and benefits for their law enforcement, in order to employ and retain the best candidates for the job.

Some of the administrators of Sedgwick County have shown they do not care whether they hire or maintain the best law enforcement by doing just the opposite. Due to this decision by these

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administrators, we are losing qualified deputies every day, because they don't want to compete by offering a fair employment package for law enforcement. Because of this, it is the citizens of Sedgwick County that will ultimately suffer. These are the reasons I have chosen to take an early retirement and provide my experience to a new administration that believes in fair benefit packages for their law enforcement.

I do want to commend Commissioner Parks and Welshimer for bring in a fresh perspective and requesting an accounting of the wasteful spending habits of some of our administration, while trying to provide fair benefits to the employees. Remember, if you're going to expect employees to exhibit a positive core value, the leadership must set the example first.

In closing, I leave you with one final thought: County Manager Bill Buchanan, you deserve the credit for crushing the morale of the employees of Sedgwick County. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, if we can call ourselves back to order here, Commissioner Welshimer has a comment."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Well, I just want to thank the officer for his comments and assure him that we'll certainly look into all of that."

Chairman Unruh said, "I see no other requests to speak, so we will move on and all you folks from the Sheriff's Department, we appreciate your attendance here today, thanks for coming up. Madam Clerk . . . well, we'll wait just a moment until the room clears. There's a lot of folks here. Okay, I think we can continue with the meeting now and Madam Clerk, please call the next item."

CITIZEN INQUIRY

D. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT AND RESTORATION OF A LEADERSHIP

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GOLD STANDARD.

King David Davis, Wichita, Kansas, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioners, once again it is a great honor to stand humbling in your presence and for such an occasion, I am deeply grateful. My name is King David Davis. I come to you today concerning the establishing and restoration of a leadership gold standard, the kind money cannot buy. Yes honor is gold. The revolution in American presented in politics of that day was only theory and mechanics. You see freedom had been hunted around the globe.

Reason was considered as rebellion and the slavery of fear had made men afraid to think, speak and stand. If the independence of American had been merely a separation from England, it would have been of little importance, but for the fact it was also a revolution of principles, practices and established clearly the very purpose and function of government. Now the authority of God placed in man had a place to stand and in so doing, was able to raise the standards of the world through honorable government, the Republic for which I still stand.

Now, if we as a people encounter tyrants, oppression and deep darkness was able to bring hope to a world whose leadership standards of honor is gold, how much more now that honor is gold is the very foundation for which our nation was founded, you see the very concept of civil authority, government, a humble servant and the institution of government to be founded, aligned and established through the laws of nature and nature of God was just unheard of and incomprehensible.

In a similar-like fashion today, who would believe the little guy, the good and honorable voice of the people and the man of honor could stand a chance of being placed in the highest positions of vested authority with the exception of 1%. A rather interesting parallel, wouldn't you say. You see, July 4th, 1776 was not just another revolution. In fact, there were revolutions of the heart, of the mind and the very foundation upon which government was to be established, frame and ultimately held accountable, yes by those they were to serve, protect and defend.

Now imagine government chief defender, protector and purveyor of all that which is good, just and honorable and the noblest of all human character destined to sit at the helm. Thus a social, economic and political gold standard had been set for the whole world. Strange how we have strayed so far thus coming full circle, what was once worthy to rub shoulders with our founding fathers is now given 1% through a process that is corrupted, defiled and completely broken.

In this ability to achieve at the most basic, lawful and honorable function, therefore the request, the need and the establishment of a leadership gold standard is all but set in stone. You see, when it comes to honor's gold, it does not matter when its feet land, because it will be standing. For some, honor as gold will sting like a bee, burn like charcoal and cut like a razor's edge. For others, it will be like the fresh smell after the rain, a hint of spring, and a lily blooming in the field giving hope to

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a bright day. I don't expect everyone is going to understand all my words. I guess what is important to know is a bee sting hurts, charcoal burns like hell and a lily is beautiful no matter where you place it.

Fifteen days from now, with just a warm up, April 3rd will be day one of a new beginning and longevity, it runs in the family. My grandmother lived to be 103. Once again, I beseech the commissioners and all the good and honorable in government, law enforcement and society, especially in Wichita, to stand with me, as we go forward on the up side of honor's gold.

Oh yes, what about the other guys. Well, just how many chances do we give them till it's time for good old fashioned over the knee spanking? I guess the question now is will they take it like a big boy or will they go kicking and screaming into the night or will they straighten up and fly right. Well, I think we already know the answer to those questions. Thank you. Looking forward to seeing you on the up side of honor's gold."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, commissioners, we will now move on to the next agenda item. Call the item please."

NEW BUSINESS

E. PRESENTATION REGARDING KANSAS COLISEUM PARKING FEES.

Mr. Ron Holt, Assistant County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here this morning to provide you with a presentation regarding the review of the Kansas Coliseum parking fees that you asked us to do late December, early January. At the end of this presentation, I will be asking you to . . . we will be making, or have recommendations to make. I will be asking you to approve the recommendations of the review team and to adopt the resolution that you have authorizing the collection of fees for services provided by the Coliseum.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

The charge of the review team, once we got organized was stated in this fashion: to examine the Kansas Coliseum parking fee, in light of the reaction by promoters, event managers, and patrons to the announcement of the implementation of these charges that were going to be effective January 1, 2007. And then we were to make recommendations, if any, to the manager and to you, the Board of

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County Commissioners.

The review team, in addition to the folks you see on this list that represent or work with directly with the Coliseum, including representative from Elite Security, who provides some security work out at the Coliseum, included along with myself, the county manager, we had: Mark Borst from Public Works, who is the traffic engineer over there, Bob Burns, Lieutenant Bob Burns from the Sheriff's Office, Karen Duranleau from the Legal Department, Misha Jacob-Warren from the Finance Department and Chad VonAhnen from the Communications Department all participated and provided input and helped us review the recommendations or the proposal and develop the recommendations that we're presenting today.

Just a little bit of quick background, the Kansas Coliseum, As you know, was built in 1978 and operates as an enterprise fund. That's a fund that supports itself, much like private enterprise, using revenues generated by user fees and charges to support fund expenditures. It uses self-generated funds, revenues to fund the operations of the facility out there and Select-A-Seat ticketing system. Over the years, the revenues have primarily been generated through concession sales, building rentals, advertising and ticketing service fees. Based on the plan to renovate Britt Brown Arena and the pavilions that was developed in 2003, the Kansas Coliseum staff was unable to schedule events during that planned construction. As a matter of fact, promoters and event managers were notified that the facilities would be closed, beginning May 2005, and would reopen in phases, ending with the re-opening of Britt Brown Arena is December 2006.

However, renovations were placed on hold, to await the public vote on the new Sedgwick County arena in downtown Wichita in the fall of 2004, and the subsequent state legislature vote on the arena in the spring of 2005. With citizen and legislative approval, plans for the new downtown arena have, as we all well know, have since gotten underway, and it forced the Kansas Coliseum, in April of 2005, to quickly reexamine it's performance schedule and while the Coliseum staff has done an admirable job in rebuilding that business, this situation did result in operating shortfalls of \$509,149 in 2005, \$670,020 in 2006, and was projected without a parking fee of a \$820,199 shortfall in 2007 and with a parking fee, based on the study that we did, work that we'd done last summer, that that projected shortfall would be only \$70,199 for 2007.

It is important to note here that part of the finance plan for operations that were included in the 2003 renovation plan for the Coliseum was a facility fee added to each ticket sold and to implement parking fees at the newly designed entrance that we had developed for the Coliseum off of Hydraulic.

So as a means of addressing these operating deficits, a new three dollar parking fee to be collected at the gate, and a one dollar facility fee to be charged on each ticket. This would be an increase of

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50 cents to the existing 50 cents that is now listed on the ticket as a parking fee, but in fact operates and has operated for a number of years now as a facility fee, was included in the county's 2007 budget, which commissioners approved last summer, and it was projected that the increase in fees at that time we projected would result in \$625,466 net revenue for the Kansas Coliseum and these projections of course are all based on estimates of what kind of attendance, 2.3 people per car, so you take the attendance and you divide it by 2.3 and that gives you the number of cars and you end up then with these projections of these fees, recognizing that attendance estimates are just that, they go up and down. The other piece is also these projections were based on including all events with very few exceptions in the parking fee requirement.

The point there is that the projections you're going to see may vary somewhat, but they are significant and in fact are well over, from a net point of view, well over a half-million dollars, whatever numbers that you take. The decision was made, during the 2007 budgeting process, to collect the parking fee. This was a question we'd had before, why do it at the gate, why not include it on each ticket. It was made to collect it at the gate rather than including it as a per ticket charge because of the high degree of resistance and even refusal for some of the national promoters to add any further fees to their tickets, we do very few . . . we own, we do have a promotion fund there, and so from time to time the Coliseum is involved in promoting events, but almost always events at the Coliseum are done by an outside promoter. We provide the facility and the serving of those events, so the promoters, and again especially the national ones were very resistant, have been to add any additional fees to their tickets.

We also looked at the possibility that if you do that then you have the potential for reduced revenue, due to potential revenue sharing to buffer this promoter discontent. If we put the fee on the ticket, we then have to do sales tax, which is an addition . . . would mean an additional cost and/or less revenue and additional accounting. If you charge it at the gate, there's not a sales tax requirement, and then adding the fee to the ticket would open up a whole new round of negotiations with promoters and shows because again if it's on the ticket, many of them view it as their revenue.

You see here that we try to keep consumer charges as low as possible. We wanted the ticket fee not to result in a negative impact to consumers and when we deal with promoters, we have Select-A-Seat, which is owned and operated to do ticketing, Select-A-Seat which is owned and operated by Sedgwick County and the fees for that are set by BoCC resolution and cannot be changed. That operates similar to and what promoters understand how public utilities work and so we use that as a basis for helping them understand what we're doing and why we're doing it in that fashion.

