The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 A.M., on Wednesday, October 24, 2001 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chair Carolyn McGinn; with the following present: Vice Chair Ben Sciortino; Commissioner Betsy Gwin; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Undersheriff John Green, Detention Facility Administration; Mr. Dennis Mauk, Assistant Director, EMS; Mr. Bill Auchterlonie, Major, EMS; Mr. Doug Russell, Director, Human Resources Department; Mr. Joe L. Norton, Bond Counsel, Gilmore & Bell P.C.; Mr. David Spears, Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer, Division of Finance; Mr. Brad Snapp, Housing Director, Housing Office; Mr. Randy Duncan, Director, Emergency Management Department; Ms. Diane Gage, Director, Emergency Communications Department; Ms. Stephanie Knebel, Manager, Facility Project Services; Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Division of Human Services; Ms. Chris Kautzer, Systems Integration Coordinator, Department of Corrections; Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Bill Bryant, Corporate Director of External Affairs, Southwestern Bell Telephone.
Ms. Janice Bagshaw, Regional Manager ECC Programs, American Heart Association.
Ms. Shelley A. Hamilton, First Metropolitan Community Church, Wichita, KS.
Mr. Andy Bias, Director, Mennonite Housing.
Dr. Donald Beggs, President, Wichita State University.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Ms. Jeannine Little of Brotherhood Presbyterian/ Inter-Faith Ministries.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, September 19, 2001
Regular Meeting, October 24, 2001

The Clerk reported that Commissioner Gwin was absent at the Regular Meeting of September 19, 2001 and that Commissioner Winters was absent at the Regular Meeting of September 26, 2001.

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, you’ve had a chance to review those Minutes. What’s the will of the Board on September 19th?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 19, 2001.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

- Commissioner Betsy Gwin Abstain
- Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
- Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
- Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
- Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, have you had an opportunity to review the Minutes of September 26th, and if so, what’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September...
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Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin   Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton   Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Abstain
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Before I call the next item, I would like to recognize a couple of distinguished people here in our audience today. We have former commissioner Andy Bias, who is also the Director of Mennonite Housing and we have Dr. Donald Beggs from Wichita State University. Glad to have you here. Clerk, call the next item.”

DONATION

A. DONATION BY SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE OF $3,500, TO BE USED FOR THE SHERIFF’S D.A.R.E. PROGRAM.

Undersheriff John Green, Detention Facility Administration, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This morning we’re addressing the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program. D.A.R.E. began in 1983 as a way for police officers to have a closer relationship with students and provide drug education. We started our first D.A.R.E. program in 1990 with Oaklawn Elementary School. The Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Department D.A.R.E. program currently serves 13 elementary schools and 4 middle schools in Sedgwick County. Since 1990, we have provided the program to approximately 15,000 youth in Sedgwick County. D.A.R.E. is a 17-week program that teaches our young people how to make good decisions concerning the use of drugs. Additional benefits from the program include an increase in the student’s social skills, enhanced self-esteem and better relationships with our law-enforcement officers.

Southwestern Bell has been a corporate sponsor of our D.A.R.E. program since 1999. The financial support provided by our corporate sponsors has been critical to the success of our program. With the support of our corporate sponsors, like Southwestern Bell, an additional 1,300 youth will be provided a D.A.R.E. program this school year.
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On behalf of Sheriff Steed and the Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Department, I’d like to thank Southwestern Bell for their generous support. With us today is Corporate Director of External Affairs, Mr. Bill Bryant.”

Mr. Bill Bryant, Corporate Director of External Affairs, Southwestern Bell Telephone, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We’ve always taken our role as a corporate citizen in the community as a very important role and it is my pleasure today to present to the Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Department a check for $3,500 for their D.A.R.E. program. And I have a check. Thank you.”

Chair McGinn said, “John, stay up here. We have a couple of questions or comments. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well, thank you. I just wanted to say, again, thank you again to Bill Bryant and to Southwest Bell. I think more and more folks are getting more and more accustomed to thinking about prevention, as we deal with young people in our communities. And you would think that that would be something that has happened automatically, across the years. But that’s not the case and I think we’re really just now beginning, here in Sedgwick County and a lot of other places in the country, to think about prevention efforts and we certainly appreciate it when corporate sponsors step up and help organizations that are trying to be involved. I know that we’ve made a concerted effort here, with the Board of County Commissioners, to be involved in prevention and this will fit right into it and it’s a real pleasure to see corporate America step up and be a part of that. So, again, thanks again, Bill.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you. I couldn’t let Bill get away without saying something about him. I also want to compliment your company because a lot of times the larger a company gets the impression sometimes is that they’re cold and they’re just out to make a dollar and what have you. And when a company comes forward and really says ‘hey, we’re part of the community too and we want to be a good corporate sponsor’ and I also know Southwestern Bell does a lot of things, not just this one but in Derby and in different facilities and I just want to compliment you and your company on that.

