

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

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 20, 1996**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, Sitting as the Governing Body of Fire District #1, was called to order at 11:55 a.m., Wednesday, March 20, 1996, in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Thomas G. Winters, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Melody C. Miller; Commissioner Betsy Gwin; Commissioner Paul W. Hancock; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Steve Plummer, County Counselor; Mr. Gary E. Curmode, Fire Chief; Mr. Tony Marceau, Deputy Chief of Operations; Mr. David C. Spears, P.E., Director, Bureau of Public Services; Mr. Fred Ervin, Director, Public Relations; and Ms. Cecilia Chavez Maggard, Deputy County Clerk.

**ROLL CALL**

The Clerk reported, after calling roll, Commissioner Schroeder was absent.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting, January 17,  
1996**

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of January 17, 1996.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Hancock moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 17, 1996.

Commissioner Miller seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

**Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, March 20, 1996**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Absent
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

**1. RESOLUTIONS (3) DECLARING CERTAIN COUNTY PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL THEREOF.**

**Mr. Gary Curmode**, Sedgwick County Fire Chief, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Deputy Chief Tony Marceau will be presenting this first item."

**Deputy Chief Tony Marceau** said, "Good morning Commissioners, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to propose this morning that when we went through some of our strategic planning process, we have decided to streamline our fleet which would become somewhat cost efficient for us in the long run and provide a little more space for some of our personnel in some of our stations. In front of you have three resolutions regarding this equipment, being a 1962 snorkel, which we would like to place on a surplus status for seller-trade reasons, so that we could use that equipment for the possible purchase or against the expenditures of some newer equipment in the future when that is deemed necessary. The next resolution would identify the use of a '66 Ford pumper.

"It is 30 years old and it has been in the town of Viola in the past. We were going to go ahead and place that in surplus status, however, we do have a

## **Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, March 20, 1996**

recommendation that we could forward that property over to the Bentley Volunteer Fire Department for their use, which would be an upgrade in their equipment and also provide good equipment as far as in our Fire District. The third would be a boat out at station 37. It has been used for rescue purposes in the past. However, at this time, it is not quite what we need for the rescue type of training so at this time we would like to transfer that over to the Bureau of Public Services for use on surveys and things like that. I would like to recommend at this time that you adopt the resolutions. I'll answer any questions if I can."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay, remind me again, the one truck that we move up to Bentley. Is that coming from Viola?"

**Deputy Chief Marceau** said, "Viola has returned it back, we had it on loan, I think, since 1989 and they've returned it back. They've upgraded from another pump."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay, very good. Commissioners, you've heard Deputy Chief Marceau's recommendation. What's the will of the Board?"

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to adopt the Resolutions.

Commissioner Miller seconded the Motion.

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

### **VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin           Aye  
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock   Aye

**Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, March 20, 1996**

Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Absent
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

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

**2. DECLARATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN FIREFIGHTERS RELIEF FUND FOR YEAR 1995.**

**Chief Curmode** said, "Commissioners, this is a yearly agreement, which allows our local firefighters Relief Tax Association to participate in the distribution of the Firefighters Relief Fund collected for the year 1995. We bring this up annually to you. I would recommend that you approve it and authorize the Chairman to sign."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the Relief Fund and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Absent
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

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

**3. AGREEMENTS (5) FOR MUTUAL AID FIRE PROTECTION WITH**

**Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, March 20, 1996**

**CITIES OF MT. HOPE, SEDGWICK, MULVANE, CLEARWATER  
AND VALLEY CENTER.**

**Chief Curmode** said, "Commissioners, on this topic, in the past we have intermittently updated our mutual aid agreement. We have a new policy now. We are going to update our mutual aid agreement with all the departments in Sedgwick County both in the Fire District and without and the surrounding departments on the edge of the Sedgwick County Line, with mutual aid for equipment in the event of a large disastrous fire.

"At this time we have Mt. Hope, Sedgwick, Mulvane, Clearwater and Valley Center returning their mutual aid agreements. Basically, they are what we are currently doing today, except they are now in written format of about two pages long. So again, I would recommend that we approve this proposal and authorize the Chairman to sign."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Hancock moved to approve the Agreements and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Miller seconded the Motion.