In September of last year, 2006, the Thunder Hockey Team and the national promoters were given

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verbal notice that these new fees would go into effect January 1, 2007. However, all other parties were not notified in a direct fashion until the first week of December. Although again, we did talk about it and had a full discussion of these fees during the 2007 budgeting process in the summer of 2006.

The first media story on these fees was about mid-December 2006, and again it resulted in some client complaints and clarification calls to the Coliseum staff, as well as concerns raised to the manager and to the commissioners.

The county's response then was to place a moratorium on the implementation of the facility parking fees until further review and to develop recommendations about the plan for the county manager and the commissioners within 30 to 45 days. We're a little bit past that 40-day timeframe, but have been working very diligently at this since the first of the year.

What are the existing parking or facility fees at the Kansas Coliseum? Well, all events with ticket sales through Select-A-Seat, as well as the RV shows, the state high school wrestling, Park City Wrestling, gun shows and the go-karts have a 50 cents, what is noted on the ticket as a parking charge, 50 cent per ticket parking charge. However again, I just want to reiterate, for years now that fee has been considered from the county financial view as a facilities charge. The 50-cent fee is not included on tickets for events such as Ringling Brothers Circus and Disney on Ice. However . . . because they just don't allow it, however we do charge for those events currently a \$3 parking fee collected at the gate.

The Model A Swap Meet does not require a ticket, but due to the growth in the attendance and concerns for managing traffic flow and parking for that event, from a public safety point of view, and I think I sent you some information showing the growth of that over the past few years, and in fact since we've been charging a fee, we're able to better account for the number of people attending that event, a \$3 parking fee collected at the gate was implemented about four years ago. I might clarify that, I think that fee started at \$1, went to \$2, and I think the last couple of years its been . . . the fee was implemented six years ago. I think it started at \$1, went to \$2 and stayed at \$2 for a couple of years and for the past three years I think it's been at \$3.

The Flea Market, which is held about ten times a year, has a \$1 entry fee at the door and currently there is no parking fee, and then finally neither the 50 cent per ticket fee nor the \$3 parking fee at the gate is charged for any of the other non-ticket events, the graduations, the dog shows, Cattlemen's Ball and those sort of events.

When the committee got together, we identified and all agreed on the charge and then we identified what were the issues and concerns that maybe we should be exploring, based on the complaints and clarification calls that we'd received back in November, and we identified these five areas to study: traffic flow and control, the nature and extent of notice to vendors, promoters and event managers,

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potential impact on attendance at each event, financial cost versus the benefit, and we did look at surveys or we did do a survey from Facilities and other communities to see if we were an anomaly without parking fees or would be one with the implementation of these parking fees.

First to the findings relative to traffic flow and control. Both the Sheriff's Office and Mark Borst, our traffic engineer with the Public Works Department, has weighed in heavily on this effort and mark Borst, by the way, helped us when we were working on the Coliseum renovation plans to develop a traffic flow and control procedure out there during that time, so he was very familiar with these numbers and what was expected there.

Just very quickly, try to run through this without getting into too much detail, there are five entry gates currently at the Kansas Coliseum Complex. Gates one and two are located along 85th Street. That's the north side of the complex, with gates three through five located along Hydraulic, between 77th and 85th Streets on the east side of the complex. Now gate four will be eliminated with the current renovation plan of the pavilions. You will recall that we're adding an exercise arena in between a couple of the pavilions and this will cause gate four to be eliminated and consequently, in this proposal, it's not under consideration. To prevent traffic backup onto I-135 from the 85th Street exit, cars will be directed through Wiedemann Park. In addition to the two entries into that complex off of 85th Street, there is a third entrance that right now is not being used. It is a closed off entrance. That entrance, for especially large events, would be used and traffic would be directed through Wiedemann Park which is located . . . that gate is located just to the west of gate one, off of 85th Street. Lights and attendance will be set along Wiedemann Park road to handle the traffic flow. The parking fee will be collected at the end of that winding road, back into the Kansas Coliseum Complex, think about where the water tower is, and will be handled in a two-lane process. In doing that, we can handle 260 cars in queue off of 85th Street, then south on Hydraulic, using gate five will be another queuing opportunity for traffic as well.

What that does mean is we're going to have to do a better job than maybe what we've done up to this point of helping people attending the Coliseum to know that there's an exit off of 135 on 77th Street that brings them over and then into and up Hydraulic and in that way as well as the 85th. Right now, many, many, many of the folks who go there exit the 85th Street exit and cause a real backup there, even in today's times. We think better communication can help with that effort.

In addition to directing cars from 85th Street through Wiedemann Park again, there's one mile of roadway from the 77th Street exit off of 135, north onto Hydraulic to gate five. Now generally gate three will not be used until and unless it's needed for a big, big event where there's a lot of last-minute traffic expected.

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There are some one-time costs associated with this plan, which includes the construction of four ticket booths at a cost of a little under \$11,000 and about \$75,000 for a cold mix overlay for the Wiedemann Park road to handle the anticipated volume of traffic. Cold mix, Public Works Director David Spears tells us has a four to five year lifespan and we understand, even if the Coliseum events are not . . . the current events are not there, they're in the new downtown arena, Wiedemann Park will still be operated as a part of the new arena and consequently, that roadway will still be used, will be . . . that improvement will still be important to the use of Wiedemann Park and into the future.

We also know that there will be ongoing costs, which will be paid out of the parking fee revenues, for gate attendance that will be managed by Elite Security. Estimated cost for these gate attendance would average about \$200,000 per year.

Again, we looked at what the traffic situation is there now, looked at the kind of events, when people come to the events, all of that was factored in and this gets into more detail, as we talk to Lieutenant Burns from the Sheriff's Office who is responsible for traffic control on the streets out there and would continue to be, with the implementation of these plans. Again, four deputies on normal occasions, with costs for services would be charged as part of event expenses, which is done now. Two deputies at 85th Street exit, off of the interstate, to prevent traffic backup. Two deputies at gate one that would assist the east and west bound traffic, and if it gets too congested, then gate one deputies can send traffic to gate two, so the point is the traffic would be routed into Wiedemann Park road. If we started to get some backup, the Sheriff's officers can let traffic flow through, into gate one and have that as another entryway, even gate two if we need it, although in the detailed report that we provided, we would want to use gate two as an exiting gate most often. Again, with an event of 5,000 or more, two or more deputies at gate two would help with the east and westbound traffic because from time to time they would need to run to the Hydraulic entrances, back and forth, to make sure that traffic control was being managed in an overall fashion and not backing up Hydraulic and 77th Street as well.

With the new plan as well, the Sheriff's Office would staff the park gate instead of gate one and for every event the Sheriff's Office would also need to staff gate five, again because of added traffic coming in off of 77th Street. Depending on the crowd, officers would need for the staff at gate one, for overflow from Wiedemann Park entrance, I think I just mentioned that just to reiterate that and we would attempt to use gate two As an exit only during inbound periods. Again, gate two would be staffed by Sheriff's Offices for out bounds. They would do the runs back and forth to Hydraulic, as needed and smaller events gate two would be closed and traffic would exit from gate one.

Again, all of this has been looked at by the Sheriff's Department, all of those numbers have been provided by Lieutenant Burns and his folks in how they would handle traffic control and they feel

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very comfortable that that can be managed without increasing backup onto I-135. Bottom line on traffic control in the new plan is that I would recommend a minimum of six deputies for any Britt Brown event and the Sheriff's Office suggests two deputies at all events.

What was the nature and extent of notice to vendors, promoters and event managers? Again, I mentioned last fall the Thunder national promoters were given verbal notice that the new fees would become effective January 1. All other parties were provided a written notice the first week of December. All agreements that have been negotiated, signed after January 1 of this year contain language dealing with facility fee parking charges and we've gone down through and looked at all of the events and dates of the agreements and date of notifications and taken a look at all of those to make sure that we have covered everyone.

Additionally, back in December several county staff met with the Thunder general manager, Chris Presson and his attorney and it was agreed at that time that we would meet with them again after their season is over and that's not yet, I think thankfully so. They are now in the playoffs and so that meeting will be moved into mid to late May, depending on how well they progress through the playoffs, that we would meet with them again after the season is over and take a look at the issue and how their contract might be impacted by that.

We tried to look at what's the potential impact on attendance, in talking to other arena folks around . . . that have parking, that implemented parking and really we didn't get any good, solid information here. We do expect, immediately following implementation, there might be some potential adverse impact on attendance. However, from what we've been able to glean from other venues, what we know about how people come to an event, based on their interest in what's going on, that we think the long-term impact is expected to be marginal and not last for an extended period of time.

What are the financial cost and benefits? Again, these numbers move around a bit. The bottom line is, they're significantly more than a half a million dollars per year. You see the numbers there that we projected. The lost gate parking revenues for January through June of 2007 in the hockey for a full year, including their season that starts in October, was projected about \$578,000 projected four-year revenue, using . . . taking those numbers and looking at other events that would be happening in the fall would move to about \$771,000. There would be a \$200,000 cost, as an ongoing cost, as we indicated which would take those numbers down to \$571,000. Then moving the facility fee from 50 cent to one dollar would add an additional quarter of a million dollars to the revenue side.

Last we looked at several other facilities, we surveyed 27 facilities that were similar to the Kansas

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Coliseum, size, kind of usage, that sort of thing. We didn't go to for instance facilities that handle national league teams, those kind of facilities. We looked at facilities that operate pretty much like the Coliseum around our middle of the United States area. Most of these facilities charge a parking fee. Some of them do it at the gate, some of them do it on the ticket. A few of them do it both at the gate and on the ticket. Again, almost all of these facilities have extra charges on the ticket, whether they're facility charges or building use charges or convenience charges or some combination and charging a parking fee and a facility fee, our survey found, was very, very standard in this industry, whether it's charged at the gate or on the ticket is a venue by venue decision was the outcome of that review.