And Bill’s a pretty good golfer too. We had a good time. His shoulders got real tired caring me. It was a charity event and he carried us for the whole round and his shoulders were sore so we’re going to send him a little tube of Ben Gay for that. Bill, congratulations.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, Bill. Thank you, Tom.”
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MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to accept the donation and authorize the Chair 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 Tim Norton  Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

AWARDS

B. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO DENNIS MAUK, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, EMS, AND BILL AUCHTERLONIE, MAJOR, EMS, RECOGNIZING 25 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE TO AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

Ms. Janice Bagshaw, Regional Manager ECC Programs, American Heart Association, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It is truly my pleasure and honor to be here today to present 25 years service awards, dedicated service awards in recognition to Bill Auchterlonie and Dennis Mauk.

Bill and Dennis, I’ve had the pleasure of knowing and working with them for several years and they have started with the American Heart Association back in 1976 as BLS instructors, which is Basic Life instructors and they have, through the years, held various positions, from regional facility for advanced cardiac life support and for the basic life support. They have also served numerous years on local as well as state committees.

The Heart Association is an integral part of the EMS service and I know that both Dennis and Bill are very active in the EMS community here, as well as leaders in their community. And again, it’s
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my pleasure to present to them these awards for 25 years of dedicated service.”

Chair McGinn said, “Dennis and Bill, would you guys like to make some comments? We were just noticing how nice you were dressed today.”

Mr. Dennis Mauk, Assistant Director, EMS, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I consider it a privilege to be able to be a volunteer with the American Heart Association. I also appreciate the support of the Commission in fostering these types of relationships as well. I’d also like to thank my wife, without whose support and encouragement I wouldn’t be able to do this so easily.”

Mr. Bill Auchterlonie, Major, EMS, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’d like to just echo Dennis’ remarks. It’s flown by, the 25 years and the American Heart Association actually gives us some of the scientific research that we apply that helps us do our jobs here in Sedgwick County, delivering emergency medical services to the citizens. So, in that way, I think we bring those values to here, to home to the citizens and make Sedgwick County a better place to live. So, with that thanks to the Heart Association.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you both very much for what you do and we also realize that, as Dennis talked about, he couldn’t have done this without his wife. Well, I’m sure you’re thinking too because of the additional training that you guys have to do over and above and some of the different kinds of hours that you have to work to serve our community. So, we certainly appreciate all that you contribute. Thank you for your years of service.

Clerk, call the next item.”

C. RECOGNITION OF DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES FOR RECEIVING THE INTERNATIONAL PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION 2001 AGENCY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE.

Chair McGinn said, “Good morning, Commissioners. I’m here to talk about some of the great things that some of our folks have done here in Sedgwick County. And I’d just like to tell you a little bit about this award and then I’m going to let our true expert give you the details.

The International Personnel Management Association, better known as IPMA, is a non-profit
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organization representing public agencies and professionals in human resources. The IPMA is an international organization with over 6,000 members, representing federal, state and local agencies from the U.S. and 13 other countries.

Annually, the IPMA accepts nominations for the agency awards for excellence. The award recognizes the overall quality accomplishments and contributions of an agency personnel program that goes beyond the expectations of a good government personnel program. Each year, a small, medium and large agency is recognized for its excellence.

This year, at the 2001 International Conference in Nashville, Tennessee Sedgwick County Division of Human Resources was recognized as the 2001 medium-size agency of excellence. A medium agency is one with 2,500 to 5,000 employees. We congratulate the Sedgwick County Division of Human Resources for this award and, once again, being a model of innovation and leadership. Congratulations, Doug. This is the nice award that Doug will be getting, and his staff.

Doug, could you just share with us a little bit about how you got the award and other details that you might find interesting.”

Mr. Doug Russell, Director, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Absolutely. Thank you, Madam Chair. Usually, I’m falsely humble but this is truly an honor for Sedgwick County. This is a once in a lifetime kind of thing and, in theory, if everybody got one, it would take 2,000 years. So, I feel really honored that our team was able to do this.

Let me just say a couple of things about where I think this came from because I believe it came from Sedgwick County’s mission statement and knowing what that means and how to apply it. When I got into H.R., I’ve been with Sedgwick County about 10 years, but when I got into H.R. three years ago I found one of the most incredible sets of people I’ve ever worked with. Three of them alone have over 60 years of H.R. experience just with Sedgwick County. Those folks had a tremendous amount of ideas waiting to catch up with technology and when you put the two of them together, it explodes. It just became magic.

