

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

November 24, 1999

The Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 A.M., Wednesday, November 24, 1999 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chair 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. Jarold D. Harrison, Assistant County Manager; Mr. David C. Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. Darren Muci, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications Department; Mr. Tom Pollan, Director, Emergency Medical Service; Mr. Dale Miller, Metropolitan Area Planning Staff; Ms. Kathleen B. Sexton, Director, Division of Operations and Interim Director, Information Services; Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Division of Human Services; Mr. Kenneth W. Arnold, Director, Capital Projects Department; and Ms. Heather J. Knoblock, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Bob Martz, Councilman, City of Wichita.

Mr. Gary Wiley, Consultant, P.E.C. (Professional Engineering Consultants).

INVOCATION:

Invocation was given by Reverend Bill Ester of the West Side United Methodist Church.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

After calling roll, the Clerk reported that Chairman Hancock was absent.

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Next item."

DONATIONS

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A. DONATIONS.

1. DONATION OF 72 TEDDY BEARS BY TARGET STORES, INC., SPECIFICALLY TARGET - WEST IN WICHITA, KANSAS.

Mr. Tom Pollan, Director, Emergency Medical Service (EMS), greeted the Commissioners and said, "I bring this before you today, as this is a long term relationship with the Target Stores. The Target West is the one that operates this for us in Sedgwick County, but this is a program that they started nationwide based on the sale of Hershey Candies. A certain percentage is given to each store to apply to EMS (Emergency Medical Services) and teddy bears. An object of the program, of course, is to comfort those who are our younger constituents that we work with on a day to day basis, and gives them an opportunity to focus in on something maybe other than the hurt and pain that they're dealing with, or the sickness or the illness. I would recommend your approval to accept this and have the Chair sign."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Questions of Mr. Pollan? If not, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to accept the donation and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of appreciation.

Commissioner McGinn 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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you. Next item."

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2. DONATION OF 20 GUARDIAN TEDDY BEARS BY JOYCE GREGORY, OWNER, ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER.

Mr. Pollan said, "This is a new private source for us, that we've not had in the past. Again, for the same purposes of comforting our children. This is for twenty teddy bears that have been given to us. We'd appreciate that we could receive these, and have the Chair sign a letter of appreciation. Thanks."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Madame Chairman, just for my own edification, what type of business is Angel on My Shoulders?"

Mr. Pollan said, "It is a . . . I don't go into those types of shops, I'm not sure. I try to avoid them. It's a . . . well, it's for ladies. It's a curio shop type deal. I try to avoid them, simply because I'll spend money in there, if I'm not careful. It's my wife's domain."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay, great. Thank you."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to accept the donation and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of appreciation.

Commissioner Sciortino 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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Madame Clerk, next item please."

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DEFERRED ITEM

B. CASE NUMBER DR-7 - RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE OCTOBER 28, 1999 VERSION OF THE UNIFIED ZONING CODE.

Mr. Dale Miller, Planning Staff, Metropolitan Area Planning Department (MAPD), greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is brought before you on the basis of over on the City side, data processing has changed our work processing program from one format to another and when we converted the entire zoning code to that new format, all the fonts changed and so the page numbers all changed. So, as a result, we talked with Legal staff and they felt like it was best to just recodify the existing document with the new page numbers and the new fonts. Nothing's been changed. It's exactly the same as when you reviewed it the last time for the last amendment. It's just that the page numbers are different and the font size is smaller."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Mr. Euson, was the deferral on this, did it have something to do with notification and that for us, too?"

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yes, it did. The purpose of the notification was to give public notification of a public hearing. So, this is a public hearing item. We should open a public hearing and accept the comment."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Dale, is there anything else you have for us, before we open the public hearing?"

Mr. Miller said, "No, ma'am."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Any questions of Mr. Miller? At this time, I'll open the public hearing to anyone in the audience who would like to speak to us on Item B, having to do with the adoption of the Unified Zoning Code. Is there anyone in the audience who would like to speak to the Board on the Unified Zoning Code? Seeing none, I close the public hearing. Conversation is reserved to Commission and staff. What's the will of the Board?"

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MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner McGinn 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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you. Thanks, Dale. Next item please."

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- C. CASE NUMBER SCZ-0795 - RESOLUTION CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION FROM "RR" RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO "LI" LIMITED INDUSTRIAL, LOCATED ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF K-42 AND RIDGE ROAD.**

Mr. Miller said, "This is a request on behalf of Cessna Aviation. They desire to build a warehouse facility that would be a new central parts warehouse for them, on the western portion of the application area. Actually be the western 22 acres, is my understanding. The remainder of the area to be rezoned at this time would remain undeveloped for future development or expansion of Cessna's activities or someone else's. They anticipate building a warehouse and office combination that would have about 154,000 square feet.

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“At this point in time, because there is no access allowed along K-42, they expect that their main point of access will be off Ridge Road. As you can see here on the map, predominantly, surrounding zoning is Limited Industrial, in the purple and then there is some ‘RR’ and some ‘SF-20’, Rural Residential has a minimum lot size of 20,000 square feet as well. That’s the lighter color. This is the Rural Residential, with the two acres minimum lot size, and then there is over here, some ‘LI’ Zoning that’s been approved for a farm implement dealership that is not constructed yet. They were approved, some time ago, for that.

“Getting a feel for the land uses in the area. Mid-Continent Airport is up here. Cessna’s existing facility is here and then further to the north, this would be Case Manufacturing here and then you can see we have farm ground here and over here and this would be the location where the farm implement dealership has been approved. They just haven’t built, at this point in time.

“Due to the proximity to Mid-Continent Airport, staff is recommending, if this is approved, and we do support the application, that you consider a protective overlay that would limit or basically exclude uses that involve large concentrations of people. The specific uses are listed in the staff report, if you care to look at those. Generally, what we’re trying to do is avoid large concentrations of people. We’re advised by Cessna that they’ll have a fairly small number of folks involved in this. So, we feel like their use is appropriate for this location. Building heights would be limited to sixty feet, in the western portion and then, as you further towards that direction they can be as high as 110 feet, so as to not interfere with operations with Mid-Continent.

“As I said, staff recommends approval of this request, subject to the protective overlay, restricting out the large use operations, platting within one year. We are also recommending, even though this is a County case, that the City of Wichita landscape ordinance be applied, because of the proximity to the City of Wichita and this is a gateway entry. Cessna has agreed to that and probably based on what they’ve done with their other facilities, they’re going to exceed the minimum requirements, at any rate.