Again, charging for parking or other fees is pretty standard in the industry. Many vendors do share these fees with certain event managers while other do not. Again, based on our study of the Coliseum, as well as talking to these other venues, the financial benefits far outweigh the cost.

So what are the recommended actions? Number one, to replace the fee on the ticket to a facility fee, again that's what it's been used As and increase the fee from 50 cent to one dollar, to charge and again when we talk about a facility fee, it's for use in supporting the operations of the facility. Two is to charge for all events, beginning May 1, 2007, with some exceptions. All agreements that are signed before May 1 would be sent a letter notifying them of the specifics of these charges. Number three, graduation events would not be subject to these fees. Four, As soon As the Thunder Hockey season is over, we would sit down with Chris and his folks and start talking about what this means for the Thunder season next fall and next year and we would need to sit down with the flea market, again it's held ten times per year, to talk with them and determine what their fees should be. Why is this necessary? Because right now what happens with the flea market is that there's no parking fee, it's a one-dollar admissions fee.

Many months out there, when they're having their event, there's another event or other events going on in Britt Brown as well as the other . . . maybe other pavilions, so we need to sit down and sort through all of that, because it would be operationally . . . not tenable operationally to try to manage one event where there's no parking, one event where there is parking without having set down a parking fee, without sitting down and really talking about what that means and what might be an alternative process there, so we would begin that discussion immediately if you approve these recommendations today.

Again, for all events five complimentary parking permits for each contract would be given. Additional passes could be purchased. Permits of course would be numbered and marked with an expiration date so they would be good for the entire time of the event out there. Subcontractors

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would be given numbered passes and admitted through designated gates. Anyone coming out to the box office to buy a ticket for a future event while an event is going on, we would manage that by letting them in with no parking fee, recognizing that that's an in and out kind of deal and that once they come back to the event they're purchasing a ticket for, of course they would then get opportunity to participate in the parking fee.

We would again collect three dollars at the gate for all applicable events, including Britt Brown Arena and the pavilions, except those we mentioned. We would give in and out privileges all day and collection period would be determined per each event. Everyone would know . . . we would know whether or not we're going to go till . . . all during the event or some specified time during the event that we're collecting the parking fee.

Again, an advanced parking fee, parking ticket could be purchased through Select-A-Seat online or by phone and then there would be multi-day discounts, three dollars for the first day, a dollar fifty for any additional day, yet it must be purchased in advance and just reiterate, it's not at the gate but purchased in advance.

So commissioners, that concludes the presentation. I will stand for any questions, but our recommended action is for you to approve the recommendation of the review team and to adopt the resolution authorizing collection of fees for services provided by the Kansas Coliseum beginning May 1, 2007. Be happy to answer any questions that you might have."

Chairman Unruh said, "All right, thank you Ron. We do have some questions and we'll have commissioners voice those questions to you now, and then I understand there are some folks who would like a three-minute time period to speak, so we'll allow for that after we get through with this round of questions. First, Commissioner Parks."

Commissioner Parks said, "Thank you for your report, Mr. Holt. I do have several questions. Being within walking distance and being that this facility is in my district, I just have probably received as many calls on this issue the last week as I have just about anything else, surpassing the sandpit issue, surpassing . . . or right up there with the taxes, so I do have a few questions if I could. How about walk-ins? Now I don't know if you've considered that there are some people that are within walking distance of the Coliseum. There are some bus companies that do let off people like in Bear Hill and there's 30 at a time that will walk over there. I didn't know what you were planning on doing with the walk-ins."

Mr. Holt said, "This would be for vehicle, car collection at the gate for car fees and consequently, if they have the wherewithal to rally some place and walk in, it would not be a three dollar fee at the gate."

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Commissioner Parks said, "Okay. Well I know like the Airport Hilton out there, they pile up in that parking lot quite a bit and then walk across to the airport. I've seen that happen, so I would anticipate not a lot of that, but I'm sure that it's happening now, for some of the events there."

I just wanted to know where the . . . where did the \$60,000 go that was collected for that A's. Actually, just tell me where that money went, from the As Auto Swap Meet in February."

Mr. Holt said, "That's the group that we've started charging parking fees for about three years ago, and again the implementation of those fees were done to control fire lanes and parking and so forth."

With the improvements, or with the improvement of attendance there, there's been some additional staff requirements. That parking fee and all of these parking fees would go into supporting the operation budget of the Coliseum."

Commissioner Parks said, "So was that put back in a reimbursed line item then, or was that just back into the general fund total?"

Mr. Holt said, "It stays with the Coliseum, and at the end of the year, whatever the subsidy is that would be required there would come from the general fund. Whatever is over and above the operation of the Coliseum stays then in the enterprise fund, as a way the enterprise fund works. Any excesses that are raised during the year stay with the enterprise fund and then are used into the next year. Any subsidies needed comes from the general fund."

Commissioner Parks said, "Okay, thank you. The Elite Security then, are they clear out of the program, with any kind of subcontracts or anything with the security?"

Mr. Holt said, "No they would still be involved with us here and would be involved in actually manning, the gates, the parking fee booths at the gates."

Commissioner Parks said, "So the Sheriff's Department wouldn't be in the booths themselves."

Mr. Holt said, "That's right. The Sheriff's Department manages traffic flow, and then also manages security, the high-level security inside the building."

Commissioner Parks said, "Okay. Can you kind of tell me, I didn't hear anything about Wichita Wild football and I didn't know what arrangements had been made with them also?"

Mr. Holt said, "Wichita Wild Football, that contract was negotiated after the first of this year, and

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included in that contract was if this is approved would be a parking fee for the Wichita Wild Football team. Based on approving this for May 1, I forget when their season starts, I think it's after May 1 . . ."

Commissioner Parks said, "No it's an April 1st game."

Mr. Holt said, "Then they would end up with their first game, having this . . . I know we've negotiated for their whole season, but because this would not be approved until May 1, if that's what you agree to do today, that first game or whatever is before May 1, we would have to work with them not to have parking charged at that time."

Commissioner Parks said, "Okay. So my season ticket already has that built into that then."

Mr. Holt said, "If it does, whatever games are before May 1, you get to . . . get a rebate if it's some parking built into it."

Commissioner Parks said, "Well, I certainly wouldn't expect that. But the flea market that charges a dollar now, that money has been going into the same general fund, or has that been going back to Mid America Flea Market?"

Mr. Holt said, "That money has been going, and again any money that the Coliseum collects, because the Coliseum is an enterprise fund, stays with the Coliseum. And if . . . so that money has been staying with the Coliseum. Any money then, at the end of the year that the Coliseum has collected as revenues and the net income from the Coliseum, if there's any, stays with the enterprise fund and carries over into the next year.

If there's deficit, then the general fund picks up those deficits and as we reported, the last few years in a row we've had significant deficits because of the notice to folks that we were going to be closed and so forth."

Commissioner Parks said, "Sure. On the vendor passes, you said five vendor passes would be afforded. Now like with the A's Swap Meet, I'm one of about 300 vendors in that venue or more, I don't know how many, probably more like 500 now with the additional outside vending spots. What action . . . those people would just have to pay the normal three dollars that they have been paying for the last few years?"

Mr. Holt said, "That's right. And then a multi . . . if it's a multi-day event then it's three dollars and a dollar fifty for each additional day."

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Commissioner Parks said, "Well, there's a loading day, there has to be a loading day in there on Thursday and then Friday and Saturday is the event, so that total would be four dollars and fifty cents, or would that loading day be counted as a day on that?"

Mr. Holt said, "I think it would be appropriate for me to say we need to sit down with the Swap Meet folks and really have that discussion and for the A's folks, that certainly would be . . . the complimentary pass, whatever they are for that, and then for each day, whether it's a loading day or not, you get counted as a part of the event."

Commissioner Parks said, "Well that's certainly a regional, you know, multi-state event and I'd hate to see that hurt by that. Is there going to be a difference, this is a question that I've had asked by some horse people that I'm acquainted with, is there going to be a difference between let's say they have a tonner dual-wheel pickup with a 40-foot trailer on the back and that's going to take up seven parking places, is there going to be a difference for those vehicles or is that going to be a normal, nominal three dollars?"

Mr. Holt said, "As long as it can be brought in as attached as one vehicle, it's a per vehicle, and if it has a trailer to it, that's counted As a vehicle."

Commissioner Parks said, "Okay, thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "That it? All right thank you. Well, Commissioner Parks asked many of the questions I had. One other thing though is in your analysis we're relatively convinced that the traffic control is going to be adequate as far as queuing up the cars and getting them in and out and not backing clear up onto I-135, even on the most successful events, one with the most people out there."

Mr. Holt said, "We are convinced, again Mark Borst took a look at that and provided us with detailed analysis, looking at 1,000 attendance equally 435 vehicles, using that 2.3 per vehicle, 3,000 attendance, 1,305 vehicles, 5,000 attendance, 2,175 vehicles, 8,000 attendance, 3,480 vehicles, 10,000 attendance, 4,300 so we looked at all of those and with the queuing space and the management by the Sheriff's Office of the traffic there, it's very well satisfied that there would not be any significant backup. Now will there be brief moments, as there is now? I suspect we wouldn't be prudent saying there wouldn't be, but no significant backups. That will and can be managed.

One of the things we'll have to do and we have a communications plan beyond just the letters going out to folks but a marketing plan if you will to the public. We will have to do a more intense job of helping people know that there are more than one entry points into the Coliseum off of 135, that

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77th Street provides access off of 135, 85th Street which most people use now provides access and there are then other ways, using 77th, 85th, Hydraulic to get in and out but we will highly communicate the 77th Street and the 85th Street exits, to help break up some of that traffic coming onto 85th Street.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Well, I was just thinking in terms of safety, it’s important and in terms of anger management it’s important. You know, we don’t want people sitting in line too long, so Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. Ron, not . . . on a slide that was not too far from the end, in kind of the conclusions, you were talking about where and what would be charged, a parking fee, and the words ‘with some exceptions’ and the only exception I heard was graduations. Are there more exceptions than that? I think it was back a couple of more slides.”