Essentially, our award was given to us because we do a lot with a little and we do it very well. When we see organizations that have 35, 40, 45 people and they’re not much bigger than us, you go ‘Wow’. I think what happened is, and I wanted to say where I think the energy for this came from.
Sedgwick County’s mission statement is ‘To ensure quality public services that provide for the present and future well-being of the citizens of Sedgwick County’. We take that seriously in H.R. and realize that we are a means to an end, we are not an end. When I got to H.R. the one criticism we had is that H.R. is a place that you go. I don’t believe that’s true of us any more by a long shot and the reason is these folks, when they start going, they go fast.

Sedgwick County’s goals, to establish, maintain and nurture partnerships to insure effective and efficient delivery of services. One thing I loved about this plaque is you say, ‘Are you getting there?’ This plaque says, ‘In recognition of its exemplary contributions to the efficiency and effectiveness of government personnel operations’. So I go ‘Check’. Sedgwick County’s goal is to train, encourage and recognize employees for hard work, creativity and innovation. This organization, we couldn’t have done it without the department heads being willing to do business different and without Kathy Sexton and the DIO, Department of Information and Operations. Literally, two years ago, we said ‘How do we get rid of applications and quit stacking 55,000 pieces of paper up every year and working our people to death who come in to apply for a job?’ and the answer, a year later, turned on December the 26th of last year, was HRE Partners or the EAP. There’s going to be subliminals in this, because if people are unemployed in the community, it’s called HREpartners.com and they will hit a website that allows them to apply for a job, fill out one application electronically from the comfort of their home or the space station, as Mike Muller says. Apply for a job with Sedgwick County, Reno County, Derby, El Dorado, Hutchinson and Bel Aire, currently, and that’s growing.

I’m sorry. I’m going to go on and on for just a minute, because I’m so excited about what these guys did. Mike Muller literally said, ‘How do we take this partnership part of our mission statement seriously’. And the answer is we work with our partners. We ask them what will work. We went down to the City of Derby to a guy named Ron Menousek, and I can never say his name right but I know him well, and he happened to be their I.T. guy that became their H.R. guy. Well, what a gift because when Ron and Mike sat down and then Rea Evans of our department sat down, they then went and got with Kathy Sexton’s techie guys, Greg Faber, Jeff Piper and John Petersen and, within months, they had rolled out something that allowed people to apply for a job from the comfort of their home. That’s the way we do business.

Why do we know this is excellent? Because we looked and not many other people are doing that and nobody else is doing it with a partnership. That is a Sedgwick County unique fruit and it’s unique because of the mission statement, partnerships.
Hard work, creativity and innovation; Mike said, ‘Well, gosh, what do I got to do to get these partners in place’. Well, let me just tell you what Mike Muller did. He said, ‘You know what would work best is just go ahead and start a Kansas chapter of IPMA’ so he did. He did. He sat down with his partners and now they have a 60-member chapter, one year and three months later. That’s amazing. That’s not me. That’s Sedgwick County.

Allocating the use of resources and finally, organizational and individual excellence is what we seek in Human Resources. We say that we will build a talented and diversified workforce and develop organizational and individual excellence. This is an award for excellence, so that’s the third box I can check.

I think the other thing I wanted to say is that we also got pieces of this award for our work in organizational development. That’s Jo Templin. That’s 53 O.D. consultants that are allowed in this organization and that’s the way this culture and you, as a commission and management, have allowed us to proceed. This is an unbelievable culture and you can feel it when you get with thousands of your peers.

We are unique in that. It energizes us and drives decision making to the lowest levels faster, smarter, cheaper. Lucretia Taylor and a large number of people created the Diversity Committee, began to work with NCCJ, National Conference of Community and Justice, created dialogues, training models and are now taking that to the next level of process so that, per our mission, we look like the community we serve.

We worked with . . . Jane and Melissa went out and worked nights, days, weekends with the Sheriff’s Department. Completely rebuilt their comp and class system last year. And then the other thing, and then I’m pretty well done here, is they were able to then take that to the next level and design what we believe will be a comp and class model that will meet what this organization, I believe the Commissioners have said they want faster, smarter, hopefully cheaper over time, because we think we can do more with less and that, essentially, we were able to present that at this same conference to 80 of our peers and they said, ‘Wow, you guys are on the right track’. So, it was very affirming.

Bottom line is, my thanks to the Commissioners, to this organization and especially to Kathy Sexton and the way that you guys have funded DIO, because we couldn’t do it without the technology. Thank you.”

Chair McGinn said, “Congratulations. This all got off the ground about last year and it was about the time we started looking for a Cowtown director too. And we were able to put that logo on
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whatever on there too. So there’s other things you can do that’s very creative.