“With that, the findings are found on page 4 and 5 of your staff report. We are recommending support. Run through the slides real fast. This is looking southwest, across the site. Section line road here. This would be looking south, across the site, that hedge row is the southern boundary of the application area. This is looking northeast, across 31st Street. Looking back towards Cessna’s existing facilities that they have out there. Again, another shot of Cessna’s facilities. Cessna, as it exists across K-42. We’re looking back to the east here, towards Case Manufacturing. Back to the aerial.”

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Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Any questions of Mr. Miller? I'll ask if there's any one in the audience who wants to address the Board on this issue. If so, please come forward and state your name for the record."

Mr. Gary Wiley, Consultant, P.E.C. (Professional Engineering Consultants) greeted the Commissioners and said, "Cessna now owns the property, I might let you know. They did close on it last week. I might say that we're in complete agreement with the Planning Commission's recommendations for approval. Be happy to answer any questions you might have."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you, Mr. Wiley, for being here. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Mr. Wiley, you've probably answered my questions. I was just going to ask if Cessna did agree with the protective overlay and the landscaping. I know, particularly on the north side of K-42, Cessna has just has got a very well kept and very nice looking entrance. Do they then agree to the landscaping requirements, as contained by the City of Wichita ordinances?"

Mr. Wiley said, "They do, Commissioner. Based on the fact that they far exceed that anyway, why it's not a problem with them."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, they do have a great landscaping project out there on the north side of the road. That was the only question that I had, Madame Chair."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you. Anyone else who would like to speak to the Commission on this item? Item C, on our agenda? Seeing none, I'll close the public comment. What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Adopt the findings of fact of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission and approve the zone change subject to the condition of platting within one year and subject to the Protective Overlay; adopt the Resolution; and instruct the Planning Department to withhold publication of the Resolution until the Plat has been recorded with the Register of Deeds.

Commissioner McGinn 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	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you and thank you all for being here. We're delighted to see Cessna continue to prosper and grow in this county. Thank you. Madame Clerk, next item please."

NEW BUSINESS

D. PRESENTATION OF THE NEW SEDGWICK COUNTY WEBSITE, "WWW.SEDGWICKCOUNTY.ORG."

Ms. Kristi Zuchovich, Director, Communications, greeted the Commissioners and said, "What we have today is a presentation on the County's new Internet site. We have had a site up and available in the past at www.sedgwick.ks.us, but our hope is that by creating a new name and by putting information out there that is really useful and helpful to the folks in our community, that we will be able to provide a service to people from their homes or from their office, where ever they want to find out our information. Kathy is setting up here."

SLIDE PRESENTATION

Ms. Kathleen B. Sexton, Director, County Operations and Information, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We do have a new website and as Kristi mentioned, the website originally went up in April of '96. The site has been reformatted, with new graphics and new navigation tools. We also created a new name for the site, as you can see here, [sedgwick county .org](http://sedgwickcounty.org). The old one is sedgwick.ks.us and that still works. It still gets you to the same site. We basically have two names that get you to the same site, at this point in time. The purpose of the new name is for easier remembering, kind of more user friendly. A lot of cities and other government agencies are doing this, just to reduce those little .ks.us, what order do you put them in. That type of thing. We think that will make them easier to get around in."

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“Also, one of the great things we’ve been adding lately and continue to add, are on line forms that you can fill in for various departments. Things like job applications, so you don’t have to come into the Courthouse and get the piece of paper anymore. You can pull that right off the Internet site. Car tag registration information from the tag offices. We’ll show you some examples of those. Voter registration, we have a number of forms out there on that as well. We also do have links to all the cities in Sedgwick County who have their own website. So, you can get to those cities very quickly from our home page.

“One of the first things that we want to start to show you, and this is a real quick presentation, just a few examples here of some of our pages. This is our basic home page. You can see, this picture right here is one of Botanica but actually, that photo changes, every time you get on the website. There’s a different picture of something here in the community. Another new feature is the Sedgwick County A to Z. This is almost like an index. If you’re looking for say ‘D’, you’re looking for dog licenses. You go to ‘D’ and it lists a number of different services, whether it be diversion, divorce, debts in the family, dog licenses, dead animals. Everything under ‘D’. So, I mean, if somebody doesn’t know what they’re looking for, then you can have this handy little index here.

“You can also access all the different County Departments that are on the website, using this click-down menu here. Some of the commonly requested pages are over here. Of course, the first thing you can get to is the Board of County Commissioners page. That’s this home page right here. As you know, we have a bio for each Commissioner on this page and links to some other pages, such as “issues and initiatives”, which is a page that attempts to explain some of the things going on in Sedgwick County government. This is the way the main page looks, but you can see that there’s then a list down here, and you can’t see that all on the slide, but it starts with solid waste fees, where you can get information about that. The next thing that you can get to from there are ‘County Headlines’. I believe once a week, the County Communications office is updating this page, where it actually gives you a whole list of what’s going on. You can see, the first thing on the list that you can see on this slide is that the County Offices are closed tomorrow and Friday for Thanksgiving holiday. The list goes on and on here of all the different news items, you might say. We’re developing, with Communications, some ways of getting that information out to people, as well as putting it on the site.

“Another issue going on is emergency preparedness. With a lot of talk about winter storms and Y2K preparedness, and that type of thing, there was a flyer produced a week or so ago and sent out in the

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Wichita Eagle and sent with some of the small newspapers in the other towns as well. That whole flyer is right here, on-line as well. What we're trying to do is use this as a means of getting information out to people, other than just paper. It compliments our ways of getting the word out. This is about emergency preparedness.

"The next one is about environmental resources. As you know, we have a department called Environmental Resources. This one page just gives you a feel of some of the things they have out there. They have information about solid waste, various other environmental topics, recycling, how to do it, where to do it, how it works. Question area, where you can put in your questions and find out more information. Information specifically geared toward businesses and how they can reduce their waste and their educational programs, offered by this department to the local schools and current events going on. All these things, if you clicked on any one of these pictures, you would go to a page with information on those topics.

"Back to the home page, you can see that there's an area right here to go to elected officials. That gets you to all the pages of county elected officials in the organization. The one I wanted to show you today was one we've done a lot of improvements on is the County Treasurer page and specifically the Tag Office. What we have on this page is a whole list of forms that are paper forms that you used to always have to come in to get or they were mailing out to people. So, what this offers, for example, a bill of sale. That's one that you need any time you sell your vehicle or buy a vehicle from an individual, rather than a dealer. I know I've used that one before and I've always had to go into the office and pick one up. Well, now I can just pull it right off the Internet and print it out. At this point in time, a lot of these forms, you have to print them out and then take them in, because that office needs you to be there and show proof of insurance and things like that. There's a whole list of forms. This is just one example.