Chairman Unruh said, “I think slide number 11, Ron.”

Mr. Holt said, “I’m not touching it now and it’s doing something, so I’m not making it . . . I touched the button one time and it took off on its own.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well, I guess then can you just address what the ‘some exceptions’ are.”

Mr. Holt said, “Certainly the big exception would be the graduation . . . the graduation events. Both high school and we do some college out there. The other piece that we need to work out, which could be considered an exception, we need to work with the flea market about how we handle their events in the future, especially when there’s other events going on at the same time that they’re going on. They’ve been an exception to the parking fee of any sort in the past and we need to figure out with them how we would do that in the future, when there are multiple events going on and the other events have that three-dollar parking fee.

There will be other events, for instance Cattlemen’s Ball, we do that out there each year and those tickets are sold otherwise. I think in working with those folks, we would have to take a look at whether or not . . . that’s an annual one time a year event, we’ll have to work with them to decide

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whether or not that makes sense or not, as we look at the cost for the . . .”

Commissioner Winters said, “And so would Coliseum staff or you have then the authorization or responsibility to look at each of those situations?”

Mr. Holt said, “We would be looking at each of those situations through an agreement related process, like the staff does now. Any of the exceptions that are not part of this we would certainly be making sure that you were fully aware of them.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, and one last question now, and I continue to be confused about the Model A Swap Meet, but if I understand it right, parking is going to be the same for their event as it is today.”

Mr. Holt said, “Parking would be the same as it is today. I’m not quite sure, I think the vendors have to have a parking pass now and that would continue and the fee would be the same. We’d be a little bit more efficient in collecting it because of how we would manage the in and out traffic.”

Commissioner Winters said, “But they’re paying a parking fee today.”

Mr. Holt said, “They’re paying a parking fee today.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, thank you. That’s all I have right now.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well Ron, back last time we talked about this, you gave us a rundown on the number of visitors per event. Didn’t you tell us that the A’s Swap Meet was the largest event or had the largest attendance?”

Mr. Holt said, “The A’s Swap Meet has grown . . . what the part . . . and if I told you that, I was . . . I didn’t intend to say it that way. That may be, but I haven’t thought about it that way. What we looked at was their large increase in attendance over the last few years. It started out a very small event, it has grown and grown in leaps and bounds the last few years, was the point I was making.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Didn’t it have 21,000 people attending this time?”

Mr. Holt said, “I think that note said twenty . . . I don’t have it right here before me, but I believe that number was 20 . . .”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well I thought that was the highest number of attendants for any

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event we had.”

Mr. Holt said, “Well, when you have multi-day events out there, . . .”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “So you added that up?”

Mr. Holt said, “That . . . again, I can’t ans . . . that very well may be. I haven’t thought about it in that fashion commissioner, whether that is the largest single attended event or not. I’m sorry.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “I thought it was, from the figures that you gave us, but I’d like to check that out and make sure.”

Mr. Holt said, “Okay.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Is that all, commissioner?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “That’s it, thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioner Parks.”

Commissioner Parks said, “I just wanted to clarify something on that A’s Swap Meet. That is a multi-day event, so it wouldn’t actually be the same. It might be less then, right? If the second day is \$1.50 instead of \$3.00?”

Mr. Holt said, “That’s right.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Okay.”

Commissioner Winters said, “So if somebody went to that event two days, they would actually pay less.”

Commissioner Parks said, “They’d pay less that they did this year.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Any other questions, commissioners? I don’t see any at this time, Ron, so are there folks here who want to speak? Could you raise your hand? We have one, two, three, four, five, six people. All of you represent different . . .well, I can’t ask a question like that. Okay, what we’d like to do is have you get over here, get ready to come to the podium. This is not a public

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hearing, but we want to give you the opportunity to speak and if possible two things. Try to hold your remarks to three minutes and secondly, if someone else has already said everything you're going to say, that means we've already heard it, but if you could come over here and the first person please, three minutes, please state your name."

Mr. Chris Presson, General Manager, Wichita Thunder, greeted the Commissioners and said, "First of all, thank you for the opportunity, thank you for the opportunity that Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Euson gave us earlier in the year to meet with them. Obviously I'm against the fee, because I'm impacted the most. With all due respect, the Swap Meet people and the car show, they're there ten times a year. I'm there a minimum of 32 times a year, so I stand to be the biggest loser on the deal.

The only part of Mr. Holts' slide I didn't like was the financial cost/ benefit slide. It is a benefit to the county and I'm a partner to the county. It's not a benefit to me and it's such a serious device, in terms of a negative side of things, it could put my business out of business in two years.

Keep in mind that we drove approximately 175,000 people through the Coliseum this year. Those of you that come to our games, or keep up with us via the newspaper, our attendance has almost doubled in the two years that I've been here. We're finally getting our head back up out of the sand. This has the opportunity to put our head back under the sand.

You're asking my season ticket holders alone to incur a 25 to 33% increase on the cost of their season tickets. There's one reason why the Wichita Thunder is successful, and it's price point. When you ask our fans to pay another 25 to 33% on top of their season ticket, which is in essence what we're doing, that eliminates a large base of fans that I have.

My fans are fans that come to Thunder Hockey games. My fans aren't fans that go to Cirque De Soliel. They can't afford it. Keep in mind what you're doing to me. I heard a lot of talk, probably the most talk about the swap meet. I'm the prime tenant of the arena. Just for some quick math here, I've been there for 15 years, roughly, we'll use rough numbers here. I currently pay \$6,500 a night. I am given a rebate based upon people I put in the building. Let's just say, I still have to pay the fee. Let's just say I pay an average of \$5,000 a night over the course of 15 years. You guys can do the math. That's a pretty big number. Let's say, over the course of 15 years I've average 3,000 fans a game, which is probably a little bit low to be honest with you, but we'll err on the side of being low. In Hockey you typically do five to six dollars a head concession-wise. As of about two months ago, we were at \$5.62 a head, so we're right where I'm saying we're going to be. You multiple 3,000 times six dollars, that \$18,000 a night. You multiply that by 32 games, big number, you multiply that by 15 years, huge number, \$9,000,000 huge.

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So it's almost, in my opinion, as though you're cutting off your nose to save your face. We have to be the biggest client that the county has at the Kansas Coliseum. Does Cirque De Soliel do a million dollars in a three-day show, in terms of ticket sales? Yes. Has Cirque De Soliel paid to the county \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 over 15 years? No. I also rent space from a county facility at the Ice Center, have done so since the facility opened, to the best of my knowledge. That's \$1,850 a month times 10 years, roughly. That's also \$10,000 a year times ten years on ice, so we're talking from my side of things at very real and very large numbers, from my ability to contribute to the county's bottom line.

And you're asking my fans to bear the biggest brunt of this. I'm the one that gets hurt the most, because I have the most events. It's not me that gets hurt, it's my fans. They don't deserve that. It's not fair. The one thing I've learned about business, albeit a young person, is to do what's fair. This isn't fair. I'm thankful that the county agreed to waive the fee for the remainder of my season. I have so many season ticket holders that will not renew until this is resolved and so many season ticket holders I'm sure have told you and called me says 'Chris, we won't renew if it's going to be \$3.00'.

I know we're having a negotiation phase and Mr. Buchanan has been kind enough to agree to do that. I'm just asking you for our benefit, we don't want to be in a position two years from now where that the Wranglers are in, where we're talking about having to bring in another team. AF II Football has come and gone, arena football has come and gone. I think Mike is going to do a great job and I wish them well. Charging three bucks for a new business makes it even harder for them to succeed.

You're talking about an ownership group that wants to put other events in here. We want to have the baseball team here, but we also want to be treated as though we are the contributor to the county that we have been. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. Next speaker."

Mr. John Stone, Representative, Model A Ford Club of Wichita,, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Our membership is around 250 households, most of which are citizens of Sedgwick County. We're sponsors of the annual swap meet which you've heard a lot about and it's in the first Friday and Saturday in February, consists of antique and collectable cars, car parts and automobilia. Next year will be the 33rd annual.

Since moving to the Coliseum in 1982, it has grown to the largest indoor swap meet in the central

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United States. Also, it has become the biggest event held at the Coliseum and is number three in Sedgwick County, this is the single events, behind the River Festival and the Home Show.

Over 175 club members are involved to put the meet together and staff it. We have kept the price of the vendor spaces low on purpose and we are not doing it to make a lot of money. I know we could raise things and make a lot more, but that wouldn't be any fun. We have given over \$60,000 to local charities and used the other monies for tours, where we visit museums, tourist attractions, points of interest throughout the state of Kansas. An example, just 67 members went through Exploration Place the other day you know, so it's good for the local economy and the swap meet is a boon for Sedgwick County.

We have people attend from all over the United States, has an excellent reputation from both buyers and vendors and, as stated before, over 20,000 people attended this year and even with the bad weather and they looked at the wares of more that 500 vendors.

This brings me to the discussion today of the charge for parking. The people attending our event including the vendors have been paying a parking fee since 2002. It has been stated that the Model A Club chose to impose the fee. Well, in the summer of 2001, the Coliseum management claimed the people attending the event did damage to the landscaping by parking on the grass. We either had to give them \$12,000 or charge for parking in 2002. What kind of choice is that. With the inside 1,000 vendor spaces sold out a year in advance, it is really imperative that we get at least one and a half years notice on changes that affect the economics of the swap meet so these costs could be passed on to the vendors. As far as I know, we are the only event that has ever paid for parking.

