

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SITTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF FIRE DISTRICT #1**

REGULAR MEETING

May 27, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 10:53 a.m., on Wednesday, May 27, 2009, in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Kelly Parks; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Gwen Welshimer; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Karl Peterjohn; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Jim Weber, Deputy Director, Public Works; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Tim Millspaugh, Fire Marshal; and Ms. Katie Asbury, Deputy County Clerk.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported, after calling roll, that Commissioner Norton was absent.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200 FROM WEST ELEMENTARY PTA, VALLEY CENTER, KS.

Mr. Tim Millspaugh, Fire Marshal, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I've been drinking too much coffee. This is a donation from West Elementary in Valley Center, their PTA (Parent-Teacher Association) group of \$200 dollars is very much appreciated. We recommend that you accept it. Just as a reminder of the need for public education, which is the direction they want this money to go, we had the four burn victims, as you have been notified over the weekend, which is an unusually high number for the Fire District in a weekend. But recommend that you accept this and send a letter of thank you to them."

MOTION

Chairman Parks moved to accept the donation and authorize the Chairman to send a letter of appreciation.

Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Absent
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Parks	Aye

B. OTHER

Chairman Parks said, "Under 'other,' do you want to expand on anything that you had over the weekend?"

Mr. Millspaugh said, "No. Like I said, it was just an unusual weekend, it was Memorial Day, but I guess the key player in most of these burns was gasoline vapors and people just need to remember, gasoline is volatile at any temperature, but when it gets to be 80, 90, 100 degrees it gets real excited and really starts to vapor out and it's much more volatile at a higher temperature, like it was over the weekend. We have burns every year because of gasoline, but never three or four in a weekend."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay."

Mr. Millspaugh said, "Okay."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Commissioner Peterjohn has a question."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Yes. Tim, I saw a couple of those incidents out at Lake Afton. I know for energy saving purposes it's better to try and buy gasoline when it's cooler, first thing in the morning or late in the evening, if you can. I was curious, were these incidents occurring because they should have been using charcoal lighter fluid or something else? If you could give a little more detail, because I'd sure hate to see more incidents like that where we got to have people off to the hospital for serious burn treatment."

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Mr. Millspaugh said, “Right. The first incident on Saturday was the boat fire at Lake Afton. The investigator that was on the scene said it was an older boat with an outboard type motor and the tank in the hull of the boat itself. The best we can come up with is that they did refill the tank just prior to going out and trying to start it. So we either had a leak or they spilled some gasoline in the hull and, of course, the hot hull of that aluminum boat just heated everything up and we had vapors everywhere. The engine attempting to start sparked that and caused a flash fire and it ended up consuming the whole boat. We’re lucky we didn’t have any worse injuries than we had out of that one. Another incident was a controlled brush fire that gasoline was used to start the fire. Not recommended whatsoever. We do allow them to use small amounts of combustible liquids, which is not as volatile, such as charcoal lighter, lighter fluid, kerosene, things like that, things that won’t flash near as easily as gasoline will. But do not use gasoline to start any kind of fire. It will flash at almost any temperature.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “I’d like to thank you for your report today. Any other business to be brought for the Fire District? Seeing none, motion to adjourn the Fire?”

C. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Commissioner Peterjohn moved to adjourn the Fire District #1 Meeting

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Absent
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Parks	Aye

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

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

KELLY PARKS, Chairman,
Fourth District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner,
Second District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner,
First District

KARL PETERJOHN, Commissioner,
Third District

GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner,
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk

APPROVED:

June 17, 2009