

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

**REGULAR MEETING**

**October 20, 1999**

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 9:06 a.m., Wednesday, October 20, 1999, in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Bill Hancock, with the following present: Chairman Pro Tem Betsy Gwin; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Commissioner Ben Sciortino; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Gary Curmode, Fire Chief; Mr. David C. Spears, P.E., Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications Department; Mr. Curtis Wilson, Assistant Fire Chief; and Ms. Heather J. Knoblock, Deputy County Clerk.

**GUESTS**

Mr. Marvin Lewis, Mayor, City of Viola  
Chief Paterson, Viola Volunteer Fire Department

**ROLL CALL**

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

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting, September 22, 1999

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the September 22, 1999 Regular Meeting.

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Commissioners, you have had a chance to review those Minutes. What is the will of the Board?"

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**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Minutes of September 22, 1999.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Thomas G. Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Abstain
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Aye

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. DONATION OF ONE FIRE TENDER APPARATUS TO THE VIOLA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

**Mr. Curtis Wilson**, Deputy Chief, Sedgwick County Fire Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We have a tender that we are going to donating to the Viola Volunteer Fire Department. As you know, we have three brand new tenders. We have two on track and the third one will hopefully be on track within the next week to ten days. It’s part of a partnership we have with the surrounding volunteer departments that we are able to hand off equipment to them to help cover the Fire District and cover their areas. And I would like to present Chief Paterson with the Viola Volunteer Fire Department.”

**Chairman Hancock** said, “Good morning, Chief. How are you today?”

**Chief Paterson**, Viola Volunteer Fire Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I would just like to start out by saying thank you, very much. And, have a letter that I would

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like to read to the Commissioners of Sedgwick County.”

*“Chairman Hancock, Commissioner Winters, Commissioner Gwin, Commissioner McGinn, Commissioner Sciortino, County Manager Buchanan, and Sedgwick County Fire Chief Curmode, in the past few years, communications within Sedgwick County have opened up 1,000%. Individual Fire Departments are now talking to each other, working and training together. Also, territorial boundaries have ceased to exist. In this age of budget cuts and everyone watching dollars, it is important that together we pull our resources to give the public the most for their money.*

*“Sedgwick County has proven to be a leader in this area by distributing equipment to areas within the County. On May 3 of this year, the Viola Fire Department was asked to go to County Station 34 to cover areas in the County due to increased activity in the Haysville / South Wichita region, as a tornado left devastation in these areas. Cheney Fire Department was running medical calls on the west side of Wichita, Clearwater Fire Department in the south central area of Sedgwick County. And, other departments helped when needed because the Wichita Fire and Sedgwick County Fire Departments were concentrating on the south side areas. This is proof that Sedgwick County, Sedgwick County Fire Department, and all the Volunteer Fire Departments are making the Sedgwick County area a premier fire service organization in the State of Kansas and possibly the Nation. The addition of the tender to our department would put 5,300 gallons of water in the southwest area of Sedgwick County. Mayor Marvin and myself would like to say ‘thank you’ to the individuals and groups involved in the decision to put the tender in our area to assist the citizens of southwest Sedgwick County. Thank you,”*

**Chairman Hancock** said, “Thank you, Chief Paterson. I also understand that Mayor Lewis is here, also. I would like to say welcome to him. I am glad you are here today. Commissioner Winters.”

**Commissioner Winters** said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to make a couple of additional comments about the volunteer services that we have all over the County. Chief Paterson mentioned some of the fill ins, but I was not really aware until visiting with Chief Paterson, out at Clearwater, at the dedication of their new Fire Station, about the Volunteer Fire Departments that participated in that night of the tornado in Haysville and

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south Wichita.

“And on visiting with Chief Cormode and others, several of these volunteer units filled in, Valley Center station filled in on the station on 53rd Street near the Interstate, Bentley filled in a station of west of Colwich on 151st Street, Cheney came into the Andale Road station, the station on Andale Road near Kellogg and, made two calls into the City of Wichita to assist. As he said, Viola was in Station 34 there just west of Haysville, on sand by. Rose Hill came over and filled in on South Rock Road Station. And Andover filled in the station on North 143rd Street.

“So, you know, during that night of catastrophe, where all of our regular resources, and the City’s resources were extremely busy, these volunteers departments played a very critical role in making sure these station were properly manned. One could even say that, once you move around and somebody’s got a little less service, but at least there is service provided in the best way possible.

“So, I was real pleased and excited when Chief Curmode suggested that this tender not leave Sedgwick County, but stay someplace in the County. I know that Chief Paterson and Mayor Marvin Lewis and the City Council of Viola have just enlarged their fire building, where they house their equipment, so, they have room for this equipment. Again, I am certainly pleased that Sedgwick County was able to retain this piece of equipment in the western part of Sedgwick County where water can be a problem when it comes time to fight a fire. So, Chief Paterson, Mayor Lewis, thanks for being here today. And, really thank you, for accepting this and helping us keep it in service. Thank you, very much.”

**Chief Paterson** said, “Thank you.”

**Chairman Hancock** said, “Thank you, Commissioner. I appreciate you both being here.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Chairman Hancock, I just have one comment, if I could. Mayor Lewis, I want to thank you, for the kind words and Chief Paterson, that you wrote to us. I think this is just the beginning. It’s another example of what we can do if we want to get along with our neighbors and work together. It’s a meat and potatoes example of

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what Compact 2000 is all about. Because it is not just a compact with the City of Wichita, it's with all the 20 communities within the County. And I really appreciate the first sentence the "Communication within Sedgwick County have opened up 1,000%".

"And I think working together, we are going to be able to ensure that all the citizens of the County, regardless if they live within an incorporated city, or not, are going to be the beneficiary. And I am real glad that we were able to do this."

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Thank you, Commissioner, appreciate it. Mr. Mayor, would you like to say anything? You are always welcome to."

**Mr. Marvin Lewis, Mayor, City of Viola**, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Usually I am pretty quiet. As you know, because I have such a good council, myself, that it's not necessary to go into anything. But, everybody in our whole area is, I haven't heard of one negative thing come out of our building and the work that we do. It is well appreciated and your donation to this, it's really, really nice. I know that we have got a lot more to do, and probably at some time or another we are going to be asking for some help. But, right now, we are well satisfied. We're growing out there, quietly, but solidly. Thank you, again, Commissioners."

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Thank you, very much. I know that we expect a time when that tender will be on one of our own calls someplace. We appreciate your help. Thank you, very much. Is there further business?"

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "We have to approve the donation."

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Okay. That's right."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the donation.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

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**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Thomas G. Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Aye

**Chairman Hancock** said, "Thank you. Is there further business? If not, I will adjourn the Fire District. Mayor, Chief, thank you, for be here."

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m

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

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**BILL HANCOCK**, Chairman  
Second District

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**BETSY GWIN**, Chair Pro Tem,  
First District

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

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**CAROLYN MCGINN**, Commissioner,  
Fourth District

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**BEN SCIORTINO**, Commissioner  
Fifth District

ATTEST:

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**James Alford**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

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