Last fall it was announced in the media that all Coliseum events would be charged \$3.00 parking. Such a fuss was raised, the idea was cancelled, except for our event of course. Then on Monday before the event, the Coliseum management announced they were going to impose the \$3.00 parking fee on Thursday, which is nothing more than a vendor set-up day. We finally agreed we would give them \$750 out of our income for the fee to go away. Now was that fair? Neither Coliseum management nor the county commissioners hear the complains from the vendors and buyers. We do. Well, I think you get a few phone calls. The only real problems we have seen with parking is illegal parking in the fire lanes, which a couple of Sheriff's officers could easily handle, and one year it snowed just enough to cover the parking lot and you couldn't see the lines and it melted at mid-morning and when you went out it looked like random parking, it was pretty scary. One time, let me see, the Coliseum used to schedule the Sesame Street Live matinee and one year they did have traffic, because of the parking fee, packed up onto I-135 and I know the Highway Patrol came after them.

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The final question arises, do you really want our event? The Model A Club membership is getting older and many are getting tired of the hassles of the swap meet. At 62, I am one of the youngest members of the club. We do not have to do it. This is not a threat. It is a fact. If it goes away, the food vendors at the Coliseum lose, Park City loses, and the biggest lose will be to Sedgwick County. Right now, we have contracts through 2010, but the bottom line is we're asking for cooperation, fair treatment and no last minute surprises. We will welcome the return to free parking."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. Next speaker please."

Mr. Paul Banzet, Wheat State Morgan Horse Club representative, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I represent the Wheat State Morgan Horse Club, that for over 20 years has had the Wheat State Morgan Horse Show at the Coliseum at the rate of about 13,000-15,000 per year. I'm also just off of the board of directors for the Kansas Horse Council, which has Kansas Equifest at the Coliseum and has just this past year celebrated their ten year of putting on that event. I have no idea what we pay the Coliseum per year on that, because I'm not involved with it, but it handles approximately 12,000 people, well it's over 12,000 people in the three days that it is put on.

As far as the Kansas Wheat State Morgan Horse Club and their show, we usually have a small show that amounts to about 250 stalls that are installed and 130 to 150 horses, which ends up being approximately 400 to 500 people on site, which would break down to a couple of hundred cars. Well, to me are you wanting to charge the people that are there, they move in on Monday and they're there through Sunday and some of them even move out on Monday noon, so basically a lot of people are there for a week for a show that's on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

We also have probably fifty volunteers that put on the show, so are the volunteers and the people that are putting on the show, or bringing people to the Coliseum going to have to pay a parking fee every day for being there for the show, which is a benefit to the Coliseum? The same goes with the Kansas Horse Council. They have approximately 200 vendors that are there approximately four days and they have a number of helpers. We have about 60 to 80 volunteers that help us put that show on, so are those volunteers that help put the show on to draw over 12,000 people to the Coliseum going to pay a parking fee to come and help every day?

So it really to me it's like the one gentleman said, we're trying to charge people to the point where we're going to drive them away from being . . . participating in the functions at the Coliseum and I wouldn't . . . the equine industry is a multi-million dollar industry and we are way behind the eight ball on attracting equine events to the Coliseum. I would encourage you to either visit or talk to the personnel at Oklahoma State fairgrounds at Tulsa, Claremore, Oklahoma and Ardmore, Oklahoma, especially Tulsa and Oklahoma City. They're spending millions for the equine and agricultural

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industry and they're busy every weekend. I appreciate your time and I do feel that we should expend more energy to bring in attractions rather than trying to drive them away with a parking fee. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. Okay, next . . . another speaker."

Mr. Larry Kaufman, 1621 Ridge Road, Derby, Ks., greeted the Commissioners and said, "I called up Dave and Tim previously about the Coliseum situation. Every once in a while I am a vendor at the Flea Market and the market itself is down and you guys said Tulsa does not charge a parking fee. They used to charge an entry fee, but because the market is so down and flat, they quit even doing that. There's no parking fee in Oklahoma City. There's no parking fee in Kansas City. The bottom line is it's a garage sale, you know, that's about what it is, and if you charge these people, most people are just lookers and if you charge these people to look at junk, which is basically what it is, you know, they're just going to stay home. And you know, you need to look at that, and I realize you guys have to make money, you know. If you're in the hole, you can't keep it open. We understand that, but most of this problem is because of the rescheduling, or you know they said it was going to be closed at this time, and when it wasn't, they said 'Okay, come on back' and of course they rescheduled it, so this is pretty much a one-time thing. If I'm not mistaken, the Coliseum is probably about the only thing that has been keeping our head above water, so you know look at that as being a one-time thing, okay we messed up, it's not their fault, it's our fault and say 'Well, let's not cut our nose off right now, let's put that thing back on and continue'.

So you know, look at what's going to happen later on, not right now. We screwed up. We're going to make it better but don't penalize everybody for this, because like a said everybody is out there for fun. I realize you've got to pay your bills and that's fine, but don't cut your nose off, don't shoot your feet off either, so I guess that's pretty much all I have to say. Any questions?"

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you for your very candid comments. Do we have another person who wants to speak?"

Mr. Charles Peaster, 9453 N. 135th Street W., Sedgwick, Ks., greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here to oppose this parking fee. If the Wichita Eagle is right, you're fixing to spend \$300,000 just to start this. The other thing that I heard today that I didn't know was that you're saying there's 2.3 people per car entering that, but yet you pay the consultant that says there will be 3.2 people of 3.3 people to attend the arena downtown. Which one is right? Will there be a fee for all the events? To my knowledge, there's several car companies that go up there, rent the facilities to sell vehicles. If I go up there to look at a car, you want me to pay \$3.00 to enter that just to look at a vehicle?"

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What's going to happen to those people that are renting those facilities, where are they going to go, because they're not going to come up there if the people they're looking at coming to purchase a vehicle have to pay a parking fee.

It say that a \$3.00 fee is less than parking fees charged in other cities and other states. This is of no concern to me, because I live in Sedgwick County and pay taxes in Sedgwick County and the events I attend are at the Coliseum and that's where I usually attend most of the events I attend. How are we going to work someone being brought to the event and dropped off and later picked up? I've heard nothing involving that. There's some events that, at one time, I took my kids to and dropped off and then I left and then I went back and got them and I've heard nothing addressing that issue.

You're talking about ten events at the flea market that you have and now we're talking about adding an additional \$3.00 cost to get in to a flea market. You might as well cancel those ten events, because that's what is going to happen. People are not going to pay to go look at something they might buy or might not buy.

To me, for you to approve this today, you don't have all the facts on the table I don't believe. And to approve this is something that just . . . it comes about and there's no way to change it unless you go back and disapprove what you approved today and if you do that, it looks to me like you don't understand what you really want to do in Sedgwick County as commissioners of Sedgwick County. I appreciate you listening to me and here again I'll say I oppose the parking fee and I think most of the people here to speak are opposing the parking fee. Heaven help us if you impose it. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you."

Mr. Mike Scrapper, 4480 S. Meridian, Wichita, Ks., greeted the Commissioners and said, "Member of the Board of Directors for the Kansas Paint Horse Association. We sponsor the World Wide Paint Horse Congress annually. It's an event that's a premier event that consistently ranks in the top five American Paint Horse shows yearly, with about 3,00 entries. To save you some time, I can't give you a lot of things, other than what your previous speakers have said. What I can do is give you some real numbers about the economic impact, and that's one thing that I've not seen that we can provide you with some real numbers from a preliminary impact study that we started at the 2006 Congress and if you don't mind, I'd be happy to hand those to you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, that would be fine."

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Mr. Scraper said, “The Worldwide Paint Horse Congress draws about 2,000 visitors, owners and exhibitors annually from 35 states, Canada and other foreign countries and as many organizations, these visitors encompass a wide range of demographic groups. The bottom line on totally taxable expenditures for just our event alone totals to somewhere around a million dollars. Additionally, we pay facility rental fees to the tune of about \$49,000, or at least that’s what our contract was for last year.

Because we believe that this is going to have a negative impact on our attendance, not so much by exhibitors and owners, those are people of means who can afford to pay. What it will do is it will impact families that already struggled to bring their kids to shows. It will impact the casual spectator that we draw from town. Those casual spectators frequent our vendors and spend money with our vendors, and the lost attendance from those two groups, for us, represents the difference between breaking even on a horse show, as a non-profit organization and losing money. So it will really have a negative effect on our ability to hold future shows at the Kansas Coliseum. So I would ask that you consider the economic impact, the lost rental revenues.

You heard from a member of the Kansas Horse Council and the Morgan Horse Association. There are other organizations out there besides those and the one I represent. There are the quarter horse association, the Arabians hold a big show there, generally annually. The Miniature Horse Association, the list goes on and on and on. And the only other point that I’d like to make that I haven’t heard yet is that as a equi professional, the overall economic value of the horse industry within south central Kansas is driven by what occurs at the Kansas Coliseum. Were that to become an untenable situation for those organizations, the agricultural part of what we do, the agricultural impact of what the horse community does is going to dry up and go away, and when that happens, it will be a negative impact.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you.”

Mr. Kevin Rooney, 5206 N. Ridge Road, Wichita, Ks., greeted the Commissioners and said, “I speak on behalf of the Wheatland Poppin’ Johnnies Two –Cylinder Club. We also have a swap meet, modeled off of the As Swap Meet. We’d like to give them full recognition. I’ve patterned it off their show. We’ve not been nearly as successful as they. We’re a non-profit organization. We operate with total volunteer labor. Any funds that we generate at the end of the year we give to

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local charities to help those in need.

Sixteen years ago, we had 42 exhibitors at the Coliseum. This past year, we approved nearly 375. Our club and our mottos are based on personal integrity. Being agriculturally oriented, most farm people in this rural community realize that things are based on honesty and integrity. We have always felt that it is not necessary to charge people to come in and spend their money on our vendors' wares. We have vendors that come from all 50 states, as well as exhibitors, as well as other people who just attend the show. We look forward to it each year as a family homecoming. Some of these people we don't see except once a year. We're lifelong friends.