"Back to the home page. Another area that you can get to is 'County Department'. If you click on County Department there, one of the departments that you can get to is the Election Commissioner's office. In the Election Commissioner's Office we would put up information about upcoming elections, how to vote, where to vote, what the issue is. You can see the very first one on their page is the City of Derby's mail ballot election, coming up on January 11th.

"If you were on the Internet, on this page, you could click down, right here at the bottom, and you could get more information about where the polling places are, what's the issue on the ballot, all the information about that particular election. We also have past information. Say, this election was already over with.

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You would have election results on the page. There's a lot of information like that. As you know, there are a lot of different little special elections going on in the County at different times. So, those are all listed on there.

"Also, in the Election Office we have various forms, one of those being the voter registration application form. Used to be you had to get this, again, in the office or over the phone. You can get this form right here. It explains what you need to do to register to vote and you can print out the form and send it in. Again, this is an intermediary step on forms, because what we hope to do is do a lot more business were you just can fill out the form, on-line, click and sent it. It just depends on the forms, at this point in time. Some things we need, we need some laws changed and some rules re-looked at to do some of that. A second form that I think a lot of people would find helpful is that advanced voting ballot. Anytime you want to do advanced voting, say you're not going to be in town on election day, you can do an advanced ballot, but you have this form to fill out. Now you can get it on-line. It explains, on-line, how to use that and what you need to do with it.

"Another County department that you can get to, and this is just a couple of examples, there are many, is Code Enforcement. As you know, the Code Enforcement Department does zoning and contractor license renewals, that type of thing. The contractors in the community have a lot of forms and one of the ones on their list, here in Code Enforcement Department, is the application for contractor's license for building contractors. There's one on here for electrical, for plumbing, for all kinds of different licenses that they need to issue. This is just one example. Now, you can pull up a whole list of forms, on-line, fill those out and FAX those back or send those in to the department and really get your business done a lot faster. I think we'll find, too, a lot cheaper.

"Back to the home page, a couple of more examples is this is like an index of what you can get to. This one is area attractions. This is a fun thing we put up there. Lake Afton Park, just shows you the utility of the Internet for providing information because some would say 'why would you put a Lake Afton Park' on the Internet?' Well, this, as you can see from this little list here, there's all kinds of information about the boating fees, the camping hours, the rules and the fishing information and how you get your license, all that kind of information about the Observatory, etcetera.

"So, if somebody was going to plan a family outing or a weekend get-away out to the Park, then they could get all the information they need and know exactly what it was going to cost them, the hours that the park is open, that kind of thing.

"There are several others on there. I just wanted to show you a few examples of the kind of information

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that people can get off the page. Basically, the benefits of using this type of medium are that it is more convenient for citizens, as more and more people get Internet access, and it is a less costly way to distribute information and public services because we don't have to mail out as many forms. People don't have to come in and get them. There's no staff time involved. If all they need is a form, it's better to not have to pick up the phone and answer that phone and then send them the form. This gets them all that they need.

"That's the sum total of my presentation today. Again, I want to remind you, the new address is sedgwick county.org but if anyone still has the old address, you can still get there from the old address as well. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to try to answer them."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "It's just incredible. This lit up just like a Christmas tree, just as you were starting to wind down. Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thank you, Madame Chairman. Kathy, on advanced balloting, did I hear you right, can they fill it out and then, just vis a vis the computer, send it to the Election Office?"

Ms. Sexton said, "No, I don't think that one is yet where they can send it on the computer. The forms are out there and they can print out their form, fill it out, and still mail it or put whatever information they need with it, I believe."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Have you heard of anything underfoot that might allow that, sending it back and forth by computer? It seems like another step in making voting a lot simpler."

Ms. Sexton said, "Yes, we are right now, it's basically our policy to push the limit on all these things. If there's not a law keeping us from doing that, that's our aim. Specifically, on that form, I don't know right now. I haven't looked at the law on that one. But that's what we're trying to do on all these forms."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I guess you just want to make sure that it's not a vote and vote often. Kathy, I know you kind of lead this, and you've done a nice job. The Webmaster probably did a lot of the work in designing. Who is that individual?"

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Ms. Sexton said, "Thank you very much. I neglected to recognize him. Jeff Piper is our Webmaster and he is definitely responsible for the vast majority of this. He and his team, John Peterson and also Greg Faber does a lot of work in this area. So, I certainly want to recognize those three gentlemen. They've done all the work on this. I offered that they make the presentation to the County Commission but they weren't too hip on that."

Commissioner McGinn said, "The only other comment that I had and you touched on it, there at the very end. I think my Internet's just not working this morning. I tried to go to our home page and my question was, do I need to change the address now, and you're saying no. It will still get you there through the old address."

Ms. Sexton said, "Yes, the old address will still get you there. The purpose of this is for marketing purposes and getting information out. We feel like this is one that people will understand better. We'll start using it and I hope a lot of departments will as well, but you don't have to. Either one will get you there."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you, Madame Chair."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Your welcome. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Just two quick comments, one to follow up on Commissioner McGinn. I just wanted to say thank you to the developers of the page, to you and your staff. I know it takes a lot of work but I think you've done an excellent job and it looks very good. The second one then is just kind of a computer illiterate kind of question. Why is it .org instead of .gov? I know, some of us have E-mail addresses, and we're .gov. I don't have a problem with it at all. It's just a question of curiosity."

Ms. Sexton said, "It is kind of curious. The sedgwick.gov is our domain name for our E-mail. When it comes to putting a site up, the governments have all been assigned these ks.us and there's a system of states and government and all that. What we chose to do was get a .org name, which designates that you're not a profit making business. You're an organization. It's really just a matter of preference. I think a lot of the literature that I've been reading and information shows that people are used to the .coms and they're somewhat used to the .orgs. The general public is not familiar with this naming scheme they have

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for governments. So, we just chose, let's just get out of it. If normal citizens can't find it under that naming scheme, let's just use what they're used to."

Commissioner Winters said, "Sure, that's a good enough answer for me. I don't understand that either."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Is there any other questions, comments? Kathy, thank you and Kristi, thank you for your assistance. It is an interesting time that we're living in, as so many of them are. As I looked at the forms, and a follow up on Commissioner Sciortino, I just want to make sure that those things that don't need additional information or additional verification, applications for licenses and those kinds of things, that those can just be submitted right back to that department, that would be cool."

Ms. Sexton said, "I went over it really quickly this morning but on the Internet, when you get to a form, it specifically tells you if you have to print this off, if you can send it back in. A lot of them right now are printed off to mail in or to bring in. As we get them changed over, as many as we can, we'll have a little button there that says submit. So, you can just send it."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you, Kathy. Thank you, you all. What's the will of the Board on this item?"

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to receive and file.