**Chairman Winters** said, "We have a Motion and a second. Chief, I know we've gone off the TV now, but would you take just a brief moment to explain the difference between a mutual aid agreement and a first responder agreement."

**Chief Curmode** said, "Okay, basically a mutual aid agreement, the fire department in that jurisdiction where there is a fire or an emergency, they would respond with their equipment initially. At that point, if they get there and they cannot handle it with their resources or staffing, then they request mutual aid from other departments, in our case it would be from the Sedgwick County Fire District #1.

## **Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, March 20, 1996**

"Again, we would respond at that time with the requested equipment, if they are not on another alarm in Sedgwick County Fire District #1. We would give that support any way we could to help them in that situation. The down side of the mutual aid agreement is that you have a late response and since there is already an emergency and then when they request it you're already behind the eight ball.

"So you are playing catch up, if you will. In a first responder agreement, it's very similar to what we call automatic aid. That means that you're dispatched at the same time as the local jurisdiction. You're dispatched even though you're the next door fire department, you'll be responding at the same time and you'll have a quicker response, but it will be a farther response than the initial fire department in that jurisdiction."

**Chairman Winters** said, "And each one of these communities has their own fire district and we're not having a first responder agreement, but a mutual aid agreement. We're still not going to respond to the first call from a fire in one of these smaller fire districts."

**Chief Curmode** said, "That's correct Commissioner. We do not go to any fire related emergency in those communities until they arrive on the scene and they request a formal mutual aid request to 911."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Okay, thank you very much. Any other discussion? We have a Motion and a second on these mutual aid agreements. Any other discussion? Please call the vote."

### **VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Absent
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, March 20, 1996**

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

**4. PROPOSAL REGARDING A TRUST FUND/501C.**

**Chief Curmode** said, "Commissioners, what this last item is for is that we started a research and development division on the Fire Department this past year. We are researching areas of innovation, creativity, ways to be most cost effective for the citizen dollars in the County, looking at pilot programs, looking at innovative training, equipment and so forth. I've had numerous citizens and also some private individuals with companies express interest to assist in that effort. We looked this past year with assistance from the Accounting Office, Mr. Gardner and the Legal Department, Mr. Pepoon, to look for ways that we can assist in reaching these areas and allowing the private individual or corporation to donate to this area of research and development.

"There exists already, in the County system, a 501C plan where it is tax exempt and people or corporations can donate to this to be used for research and development. We have Board of Directors that are set up to look at these proposals and make recommendations and then be voted on. We'll use this for innovative things to improve our efficiency in the County."

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

**Chief Curmode** said, "I might add one thing, sir. The firefighters believe in this so much that they are making the first donation to the 501C fund, the Firefighters Relief Association of Sedgwick County."

**Chairman Winters** said, "Our own employees?"

**Chief Curmode** said, "Our own employees."

**Chairman Winters** said, "That's terrific."

**Chief Curmode** said, "So this is pretty exciting. I think it's going to be a good tool for us to continue to move towards the 21st Century."

**Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, March 20, 1996**

**Chairman Winters** said, "Great. Commissioners, you've heard the report, what's the will of the Board or do you have further questions?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the proposal.

Commissioner Miller seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Paul W. Hancock	Aye
Commissioner Melody C. Miller	Aye
Commissioner Mark F. Schroeder	Absent
Chairman Thomas G. Winters	Aye

**Chairman Winters** said, "Thank you very much. Thank you Chief and thank you Chief Marceau. Other business to come before this Board? Seeing none, this meeting is adjourned."

**B. OTHER**

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

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

---

**THOMAS G. WINTER**, Chairman



**Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, March 20, 1996**

Third District

---

**MELODY C. MILLER**, Chair Pro Tem  
Fourth District

---

**BETSY GWIN**, Commissioner  
First District

---

**PAUL W. HANCOCK**, Commissioner  
Second District

---

**MARK F. SCHROEDER**, Commissioner  
Fourth District

ATTEST:

---

**Susan E. Crockett-Spoon**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_, 1996