I wish that you would not impose the parking on the Coliseum parking lot. That's going to adversely affect our whole swap meet. Our club is not capable of absorbing all of those fees, just as the other members have stated. Our show will dry up and go away. I thank you for your time this morning. If at least you pass this, I would request an exception for our club. We have vendors that come and go daily at least three or four times. At the same time that our swap meet is going on, generally there is other activities going on at Britt Brown. Thank you for your time."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you sir. I think that . . . I don't see anybody else requesting to speak and so we appreciate all of your comments and input, but now we will restrict comments to the bench. And so Mr. Holt is still here and commissioners, for any of your comments or questions, now is the time. I have two . . . who was first? Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well I haven't particularly been in favor of this parking fee. In fact, when we got into the early conversations, I think I brought it up at a staff meeting that we need to revisit this, so I haven't really been very supportive of this. I'd like some information on the facility fee that's attached to the ticket. You're taking it from 50 cents to a dollar and we understand that people that contract and use the facility might need to pay some more and it's not about parking, people that are going to come multiple times and trying to control it and the capital outlay that has to go to that.

Is there any sense that we can take that fee from 50 cents to a dollar, to take it to \$1.50 to \$2.00 attached to the ticket? It would be easier to do, it's not onerous on the people that are coming to the event, other than people that are coming to concerts and paying tickets, and hopefully we give the message that, you know, if you're going to come to big events like that, we have to continue to make the Coliseum solvent for all the events that we do out there, and that might be a little more reasonable. It's built in. We're not building ticket booths. We're not slowing up the traffic. I don't think we're going to be hurting the swap meets and the car shows and the equine events. I don't think that would be onerous on the Thunder either. Maybe I'm wrong, but that would be a way to offset some of the shortfall that we've got and not make it a huge public problem with everybody that comes and goes out there. Just a different thought process. I mean, if you're taking

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them from 50 cents to a dollar, I don't know what extra revenue would come out of it if you went from 50 cents to \$1.50, but maybe all of the sudden you raised a little bit of extra revenue, we cut some things out there and now we've accomplished the same thing for the overall health of the Coliseum and we haven't disengaged our whole public that uses it. Just a different thought."

Chairman Unruh said, "Mr. Holt, did you want to respond?"

Mr. Holt said, "I think the major impact there would be with the national promoters, as I mentioned in the presentation. Any additional fee that's added to the ticket, it's a . . . they feel a need that they share in that and in fact I didn't mention that Ringling Brothers . . . no those two are fine. They share in those and I think it would be the sense of having to renegotiate all of those national contracts would be one thing.

The other thing would be that when you do it on every ticket, that's every . . . whatever additional fees on every ticket, that's everybody attending. One of the things we looked at to try to make this more palatable was that you don't have one person per car per vehicle coming to an event, and so by doing it, a parking fee at the gate, was a better . . . a softer impact if you will on those attending the events at the Coliseum."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you. Is that all, commissioner?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Yeah, I'm just trying to think of something maybe different than what we're trying to do that would serve kind of both masters and not have this onerous ability on our people that are trying to come and go out there. I don't know how you resolve some of the things where you have multi-day events and people come and go and it just seems like it would be a nightmare to me. And one of the things that has always been a plus for the Coliseum is the ease of getting in and out of there and I just think this makes it very protracted to get in and out of there if you have any kind of stoppage to collect money."

Chairman Unruh said, "In relation to one of the comments, Ron, did you say though that we're going to have day-long entrance and exit, whatever the right words you used . . ."

Mr. Holt said, "In and out passes, yes."

Chairman Unruh said, "In and out passes, so a person comes and goes, they have a pass, they only pay that once per day."

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

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Chairman Unruh said, "And multiple days, second day is a reduced fee."

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

Chairman Unruh said, "And do you think we have the administrative mechanism to take care of that?"

Mr. Holt said, "That's easily handled with the parking passes that you would have, that you would give at the events for those people who are multiple attendees."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay."

Mr. Holt said, "Almost all of that relates to folks who are working the events, more so than the attendees, but that could happen with attendees as well."

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

Commissioner Parks said, "Yes, I did have one of my passes this year and it worked very well. The ticket that I bought early I could just hold up and they would flag me on through, so that worked this year."

By the way, I do display items at several of these events out there. My items are not junk though, they're inexpensive antique collectibles, okay. I don't have a . . . I don't personally have a problem with paying \$3.00 for the events that I go to out there. The Thunder is a great entertainment venue. The Wichita Wild coming up, I personally don't have a problem with it. It won't break me. I know in other events, I went to the Cotton Bowl a few years ago with K-State and it was \$10.00 to park at the Cotton Bowl and park and rides are major things around major cities and public events.

I would like to say that I appreciate John Nath and his staff and I'm going to submit to you that that's why a lot of these people that you heard from today like the Kansas Coliseum because John and his staff do a good job of setting it up and it did snow this year during the A's Swap Meet and I realize that he has expenses. He has a \$1,200 blade on his grader out there that if we wouldn't have had that graded out there, it would have been a mess and I do appreciate that. But I think that's an attraction to the Kansas Coliseum is because Mr. Nath and his staff have made it a good venue to go to.

My wife has a horse and has a tack business and she's a vendor participant and she wouldn't be hurt by this, the way it's set up. However, this is not about me. It's about the constituents and I tell you that a lot of people have bought property in that area, over the last 20 years, saying 'Hey, I have a

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horse, I have car interests, I have other interests that I like to go to the Coliseum'. People have bought it because of the Thunder. There are subdivisions that are full of Thunder fans, I'm telling you, up there and there . . . it's close to the Kansas Coliseum and those constituents have called me, so that's the way I'm going to lean towards voting on this and I'll tell you why. It's not about me, it's about my constituents and I'll just leave it at that."

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

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. Well I came in today ready to vote and was going to plan on being ready to vote and vote today and I was going to vote for the parking charge, and mainly because I've even had . . . you know I haven't had a lot of conversation with citizens. I've had some and I've had some that support the fee for the reason that I had supported it. It's a user fee of sorts and if the Coliseum is at the point where we need to shore it up a bit, then let the folks that are using the Coliseum bear that burden, and so I was ready to do that. But I guess I maybe need some more information or some more help. I'm really so pleased with the Thunder Hockey team's success. I mean you read in the paper and we had the home game last weekend and 8,500 people or more people were at a Thunder game and that's a big turnaround, and so the thing I'm thinking about here is I'd like to know what every other Central Hockey Team town does.

But then that's probably going to be hard to figure out, because they've probably all got packaged deals they put together with their rent, concessions, parking but I think I would like to know what all the other hockey towns that the Thunder competes in are people paying three, four, five bucks at the gate to get in, get their car in.

And then I guess I'd kind of like to know that about the horse shows because I really do think that the equestrian industry is huge and I don't know what goes on in Oklahoma, if that is really becoming a hotbed of the horse shows but I guess I'd like to know, at a horse show, how some of those big arenas handle the horse show idea.

And then I guess I'd like to think a little bit more about Commissioner Norton's suggestion, and I know the part of dealing with national promoters, but if that would be a much easier way to accomplish what we need to accomplish. I guess I'd like to see some projected numbers about what that looks like. And then I guess finally, and I know the whole reason that we're pursuing this is not necessarily because we went through this gyration of believing that we were closing the Coliseum and so we cut everything out, weren't booking shows and then we made this (?) after the vote was held to build a new downtown arena, and so now we're back in business. Well, over a period of a year or 12 months, will we really be back in business like we were before we went through this gyration of saying we're going to be closed this year, and I know that probably it goes

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deeper than that. That's probably not the only reason that we're doing this, but I guess with those four questions, I almost think I'd like to think about this for two or three weeks, but that's just my opinion. If others are ready to go, we can work that out."

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

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Well I thought we had a lot of these problems solved and it's pretty apparent that we've actually created more problems than we have solutions. Six large event handlers here and it's very important to them. It seems that we would be upsetting a community by doing this, and so I'm sorry that we haven't solved our problem but I don't think that the solution we're voting on today is the solution, so I'm not going to be supporting it."

Chairman Unruh said, "Well, I don't see any other commissioners asking to speak, but I would . . . I think the prudent course here, rather than for us to call the vote on this right now would be to give Mr. Holt . . . or ask you to find out some answers and maybe in two weeks we'd bring this back for another consideration, and so that would be my suggestion, but we do have Commissioner Norton wanting to speak."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well the only difficulty I have with that, and obviously we have to do something, we're in charge of making sure the Coliseum is whole and at least breaks even and it's an enterprise fund. But Mr. Presson really talked about, you know, he's got season ticket holders that are kind of on hold until they figure this out. And truthfully, I know maybe a lot of them live around Valley Center and the north area, but I've got to tell you, from where I come from on the south side, there's a lot of rabid Thunder fans, because I hear from all of them.

And one of the issues with them is that this is low-cost, family entertainment and that if you add a parking fee to that, each time they go, that is a financial impact for them and they're season ticket holders. That concerns me, if we wait too long, that we did diminish what the Thunder can do with their season tickets. They're coming off of the ability to go into the playoffs. If they win some games there and go, hopefully, all the way to the top that is going to spur them on to greatness when it comes to season ticket sales. People will be much more engaged and people will follow a winner.

We know that and I'd hate to hold off too long and jeopardize some of that good will that's going to come from the playoffs of the Thunder for them not to be able to sell as many darn tickets as they possibly can for next year.