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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye

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Chairman Bill Hancock

Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you. Next item please."

E. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES.

- 1. CONTRACT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES; UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS - WICHITA, MEDICAL PRACTICE ASSOCIATION; UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE - WICHITA; AND WICHITA CENTER FOR GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION; TO PROVIDE MEDICAL RESIDENTS IN PSYCHIATRY TRAINING WITH EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.**

Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Division of Human Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This first item is our ongoing contract to have KU (Kansas University) residents spend time in our mental health program, providing services and receiving training, in terms of their residency. I'll be glad to answer any questions. I'm sorry, I forgot the amounts. That's \$52,004.72. \$50,246.11 is from the State and \$1,758.61 would be from the County."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "I see no questions."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Sciortino 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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye

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Chairman Bill Hancock

Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Next item please."

2. **CONTRACT WITH UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS - WICHITA, MEDICAL PRACTICE ASSOCIATION; UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE - WICHITA; AND WICHITA CENTER FOR GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION; TO PROVIDE MEDICAL RESIDENTS IN PSYCHIATRY TRAINING WITH EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.**

Ms. Donaldson said, "Commissioners, this second item is an additional work resident provided for and it was \$4,500 and those were State funds."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Okay. I see no questions."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner McGinn 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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you. Thanks, Debbie. Next item please."

- F. **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE.**

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1. AGREEMENT WITH MARION COUNTY EMS FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY EMS TO PROVIDE FIELD INTERNSHIPS FOR TRAINING PROGRAM STUDENTS.

Mr. Pollan said, “The item you have before you is an agreement with Marion County EMS (Emergency Medical Services) for field internship for EMT students. Again, this allows them the opportunity to see the level of care that’s provided in this community and hopefully take that back to their’s and apply it in their community. I would recommend your approval and allow the Chair to sign.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Thank you, Tom.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Approve the Agreement 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 Thomas G. Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Thank you. Next item please.”

2. WAIVER OF POLICY TO HIRE AN EMS CAPTAIN AT RANGE 23, STEP 10.

Mr. Pollan said, “On October 27th you were gracious enough to allow EMS four additional training captains, quality assurance captains, to do the quality assurance training for EMS. During the process of doing the application process, we were lucky enough, or fortunate enough to have a unique opportunity

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to find an outside candidate and due to the market conditions of employment, we had to offer more than our normal process and I would recommend the approval of this.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Commissioner Winters, question?”

Commissioner Winters said, “Tom, the others that were hired, where did they come from?”

Mr. Pollan said, “All were internal candidates.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, so this is an external candidate. You believe this person to be highly qualified, met all your requirements?”

Mr. Pollan said, “Yes I do.”

Chairman Winters said, “Well, you shared with me some of the background and it certainly looked as if this was quality training type person. That’s all I have.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Thank you. Tom, I guess a follow up for me is that is this salary in line with the other salaries for this job?”

Mr. Pollan said, “Yes, in fact it would be slightly lower for a person coming in from the outside, we didn’t feel like we should pass those people who were already in the positions. It was a negotiated salary point that he felt and we felt would work for us. It is in that line, if that person would have progress through the normal steps, this would be just about the step that they would come out through the years and periods of experience in EMS, if they were an internal candidate.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Any other questions for Mr. Pollan?”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Approve the policy waiver.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you, Tom. Next item please."

G. AMENDMENT TO THE 1999 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) FOR THE COUNTY CLERK/GIS REMODELING PROJECT. CIP #PB-358/360.

Mr. Kenneth W. Arnold, Director, Capital Projects Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This item is on page 64 of your backup. I sent you a memo on it the other day. It involves the County Clerk and GIS (Geographic Information Services) project to complete work stations and central file systems, some mechanical and electrical changes necessary, based on conditions. The total amount is \$100,000. I would recommend that you approve it. I would be happy to answer any questions."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Are there questions for Mr. Arnold on this item? Seeing none, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Approve the CIP amendment.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Thomas G. Winters	Aye

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Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you, Ken. Next item please."

H. PUBLIC WORKS.

1. OFFICIAL PROJECT REQUESTS (SIX) FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT FUNDING:

- ! **KELLOGG/TYLER AND MAIZE INTERCHANGE**
- ! **I-135/I-235/K-254 INTERCHANGE**
- ! **I-235/KELLOGG INTERCHANGE**
- ! **I-235/CENTRAL INTERCHANGE**
- ! **I-235/13TH STREET**
- ! **NORTHWEST BYPASS CORRIDOR PRESERVATION**

Mr. David C. Spears, P.E., Director/County Engineer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This won't take as long as last week. We have everything in order. Item H-1 is approval of the official project requests for System Enhancement and the Project Estimate/ Local Match Fund forms. The purpose of the program is to allow cities and counties to request projects that improve safety, relieve congestion, improve access or enhance development.

"An official project request must be submitted to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for any project to be considered for System Enhancement funding. Concurrently with this request, a Project Estimate/ Local Match Fund form must be completed. Systems Enhancement criteria requires the project sponsor to pay for all design and right-of-way expenses associated with interchange projects. The official project request, and supporting documentation, is due on December 8, 1999. KDOT will use these requests to select projects for System Enhancement funding. Project selection will be announced in early summer, of the year 2000."

"Official project requests have been prepared for the following projects that are sponsored jointly by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County. I have them on the ELMO.

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SLIDE PRESENTATION

“The first project is the interchange at Kellogg with Tyler and Maize. It’s two interchanges but it’s one big project. We’re suggesting and recommending that Sedgwick County and Wichita each contribute \$10,000,000 to this. That would be for right-of-way and design. If we’re fortunate enough to be selected, KDOT would pay \$60,000,000 for construction.

“The next project, I-135/I-235/ K-250, for interchange and also the next one, I-235/ Kellogg interchange and the next one I-235/ Central interchange, we will submit with the City of Wichita, and there will be no money put into any of those three. That is what we’re recommending at this time.

“The next project, I-235 and 13th Street, this is actually the 13th Street crossing over the floodway, that there has been a lot of discussion about. What we’re recommending is that Sedgwick County and Wichita each put up \$5,000,000, and KDOT then pay for the construction at \$10,000,000. Total of \$20,000,000 project.

“The next one, Northwest Bypass Corridor Preservation, this is to purchase the right-of-way only on the proposed Northwest Bypass. That’s an equal split of 1/3 for each: Sedgwick County, Wichita and KDOT, at \$1,500,000 a piece.

“Also like to mention that we are competing with the other urbanized counties for funds, Douglass, Johnson, Shawnee, and Wyandotte. There’s \$350,000,000 available for those five counties. The projects before you today total \$345,000,000.