The other part that concerns me is the Thunder is critically important to our transition to the new arena. We cannot underestimate and everybody else that's here, I love ya, but the Thunder is critically important to the new arena. They will be our largest tenant there and we don't want to do

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anything to diminish now that relationship. We need them to be ready and powerful with season tickets and move into that new arena with five, six thousand season ticket holders and the ability to put 15,000 people in the seats there and I don't think we're doing the right thing now on a very limited basis at the Coliseum. At best we've got, what, two more years to worry with this and then we're going to be in the arena and worrying about totally different things at the Coliseum. Then we're worrying 'Do we turn it into an equestrian center, do we turn it into a dirt event and agriculture center, what do we do with it?' And I just think we're not using prudence on the short term for a couple of years of parking fees that, yeah, helps us get through some tough times with some shortfall and jeopardizing the future of the Thunder at the new arena and what they're doing now. I just don't think it makes prudence. So I just don't think we can wait too long to make this decision."

Chairman Unruh said, "Ron, how much time do you think you'd need to answer some of the questions that have been verbalized?"

Mr. Holt said, "I think two weeks would be ample time."

Chairman Unruh said, "Commissioners? Commissioner Winters, I'm sorry, I didn't see your light on."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, Commissioner Norton has some good points. He brought up though I think some good solutions early on and I think we kind of need to shake those out. I wouldn't mind asking Chris with the Thunder if we would delay for two weeks if that's going to throw his ticket sales for the next season in a tailspin. Mr. Chairman, could I ask him that question?"

Chairman Unruh said, "That's right. He's standing at the podium now."

Mr. Presson said, "Thank you again. I wanted to make one point to Commissioner Norton. To give you an idea of the impact on us, 2,000 season tickets roughly is what we currently have. That's about \$600,000. That will go to about half of what it is with the parking fee. In terms of will it damage us, as long as I can provide some sort of information that we're delaying it two weeks, it's not going to hurt me. They will see that as the opportunity that you are giving us to discuss it further."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, thank you."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, well commissioners, I would like to defer this for two weeks. I don't want to make a motion yet unless. Commissioner Norton, I know you had some reservations about that."

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Commissioner Norton said, “Well I mean, I want a good solution and obviously if we had to vote today, to me the good solution would be to deny any parking fees, but if we’re going to have dialogue about what is right for our community and what is right for our citizens are what are right for the businesses that do business in the Coliseum and I don’t have a problem with the delay for a couple of weeks, particularly since the Thunder, our biggest tenant there has said two weeks is not going to be critical to him. If we stretch it out to a month or two months, then it does have more of an impact. You know, they’re going to be playing in the playoffs for another three or four weeks, aren’t you?”

Mr. Presson said, “We hope.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well I don’t want to keep people on the edge of their seats worried about this for any length of time at all, and I think two weeks would be maximum for me. I’d like to get it settled.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well Commissioner Winters, you want to put that in the form of a motion.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to defer this item for two weeks.

Commissioner Parks seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Ron, but we have a comment from Commissioner Norton

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here.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well I appreciate everybody coming out here today and it’s difficult to postpone things like this. We know now you’re thinking ‘well, I’ve got to come back again in two weeks and go through the same process’ and, you know, I don’t want to go through all that.

One of the things, as I looked at the committee that worked on this, the thing that was absent to me were stakeholders. It was Coliseum staff, it was Sheriff’s Department, it was other folks from around the county but there weren’t any leasees, tenants, users that maybe as part of moving forward in the next two weeks, we make sure that the Thunder is attached to this so that if there’s some issues along the way in the conversations, that we’re not going to be dealing with that in two weeks and Chris is back here going ‘Wow, that’s not workable either’. That he can kind of put his blush on it as we go along.

Maybe the A’s Swap Meet would be involved in the conversation too, so that maybe we have some of the Coliseum stakeholders and users in the middle of that conversation in the next two weeks, so that when we do get a new look at what we want to do, it’s already kind of been through the filters of some of the bigger users, so we’re not going through this conversation again. That’s just a suggestion.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, and Mr. Holt has heard that suggestion and we’ll consider that as we find these answers. And I would want to make the statement that since we’ve heard comments from these stakeholders, that when this comes back before us, you all are certainly welcome to attend the meeting, but we won’t be having public comment, unless there is a specific question from one of the commissioners at the next meeting.

Okay, I see no more comment on that, so Madam Clerk, please call the next item.”

F. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES- COMCARE

1. AGREEMENT WITH JULIA REYES, LMFT, TO PROVIDE CLINICAL SUPERVISION TO ACHIEVE LICENSURE AS A LICENSED CLINICAL MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST (LCMFT).

Ms. Jeannette Livingston, Contract Administrator, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The agreement sets the terms and conditions for COMCARE to provide clinical supervision services for Julia Reyes to become a Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist. In order to be eligible for an advanced status, such as a Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist you have to have a certain number of clinical supervision hours after graduate school.

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Employees can chose to contract with COMCARE for COMCARE to provide those clinical supervision services, or they can chose to contract with external sources at market rates. The clinical . . . the advanced practice status is an indication of experience on the part of the staff person, and even insurance companies often will provide higher reimbursement rates in recognition of this experience.

As an option, if the employee chooses to contract with COMCARE for the clinical supervision, we fill out the clinical supervision agreement and the employee must agree to test for their licensure as soon as they're eligible, stay with COMCARE as an employee for the same amount of time as they receive the supervision services. generally that's two year, depending on where they were when they became our employee. If they don't voluntarily meet the employment requirement, then they would be required to reimburse COMCARE for the value of the services provided.

Additionally, the employee must agree to provide clinical supervision services for other employees, once they're eligible to provide that. The clinical supervision services represent an investment on the part of COMCARE in the experience and education of our staff and it allows our staff to provide a higher level and range of services and at a higher reimbursement rate from insurance providers. The recommended action is to approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign."

Chairman Unruh said, "All right, thank you Jeannette. This employment contract, I mean, at this point the employee is aware of it and with all the terms and conditions and is ready to proceed."

Ms. Livingston said, "Absolutely. They can chose to receive the services from COMCARE or they can, on their own, find another provider, so did sign the agreement."

MOTION

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

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye

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Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

2. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA FAMILY SERVICES INSTITUTE MODIFYING OUTCOMES FOR THE ON-TRAC PROGRAM.

Ms. Livingston said, "The Wichita Family Services Institute's On-Trac program is a grant recipient through the Sedgwick County Community Crime Prevention grant. As part of the grant program, recipient's are required to monitor and report on outcomes. We have a professional evaluator, Dr. Delores Craig-Moreland who annually evaluates programs and also she provides some technical assistance on the development and modification of outcomes as needed. With consultation with Dr. Craig-Moreland, we reviewed On-Trac program outcomes.

They have, recently more of the kids coming through the program have been demonstrating more problem behaviors. Particularly, they're seeing more gang-involved youth, so some of the outcomes that were set several years ago may not necessarily be appropriate for the population that they're serving currently.

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Craig-Moreland, we looked at the truancy outcome indicator and the idea to separate . . . a separate outcome for kids that have a history of truancy, versus kids that don't have a history of truancy. That way, we make sure we're setting our goal appropriate, based on the population's characteristics. Currently, the outcome for truancy for the On-Trac program is that 80% of the youth will have no unexcused absences. The recommendation is to change the outcome so that 80% of the kids with no history of truancy would have no unexcused absence, so the kids that didn't have a history before would still have the same outcomes as before, but kids with a history of truancy, the more troubled kids, the kids that are a little harder to serve, their outcome would be that 75% would have no more than eight hours unexcused absences per quarter. We want to make sure and set the bar appropriate. We don't want to lower it for youth that didn't have a history of truancy, but make sure it's appropriate for kids with more troubled characteristics.

The program actually is exceeding their outcomes on arrests and suspensions and expulsions, so even with this harder to serve population, they're still succeeding in some areas and we need to probably look at how we monitor this program and the types of things we look at, based on the changing characteristics of the population served. Dr. Delores Craig-Moreland has been very helpful in examining programs and offering suggestions for outcomes and making sure that we set the goal at an appropriate level and make sure we set it to where staff has to strive to achieve this, but also to make sure it's appropriate for the target population. Crime Prevention grants are targeted to kids that are most at risk for juvenile crime, so we do want to serve these kids, but we want to make sure we set our goals appropriate for them and was achievable for working with that

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population. The recommended action is to approve the contract amendment and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Parks seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, thank you. There is a comment. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Jeannette, I have a lot of confidence in Dr. Delores Craig-Moreland. Did you also take this to the Advisory . . . Juvenile Justice Advisory Board?”

Ms. Livingston said, “No, I haven’t done that in the past. That is something that maybe we could incorporate, include them on the changing outcomes.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Are they involved in the process of being advised, when we set the outcomes, when we set these grant programs, or is that . . .?”

Ms. Livingston said, “They’re involved in selecting the grant outcomes. I’m usually the one that negotiates the outcomes, with the help of Dr. Delores Craig-Moreland, but the program, they do receive the performance reports, so they will see whether the grantees are meeting the outcomes or not.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, well I’m going to be supportive today of making this adjustment, but I think it would be appropriate to share this change with them and if they have comments, we’d certainly be interested in them. That’s all I had.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right thank you. Any other comments? Madam Clerk, call the vote.”

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

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

G. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 22, 2007.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The meeting of March 22nd results in 11 items for consideration.

**1) ANNUAL HARDWARE MAINTENANCE RENEWAL OF DATA STORAGE CHASSIS- DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS
FUNDING: SYSTEMS & SECURITY**

The first item, annual hardware maintenance renewal of the data storage chassis for the Division of Information and Operations. The recommendation is the quote from Xiotech for \$44,608.

**2) DESKTOP COMPUTERS- EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
FUNDING: EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT RESERVE**

The second item, desktop computers for Emergency Communications. The recommendation is the quote from Dell in the amount of \$57,741.03.

**3) DEFIBRILLATORS- EMS DEPARTMENT
FUNDING: EMS EQUIPMENT RESERVE**

Item three, debribrillators for the EMS Department. Recommendation is the quote from Medtronic Emergency Response Systems in the amount of \$16,264.73.

**4) THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA- FIRE DEPARTMENT
FUNDING: FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Item four, thermal imaging camera for the Fire Department. Recommendation is to accept the bid from Conrad Fire Equipment for a total of \$19,625.46 and to execute a one year contract, with two one-year options to renew.

**5) 3M & DUPONT PAINT SUPPLIES- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: FLEET MANAGEMENT**

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Item five, 3M and Dupont paint supplies for Fleet Management. Recommendation is to accept the low bid for group 1, 3M supplies item 1 through 25 from Sherwin Williams and the low bid for group 2, Dupont paint supplies items 26 through 32 from O'Reilly Auto Parts and to establish and execute a two year contract, with three one-year options to renew.

6) CREW CAB PICKUPS- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: FLEET MANAGEMENT

Item six, crew cab pickups for Fleet Management. Recommendation is the low bid from Shep Chevrolet in the amount of \$71,976.

7) WEED CHEMICALS- NOXIOUS WEEDS
FUNDING: NOXIOUS WEEDS

Item seven, weed chemicals for Noxious Weeds Department. Recommendation is low bid of items one and five, for a cost of \$16,278.88 from Farm Kan LLC, items two and six for an initial cost of \$14,485 from Red River Specialties Incorporated, low bid for items three, seven and eight in the amount of \$32,545.60 from Van Diest Supply Company and item four, for a cost \$3,330 from Vegetation Management Supply for an initial purchase cost of \$66,639.48 and to execute contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

8) RIVER SAND- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

Item eight, river sand for Public Works. Recommendation is low bid for an initial purchase amount of \$39,750 from Associated Materials and to establish contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

9) CS-2 CRUSHED STONE- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

Item nine, CS-2 crushed stone for Public Works. The recommendation is the low bid for an initial

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purchase in the amount of \$58,311 from A-Plus Incorporated and to establish contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

**10) CORRUGATED STEEL PIPE- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: IMPROVE DRAINAGE**

Item ten, corrugated steel pipe for Public Works. The recommendation is to accept the low bid for an initial purchase amount of \$81,454.40 from J & J Drainage Products Company and to establish contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

**11) NORITSU dDP- 421 DRY DIGITAL PRINTER- SEDGWICK COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE
FUNDING: COPS GRANT**

And item eleven, Noritsu dDP-421 dry digital printer for the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office and the recommendation is to accept the quote from Noritsu in the amount of \$40,335.

Would be happy to answer any questions, and I recommend approval of these items.”

Chairman Unruh said, “I don't see any questions right now, Iris. I'd have just one question about the weed chemicals. I mean, we've had some conversation about collaborating with the state on contracts and so forth. I mean, do these numbers . . . are they more favorable to us than statewide contracts?”

Ms. Baker said, “They are. We did check the state pricing, and we're anywhere from a 2 to 48% decrease on various items.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Two to 48%.”

Ms. Baker said, “Yes.”

Chairman Unruh said, “That's good.”

Ms. Baker said, “We think so.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Commissioners, any other comment or question?”

MOTION

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

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Contracts.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

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

CONSENT AGENDA

H. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Two Easements for Right-of-Way and one Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project to construct a frontage road along US-54 between 119th Street West and 135th Street West, and improve the intersection at US-54 and 135th Street West. CIP# R-314. District #3.**
- 2. Two EAsements for Right-of-Way and two Temporary Construction Easements for Sedgwick County Drainage Project on MacArthur between 343rd Street West and the Ninnescah River. CIP# R-264. District #3.**
- 3. Two Easements for Right-of-Way for Sedgwick County Project 805-J,K,L; recondition roadbed plus 6" bituminous surfacing on 119th Street West between 29th and 53rd Streets North. CIP# R-254. District #3.**
- 4. Waiver of policy to hire a Project Administrator at 13.4% above minimum for position, B324.**
- 5. Application for License to Retail Cereal Malt Beverages.**

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Applicant Name

Business Name

Joseph M. Sroufe

Lake Afton Baitshop

6. **Order dated March 21, 2007 to correct tax roll for change of Assessment.**
7. **General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of March 21-27, 2007.**

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “You have before you the consent agenda, and I would recommend you approve it, and I would remind you that there’s only 278 more days until the sales tax goes away.”

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

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, we have need of a Fire District meeting, so at this time I will adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.”

The County Commission meeting was recess for the Fire District #1 meeting from 11:25 a.m. and returned from recess at 11:28 a.m.

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Chairman Unruh said, “We have need of an Executive Session, but before we hear a motion on that, is there anything ‘other’ or else that you’d like to bring before the commission? Commissioner Winters.”

I. OTHER

Commissioner Winters said, “Well thank you Mr. Chairman. I’d just very briefly say again I was absent last week, David Spears and I attended a meeting that KDOT is holding a series of meetings this spring and summer, as they look at the highway issues for the long term for the State of Kansas.

David Spears and I participated with a group looking at the metropolitan needs of the state, which would basically include Sedgwick County and our surrounding area and Kansas City area and the Topeka area. I thought it was a very worthwhile, good meeting and we’ve got several people there representing this area, so I continue to participate on that KDOT Advisory Policy Panel.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, sir. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well I was at a forum last night, at Southwest Neighborhood Association and that had to do with city elections, but while I was there they were . . . there was people working the crowd, looking for election workers and I said that I’d be glad today to just bring it up that the Election Office is always looking for people that want to work on Election Day. There are certain qualifications you have to have and if you’re interested in knowing more about that, the phone number is 660-7100. If you have any interest in elections, and working on election day, I think we know that over the years, we’ve started . . . our election worker pool is starting to age and we’re looking for an infusion of new people that might be interested in doing that. There are qualifications you have to have and a little training you have to go through, but if you’re interested in that, you can call the Election Office and they’ll be glad to give you that information.

And then the second thing, we’ve wrapped up Titanic and feel confident that a lot of people know this information already from the great articles in the Eagle and all the comments that have been out in the community, but I did want to wrap up the Titanic, because it’s pretty powerful information. Last week, the gate attendance; 20,000 people against 7,600 the year before; revenue, \$148,000 against \$35,000 and many more passports sold. I think people are starting to buy the passports, anticipating there’s going to be a lot of other great events and if you have a membership, you just get to walk in and see all of these great events, and it’s not that you’re going back and seeing the same static thing every time. You’re getting to participate.

The numbers for the whole run of the Titanic, which was January 13th through the 25th; 71,892 people passed through the doors, last year 25,000 people, almost tripled the number of people

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coming through; gate revenue, \$509,000 against \$104,000 last year; store revenue \$107,000 against \$37,000; café revenue \$46,000 against \$18,000; total revenue for that period, \$669,000 against \$168,000 the year before, \$500,000 revenue increase. Now that's not a profit increase because we had to pay additional staff, we had to pay for the Titanic Exhibit, but that's pretty dramatic results for a little over a one and a half month period and once again, very encourage by Exploration Place and some of the decisions made and certainly the attendance is holding up.

When Crocodiles Ruled is next and then Leonardo DaVinci comes in in June, his codex, which is all his drawings, there's a lot of interactive displays and the hits just keep on coming at Exploration Place. That's all I have, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Unruh said, "Good news. Commissioner Parks."

Commissioner Parks said, "Well, I'd like to thank the League of Women Voters for having the Kenyan ladies come in and we were over at the African American Museum yesterday and that was an interesting cultural exchange. Also, while I'm talking about 501C-3s, I just renewed my Cowtown and Zoo memberships. I would urge everyone to look at whatever level they can afford to support those organizations and looking forward to great things from both of those tax-supported and volunteer organizations. When you're planning your vacation this year, I would say look at coming up this summer we have some real good things right here, instead of . . . especially when gas is going to be near \$3.00 a gallon, as it's going up, the price of oil is going up every day and look locally and look in Kansas, spend your dollars here so that money rolls around here and comes back to Kansas and our local area. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, commissioner. Well we're at the end of the meeting and we're ready for a motion, but I feel compelled to make one comment, that I was offended and grieved by some of the comments that were made today that I think were violations of good protocol and common sense in a public meeting, where individuals advanced their personal agendas, and I think it was wrong. Two times that happened today. One was a personal animosity towards one of our staff and another occasion was where an individual talking about honorableness and leadership and violated what he knows to be a rule about not politicking from our podium. Perhaps that's insignificant, but I think it needs to have a comment so I say I think both of those instances were improper and not appropriate, in light of the professional character and quality of county commission meetings, so personal opinion and I'm not intending to create any sort of an ongoing disagreement, but felt compelled to make those comments. So with that commissioner,

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could we have a motion?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to recess into Executive Session for 15 minutes to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney/client relationship relating to pending claims and litigation and legal advice and that the Board of County Commissioners return to this room from Executive Session no sooner than 11:50 a.m.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "We are recessed."

Board of County Commissioners recessed into Executive Session at 11:35 a.m and will return no later than 12:15 p.m.

Chairman Unruh said, "We are back from Executive Session. Let the record show that there was no binding action taken while in Executive session. Mr. Euson, do you have something to add?"

Mr. Euson said, "Yes I do. We have a Worker's Compensation case with an individual and this is for a loss caused by a county vehicle and the total amount is \$7,334.47, representing a total damage to the Farm Bureau's vehicle and we recommend that you approve the settlement in that amount."

Commissioner Parks said, "For the record, is it Farm Bureau or State Farm?"

Mr. Euson said, "It is Farm Bureau and I apologize, but it is definitely Farm Bureau."

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Commissioner Parks said, "Okay."

Chairman Unruh said, "Farm Bureau, okay."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to take the appropriate action, as stated by Counsel.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, sir. Is there anything else to come before the Board of County Commissioners? Mr. Euson? Mr. Holt? Okay, we are adjourned."

J. ADJOURNMENT

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

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

DAVID M. UNRUH, Chairman
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

KELLY PARKS, Commissioner
Fourth District

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GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner,
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2007