“I recommend that you approve the official project requests and the project estimate/ local match fund forms, and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “David, thank you for your presentation. We have several questions or comments, but before I take those, I’d like to welcome Wichita City Council Member, Bob Martz to the meeting. Thank you for stopping in, Council Member.”

“Commissioner Winters, I believe your light was on first.”

Commissioner Winters said, “I think Carolyn was first.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Okay, I’ll take Carolyn. Commissioner McGinn.”

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Commissioner McGinn said, “You just don’t want to go first. David, I’m glad to see that we are joining Wichita in some of these projects. I think that’s great. It’s my understanding that we get more points and it helps us out to do these things together and gives us a better chance of getting there.

“I have one question on, I notice we’re the lead agency on the 13th Street Crossing. Why is that?”

Mr. Spears said, “No particular reason. Wichita could have been the lead agency also, but we visited and they were lead agency on several others and I talked to Steve Lackey and we decided that Sedgwick County Public Works would be the lead agency on that and the Northwest.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Then, the other question that I had, I notice here on I-235 and Kellogg interchange, we’re not putting in any dollars. I guess I’d like to talk a little bit about that intersection from my experience, growing up and watching and driving on that for years. You know, everybody uses that interchange, whether you’re a local person or traveling through our community. When you’re coming down, going north or south on 235 at 65 miles per hour and then you have to get off, you’re supposed to stay with the traffic so then when you’ve got to get off you’ve got to slam on your brakes, because of the loop, the clover-leaf, is so tight. You have to slam on your brakes so you don’t roll off, going down and turning around there. Plus, the road has deteriorated so bad, once you make that turn and are down there, the road is in such bad shape, even when you have your brakes on, it makes for a bad situation.

“The other thing is going east and west on Kellogg, 54, especially going from the east to the west, you’re going from a three lane to a two lane on that bridge. I’ve seen a lot of people stopped there, at that little corner, because they’re trying to keep from hitting the bridge. That happens quite often. People don’t realize that we go from three to two for a bridge, then back to three. It just seems like, from my observation, half the time I’m around that area, it seems like there’s an accident or something has happened and some type of situation has happened like that. I guess, my question to you is why aren’t we looking at this? Who’s responsibility is it? First, let me ask that question.”

Mr. Spears said, “Definitely, all your points are valid and accurate. There’s been a lot of discussion about that, between our staff and the City of Wichita staff. We have also been up to Topeka and talked to KDOT staff about it. Basically, I think the feeling here is that those are federal routes. I-235 and US 54, that is a KDOT responsibility to fix that interchange, not a local responsibility, not Sedgwick County

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or not Wichita. That is a KDOT responsibility. Your points are valid about the accidents. I think, somewhere here, I have a map showing those.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “So, what you’re saying is this is a State project, and I guess, have our legislators or anybody tried to push for this. This intersection has not just been bad for a year. It’s been bad for many years. It just seems to me like it ought to be on the top of the list of things to improve.”

Mr. Spears said, “I’ll just give you a flavor. Each of those shows, each of these is an accident that has happened. It shows the location. The darker the line down there, that is the interchange at US 54 and I-235, and the darker the line, I guess would be the more serious, the greater the chance for an accident. That’s where the most accidents have happened.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “So those long lines indicate where, on either US 54 or 235, where the accident occurred?”

Mr. Spears said, “Yes, they point to the location.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Well, that’s a nice visual. No you have some numbers on that, David?”

Mr. Spears said, “Yes, that is from 1992 to 1996, that graphic. There are 323 accidents in that time. So, if you would divide that over five years, that would be about 65 accidents per year, which per month, that would be about six accidents per month, if I’m figuring that right. So, you would have three accidents every two weeks.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “You guys probably have standards. Is that pretty high?”

Mr. Spears said, “That would be very high. That’s very high.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I guess, I just can’t understand why this has not been a hot topic. This is a very high accident intersection, and I don’t know if there’s anything that we can do at the local level. It sounds to me like this is something that maybe we need to talk to our legislators about. Is that something? Try to get them to encourage KDOT to move this up on their list?”

Mr. Spears said, “I think that would help. I think that’s a good avenue to take. That action, I believe, should be taken. I believe some of the legislators have already been talked to, but probably not all of them, not all the Sedgwick County delegation. Here again, we feel like it’s a KDOT responsibility.”

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Commissioner McGinn said, "I'd like to hear from the other Commissioners, before I have any more questions. Thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "If I may, David, the information that you have, that you just showed us, I think that's important information that the legislators may not have. I've not seen that before today and that's pretty telling as to what happens there. As Carolyn commented, the weave, getting on or off, is unbelievably short. You can barely get two cars, as one's trying to come in and one's trying to exit. It's frightening. I think the kind of numbers that you gave us today and the incidences ought to compel, if not us, the State Legislature to look very seriously at this intersection. See what we can do to fix it. Particularly, with the railroad being removed that Council Member Martz and Commissioner Winters worked on. That would help the redesign considerably. Wasn't that part of the problem in the designing of that intersection?"

Mr. Spears said, "Yes, and I was going to address that in Item H-3. That will reduce the cost of that interchange, when you remove that railroad because obviously, then you don't have to come up with a ramp high above the railroad track, because it won't be there anymore. That's why KDOT participated in the project on Item H-3."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Well, H-3 makes a great deal of sense. Certainly, I know we'll all concur when we get there, but that certainly ought to be a real step in the right direction to help them address that particular intersection. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. David, the presentation that you had on the board, the City of Wichita has approved those at their meeting?"

Mr. Spears said, "Yes sir, they approved those at their meeting yesterday and of course they approved some others, along Kellogg, that are just their projects."

Commissioner Winters said, "Okay, so they've got their plan lined out. Again, about the deadline. December the 8th is when these programs have to be submitted. By making the submission, that's no guarantee that these projects will get done."

Mr. Spears said, "That's correct. We do not know which projects, if any, will be selected. Like I say, we're in competition with the other four urban counties."

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Commissioner Winters said, "What would happen if we had a project that was a potential and we didn't include it on this list that we were going to submit December the 8th? Could it, theoretically, fall out of any kind of potential for ten years? I mean, if this is a ten year highway program? If we miss, if we don't put these in, if we don't ask for these to be included, or to be considered, it may be a long time before they could ever get considered again. Is that right?"

Mr. Spears said, "That would be right. The last program, the last System Enhancement Program was about ten years ago. If you figure about every ten years, and of course we're talking about high projects, not small ones. It won't affect any small ones. We're talking, one project's \$20,000,000 and those interchanges are about \$60,000,000 a piece. They're ones that you don't normally do."

Commissioner Winters said, "So we've got projects here listed that we're not . . . I mean, all the study and all the work hasn't been done on them yet but if we don't do it now, we could be out of the loop for a long time."

Mr. Spears said, "Right, that's the point."

Commissioner Winters said, "Okay. I guess I would share Commissioner McGinn's concerns at I-235 and Kellogg. I don't know exactly what the answer is, but I agree, that's a terrible, terrible interchange. That's all I have now."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Okay. Commissioner Sciortino, comments?"

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thank you, Madame Chairman. I'm glad to see that we're starting to work with Wichita, in trying to form some kind of uniform request to the State. I've noticed our platforms. I think the City joined us in almost 80% of our platform position with the State. I think that's going to give Topeka notice that with more people joining together, asking for the same thing, I think they're going have to maybe pay a little more attention to this area. I do agree with Commissioner McGinn, in these items where we able to come up to the table and say this the actual dollar amount that we're willing to commit to it. That will increase our chances of getting it. The 235/ Kellogg interchange, I also agree that that should be a State function. I think this is a beginning step, where both Wichita and Sedgwick County put the State on notice that we expect them to do something.

"I think it's important for us to maybe follow through, and individually or collectively, lobby our State Legislators into trying to take care of this very serious problem. Do you have any statistics on . . . you told

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us how many accidents, which was almost obscene, the number, how many fatalities occurred during that period of time?"

Mr. Spears said, "No, sir. We have not had time to go through each and every accident, to look at that. I do know for a fact there have been fatalities there."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, I certainly hope that the State will take notice of that and perhaps even monies outside the Enhancement Program. This is something that I feel strongly the State needs to address. That's all I have. Thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I think the projects you have before us are very good projects and I guess, I'd just like to throw something out and see what the rest of you think. I'd like to maybe defer any decision on this for a week if we could. I believe 254 and 235 has been obsolete for 15 years or more, and I'd like to have an opportunity to contact my senator and my house representative, and visit with them about that and see if they, too, have some concerns. People are dying at this intersection. People are having injuries and I think we need to take a serious look at it. If it's the State's responsibility, I'd like to ask them if they'd step up and see if they'd participate. As one Commissioner, if the State would move it up on their list, I wouldn't mind partnering, as a County, in helping out but if it's the State's responsibility, I'd like to find out why it's not top on their list."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "David, if we defer this for one week, that wouldn't jeopardize our deadline of December the 8th in any way, would it?"

Mr. Spears said, "I don't believe so. That's two weeks from today."

Commissioner Winters said, "So, we could defer this for a week, act on it next week, December 1st, and that would still give you time to meet the deadline."

Mr. Spears said, "There's a lot of paperwork to do, but we can do it."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I would support the deferral. Again, I think these are great projects

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that we've got here, but I don't have any problem of trying to think about this I-235 and Kellogg and if we can be a positive player in that in any way, shape, or form. If anybody wants to talk about any of the rest of them, I certainly could support the deferral."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "This is not an advertised public hearing, but I will ask if there is anyone in the audience who has any comments to make on this issue. If they do, we'd be happy to take those at this time. Seeing none, we'll get back to the discussion of the Bench. I have no problem with the deferral. I think good points are made, that maybe it gives others an opportunity to contact us or us an opportunity to contact others before we make our final decision on these. So, the Chair would entertain a motion, if discussions complete."

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to Defer the Project Requests for one week.

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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you. Next item please."

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2. AMENDMENT TO THE 1999 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) FOR THE DESIGN OF HYDRAULIC BETWEEN THE WICHITA CITY LIMITS AND 63RD STREET SOUTH; AND CONTRACT WITH BAUGHMAN COMPANY, P.A. FOR SAID DESIGN.

Mr. Spears said, "Item H-2 is an amendment to the 1999 Capital Improvement Program and approval of an agreement for the design of Hydraulic, between the Wichita City Limits and 63rd Street South. For your consideration today is the design of Hydraulic to provide a multi-lane roadway to increase traffic carrying capacity. A new bridge at the Riverside Drainage Canal will also be included in this design. The total cost of the design will not exceed \$94,000. I recommend that you approve the amendment to the CIP, approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Any questions of Mr. Spears? If not, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Approve the CIP amendment; and approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Sciortino 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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you. Next item."

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3. AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF WICHITA FOR REMOVAL AND ABANDONMENT OF THE CENTRAL KANSAS RAILWAY LINE FROM MILEPOST 19.5, NEAR GARDEN PLAIN, KANSAS, TO MILEPOST 3.5, SOUTHEAST OF THE AT-GRADE CROSSING AT MCCORMICK AVENUE IN WICHITA. DISTRICTS #2 AND #3.

Mr. Spears said, "Madame Chair, Kristi tells me we do have a problem and we need a slight break to fix it."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "All right, let's take a five minute recess."

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed at 10:00 a.m. and returned at 10:06 a.m.

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "We're back from recess and ready for Item H-3. David, are you prepared. Okay, go."

Mr. Spears said, "Okay, Item H-3 is an agreement between Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita for the removal of approximately 16 miles of railroad tracks adjacent to Kellogg/ US 54, between Wichita and Garden Plain along with a corresponding upgrade of approximately 90 miles of track southwest of Wichita, to allow continued rail service to Garden Plain and other areas west and southwest of Wichita.

SLIDE PRESENTATION

On the screen, this shows the advantages to the abandonment of the Central Kansas Railway, from McCormick or around West Street to Garden Plain. First item, improved safety for motorists by eliminating 24 at-grade crossings. Statistics show a single serious injury or fatality will generate expenses near \$1,000,000. We were told yesterday, with all those crossings, there's about 60,000 vehicles per day that go across all those crossings.

"Also, number two, it will improve the geometrics for Kellogg and the I-235 interchange that we were just talking about, which is one of the key reasons that KDOT participated in this project.

"Also, number three, it will improve the geometrics for Kellogg and Tyler Road, as well as, number four, improve the geometrics for Kellogg and Maize Road, both those interchanges. Users will save \$720,000 in delay, accident costs over a 30 year period.

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“Then, one of the other items that is major is that we will remove the existing Cowskin Creek Bridge, south of the Dell. The bridge will no longer be needed, if we remove the railroad and this will make this the single most effective flood control improvement for the Cowskin Creek, because it lowers the water surface profile significantly for any single rainfall occurrence. In other words, the bridge acted as a constriction. As the water rose and got above the opening in the bridge and got up to the track or the upper part of the bridge, then water would back up into the Dell. This, especially, is going to be significant for people in the Dell and back up to the Maple area.

“The final thing, to save about \$2,000,000 in bridge and channel costs at this Cowskin. If you were going to leave the railroad there, you would have to improve the bridge and that’s what it would cost to do that.

“This is the map. A picture’s worth a thousand word. If you see, this part right here is what is going to be removed. That’s the railroad track that will be removed. Correspondingly, the railroad will take the money that they’re going to receive from the City and KDOT and the County and improve this track around here. The existing track, trains go about five to ten miles per hour and the new track they’ll be able to go about 25 miles per hour and hopefully, not reduce the service to the elevators at Garden Plain or Cheney. We have, Commissioner Winters and I, have met with those folks with the railroad and visited with them about that.

“The project was proposed at a cost of \$9,300,000. The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) will fund \$6,500,000. The remainder of the project expense, \$2,800,000, will be funded jointly by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County, with the County funding \$1,050,000 and the City funding \$1,750,000.

“I recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. I think, first, we need to thank a lot of people. Steve Lackey and his staff, in particular Mike Lindenback, who worked hard on this, Al Cathcart with KDOT, and Bill Fredrick with the Central Kansas Railway, and of course Councilman Bob Martz. I believe he is here in the audience today.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Thank you, David. Thanks, for your presentation. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you very much. David, the action that we’re going to take today is in response to the City took action yesterday, and they had a three way agreement between the City of

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Wichita, KDOT and the railroad. Today, our action is that we'll approve agreement between Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita, for our agreement on the funding. Is that correct?"

Mr. Spears said, "That's absolutely correct."

Commissioner Winters said, "So, the City is actually has the agreement with the railroad and KDOT. On the time frame, I have a couple of questions and even Councilman Martz mentioned it this morning, that perhaps yesterday, I was over at City Hall and maybe we didn't talk about the timing frame exactly right. People are asked, if you've done the deal, why can't we just tear out the bridge. Part of the reason for that is, the railroad has to rebuild that line down through Conway Springs and back up to the west, because it's not capable of running at this 25 mile an hour speed. So, they need to improve that line. Is that correct?"

Mr. Spears said, "That's correct. There's even a small piece, out here, that they have to purchase right-of-way for and as you know, it takes a little bit of time to purchase right-of-way. They have to upgrade this rail before they can take out this rail."

Commissioner Winters said, "So, the time frame looks like eighteen months from now will be approximately the time that the bridge can be removed that's causing the restriction over the Cowskin."

Mr. Spears said, "That's correct and I know that the railroad has already met with contractors and is already in the process of getting contractors to do the upgrade."

Commissioner Winters said, "From my discussion with the railroad, if they would leave on the current line and go to Kingman, at the current speed of 10 miles an hour, that's almost a four and a half hour trip for them. They'll be able to even take this longer route and be able to get back to even Cheney or Garden Plain in approximately two hours. So, I think even by taking the longer route, they are going to have a potential to, certainly not have any less services and, hopefully, they'll be able to give better service to some of those rural elevators."

"When I first heard about this project, I think I was getting about third hand information and didn't know the details of the project. After I had . . . at first had kind of a negative reaction, Councilman Bob Martz

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called me on the phone and brought the maps and the details and he and I had several meetings, talking about this. The more I talked to Councilman Martz, the better this deal looks. By just thinking about the savings to KDOT, the City and the County, on just the transportation portion of this, how much more efficient we'll be able to, someday, whoever, the State of Kansas, reconstruct the I-235 and Kellogg exchange. This is going to make that project a lot simpler. As the design gets out for a big interchange at Maize Road and Kellogg, the removal of this will make that a lot simpler. How much better it is to take that savings, and instead of trying to construction bridges over railroad tracks at Maize Road and at 235, invest that back into the infrastructure of the railroad itself, so it can provide better service. Just on the transportation, and then putting the safety aspect of how many cars are crossing those interchanges, each one of those intersections, this becomes a deal, that on the transportation aspect alone, is a good deal. Then when you add in the fact that the potential from the savings by removing that bridge over the Cowskin, it then becomes a much better deal.

“So, I want to give thanks to the staffs on both sides of the street for putting this deal together and to the railroad and KDOT. I mean, this negotiations on this only started in August and KDOT moved very rapidly. The railroad moved very rapidly. So, we owe a great deal of thanks to the railroad and to KDOT. I really think that Steve Lackey played a critical role in seeing the vision for all of this and how it could fit together, as they developed their plan. So, Steve deserves a lot of credit. Then, certainly Councilman Martz was, as we work on this flood task force and try to figure out what's going on, Councilman Martz was certainly a big part of making this thing happen. I'm certainly going to be very supportive and this is just one of those ones that I think is a good job.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Good job to you, too. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you, Madame Chairman. I would just like to thank you, Commissioner Winters, publicly, along with Councilman Martz. I know you put a lot of hard work on this. I'm gratified to see some of the fruits of what we had signed some months ago, called COMPACT 2000. I think this is just another example of something positive coming out of the concept of two governmental entities deciding to continue to have dialogue and to voluntarily cooperate on items that would be mutually beneficial to all citizens of Sedgwick County.

“I, for one want to commend you on the good work that you have done and also you, Mr. Martz. I know it was a lot of hard work. I think the railroad jumping in as quickly as they did, and KDOT was very gratifying and I think the citizens of Sedgwick County will find this is just maybe perhaps just the beginning of a lot more things that could be coming down the pike, when the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County

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decide to voluntarily cooperating. I think this is a great step. Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Thank you, Commissioner Sciortino. Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I don’t have too much to comment on. I do want to also echo thanks to everybody and particularly Commissioner Winters and Councilman Martz, for the work they have done. You hear a lot about people always asking, every time it rains, what are we doing about flooding? We’re not going to fix that overnight. We started out cleaning out the Cowskin, some of the debris. Here’s another phase that we’re doing. So, we are continuing to work on that. Tom’s doing a great deal of that, as well of Councilman Martz. I thank them for that. I just had a question, David. I don’t know if you address this. The railroad will come down to Conway Springs and around, and then they’ll come into Garden Plain, and then they’ll go back. Is that . . . how does this work?”

Mr. Spears said, “Yes, exactly. This will be abandoned and will not be used any more.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay, and so, I guess I’m just curious, where do we eventually go down to the Gulf Coast to take the grain?”

Mr. Spears said, “I do not know the answer to that.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Thank you, Commissioner McGinn. I need to impose upon Council Member Martz to come up to the podium for just a minute. I think you’re cooperation and the spirit that you bring to your job across the street needs to be recognized face to face. You’ve been trying to hide in the back and I don’t think I’ll let you get away with that. Thanks for coming over this morning and I think you’ve heard my colleague say how much we appreciate your spirit of cooperation and the attitude that you brought when you were elected. Do you have any comments that you’d like to add to the festivities?”

Mr. Bob Martz, Council Member, 5th District, City of Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m here to support what you’re doing today. Obviously, I think this is one of the most exciting projects in the short period of time that I’ve been on the Bench. Without Tom, and the cooperation that we’ve worked out together, it’s been a labor that’s been fun, if you may. I sometimes hesitate when I hear the terms this is a hard project. When I look at the safety factors that we have saved, we will never know

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how many lives we have saved by just the elimination of the railroad crossing. If we can assume one person will not be killed because those tracks are there, that alone is worth the whole project. I think that's a fair assumption for all of us to take, is we have saved at least one person's life. The flood, obviously, this is, in our opinion I believe the number one priority that we wanted to get done with the full flood control. We want the people to understand, that doesn't mean we stop it. Tom and I still have our group that we're working on. This is just one of, and maybe the most important project for flood controls out in the west end. We're not going to stop on that project. We're going to continue that on until we have what we consider a completion. We know that's a major project.

"Hard work, well maybe. Rewarding, absolutely. I think that Tom would agree that the satisfaction of knowing what we have done for our community, with this project alone, has made it worth every effort that we've had. I want to thank the Commissioners for their support in this plan."

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you, Bob and thank you for taking your time to come over here. We appreciate it. Any other comments or questions? It not, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner McGinn 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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye

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Chairman Bill Hancock

Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you again, Council Member Martz. We look forward to working with you on the next project. Next item please."

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' NOVEMBER 18, 1999 REGULAR MEETING.

Mr. Darren Muci, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have Minutes from the November 18th meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts. There are eight items for consideration.

**(1) ROAD IMPROVEMENTS- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: SALES TAX**

"Item one, road improvements for Public Works. This is projects 809-J, K and L, on Tyler Road. It was recommended to accept the low bid of Cornejo and Sons. That amount, \$985,700.80.

**(2) HON FURNITURE- COMCARE
FUNDING: COMCARE**

"Item two, various furniture for COMCARE. It was recommended to accept the low bid of G2i. That amount for the complete system, \$12,808.04.

**(3) PHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE- COMCARE
FUNDING: COMCARE**

"Item three is a phone system upgrade for COMCARE at 1919 North Amidon. It was recommended to accept the only bid of Communications Technology Associates. That amount, \$17,371.00. CTA provided the original system, and you'll note that there's a memo attached, outlining the process that we've completed to make this recommendation.

**(4) MOBILPAC UNITS- EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & FIRE
DEPARTMENT
FUNDING: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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“Item four, Mobilpac units, for Emergency Medical Services and the Fire Department. It was recommended to accept the only bid of Data Radio. That amount, \$15,166.72. Data Radio is the provider of these 800 megahertz units and they were allowed to do that per an RFP back in 1997, which previously had Board of County Commission approval. A synopsis of the recommendation follows.

(5) JUVENILE SECURITY TRANSPORTATION- DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
FUNDING: JUVENILE JUSTICE AUTHORITY

“Item five, juvenile security transportation for the Department of Corrections. It was recommended to accept the only bid of Security Transport Services. That amount for the last half of 1999 is \$12,000. This is using the State of Kansas contract.

(6) BALLOT CARDS- ELECTION COMMISSION
FUNDING: ELECTION OFFICE

“Item six, various ballot cards for the Election Commission. It was recommended to accept the only bid of Lincolnshire Printing. That amount, \$13,153.25. These ballots are approved and are in compliance with the Microvote System which is currently used by the Election Commissioner. A summary of this recommendation is also attached.

(7) VIDEO PRODUCTION- SHERIFF
FUNDING: SHERIFF

“Item seven, video production for the Sheriff. It was recommended to accept the proposal of Harvest Communications. That amount, \$11,750.00. A summary of this recommendation also follows.

(8) MEDICAL BILLING SERVICES & ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE ACTIVITIES- EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
FUNDING: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

“Item eight, medical billing services and accounts receivable activities for Emergency Medical Services and the Division of Finance. It was recommended to accept the proposal of Health Care Billing Consultants.

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That amount, in a not to exceed amount of 7.75 per on a percentage basis, is estimated at \$60,610.00, over a two year period. A complete synopsis on two pages follows, outlining the recommendation.

“I would be happy to take questions, and recommend approval of the recommendations from the Board of Bids and Contract.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Thank you, Darren. There is a question. Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I don’t have a question for Darren. I have one for David, though. On that first item, the road improvements on Tyler, between 29th and 53rd, I haven’t been by there for a while, but it seems like it’s not paved all the way to 29th yet. Is that correct?”

Mr. Spears said, “That could be correct but that’s in the City of Wichita.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay, but as we do these projects, I just was curious, is it in their CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) to come up to 29th, or are we going to have a dirt strip there?”

Mr. Spears said, “It will probably be a situation where, as development occurs there, which should be pretty rapidly, they will have special assessments to build that road, that piece. Then we’d take it from there on.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay. Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, “Thank you. Any other questions? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to Approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Thank you, Darren. Next item please."

CONSENT AGENDA

J. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Right-of-Way Agreements.

One Easement for Drainage for the Belriv Addition. District #1.

2. Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Contracts.

Contract	Rent	District
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<u>Number</u>	<u>Subsidy</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Landlord</u>
V99076	\$330.00	3	Mt. Hope Community Development, Inc.
V99075	\$475.00		Quentin Nusz

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V99073	\$219.00		Towanda Gables
V99072	\$262.00	3	Mt. Hope Community Development, Inc.
V99074	\$455.00		Craig Sharp

- 3. The following Section 8 Housing Contract is being amended to reflect a revised monthly amount due to a change in the income level of the participating client.**

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Old Amount</u>	<u>New Amount</u>
V92013	\$237.00	\$250.00

- 4. Applications for License to Retail Cereal Malt Beverages.**

<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>d/b/a</u>
Norman Massey, Jr.	Mother's Finest LTD dba M & F Beerstore
Timothy O. Heuback	QuickTrip #392

- 5. Order dated November 17, 1999 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 6. General Bills Check Register of November 19, 1999.**
- 7. Budget Adjustment Requests.**

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have the Consent Agenda before you and I would recommend you approve it."

MOTION

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Commissioner Winters moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner McGinn 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	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Bill Hancock	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Gwin said, "Is there other business to come before this Board? We don't have an executive session. If not, this meeting is adjourned."

K. OTHER

L. ADJOURNMENT

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

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

BILL HANCOCK, Chairman
Second District

BETSY GWIN, Chair Pro Tem,
First District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner,
Third District

CAROLYN McGINN, Commissioner,
Fourth District

BEN SCIORTINO, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

James Alford, County Clerk

APPROVED:

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_____, 1999