The other thing is, just so people know this if they want to apply for a job, you can even attach your resume to it. So, it’s not just the form. You can go ahead and attach other information. I don’t think this could have come at a better time. With all the layoffs that are going on in our community, this is just a great opportunity for people to get on-line everyday and see what jobs are out there and perhaps there’ll be a job there for them that will work.

So, Doug, to you and your staff and everybody, congratulations and we’re certainly glad you’re here at Sedgwick County.”

Mr. Russell said, “By the way, they would but they’re out working. HREpartners.com is the subliminal.”

Chair McGinn said, “All right, thank you.

Clerk, call the next item please.”

CITIZEN INQUIRY

D. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Chair McGinn said, “We have a process, here at Sedgwick County, which gives people, the public, an opportunity to address the Board of County Commissioners and if they would like to do so, they just need to get with the Manager’s Office a week ahead of time and we can put you on the agenda.

Today we have Reverend Shelley Hamilton. Good morning.”

Reverend Shelley A. Hamilton, First Metropolitan Community Church, Wichita, Ks., greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’d like to thank you, on behalf of several different segments of the Wichita community, for granting my request to speak to you this morning. I’d like you to know, from the beginning of my remarks, that I’m not here to persuade you of the morality and appropriateness of domestic partnership nor to convince you that gay, lesbian and non-gay people
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who choose to live in intimate relationships outside of marriage, like many other people in our society, lead reasonably normal, healthy lives and are entitled to the same protections and freedoms afforded every other citizen of the city, county and state.

Instead, I am here as a concerned citizen who believes that the decision this commission made to overturn domestic partnership health benefits was unfair and made hastily and primarily on the basis of religious values from one aspect of the religion community in Wichita and Sedgwick County.

We live in a country built upon freedoms. Our founding fathers and mothers fled from countries that compelled them to worship and accept values and beliefs not necessarily their own. I don’t believe it is the duty or responsibility of any elected, appointed or hired public official to set policy or make law on the basis of religious values. I do believe, however, it is their responsibility anytime and especially when making policy and law, to listen to the people of the communities in which they reside. There are many segments of our city and county. Very diverse communities who feel their efforts to voice comments on this particular issue have gone unheard, unacknowledged and otherwise ignored.

I was deeply disturbed, on the day in which the Commissioners voted to overturn the County health benefits for domestic partners, regarding upholding traditional family values and my question is, traditional family values for whom. Conservative Christians or any other religious perspective cannot be allowed to dictate public policy. We are a democratic country and regardless of how right or appropriate any person may think their religious beliefs are, we don’t make policy or law on the basis of them. No one has the right to force their beliefs on others.

Marriage in our society is a civil institution and decisions about intimacy and who qualifies as family are not within the parameters of the public office holder to make. Each of you, of course, are entitled to your own opinions and faith expressions. You cannot, however, make policy or law on the basis of those opinions and beliefs. Your decisions must always be guided by Constitutional imperatives and what is right and just for all citizens. When you make decisions or un-make them without hearing from all of the citizens who elected you or our treasured freedoms and democratic way of life becomes profoundly threatened.

In a truly free and democratic society, health benefits are an entitlement due anyone. This seems simple to me and quite clear. My request this morning is this, that you convene a public hearing on this matter, so that all of the community’s voices may be heard. There are religious leaders, politicians of many persuasions, doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, County employees and a variety of other concerned citizens in Wichita and Sedgwick County who believe their right to speak on this matter has been violated.

One of you, and I believe it was Commissioner Norton, was quoted in the Wichita Eagle as saying
maybe this isn’t the right time to be providing leadership on such an important social issue. Well, there are many of us throughout this community who believe it is the responsibility of public office holders to always provide leadership and to guide public policy with wisdom, understanding and compassion, after they’ve heard the voices of the people.

So, again, what I’m asking for this morning is that you convene a public hearing on the issue of health benefits for domestic partners of County employees, allow the voices of our citizens to be heard. We live in turbulent and frightening times. It is more important now than ever before for us to treasure and guard vigilantly our freedoms, dreams and hopes for a better world. As someone who has struggled all of her life for the basic right to be who I am and to love whom I choose and to worship in ways that don’t condemn or oppress me, I am urging you to allow the people to be heard.

Some of us in this community have gathered, in the last week or so, nearly 1,000 signatures in support of health benefits for the domestic partners of County employees. My prayer is that you will listen to the voices of the people. Should you, however, not reopen this issue for public discussion, we will continue to gather the signatures until we have so many signatures that you’ll have no recourse but to listen.

Again, I thank you for allowing me to speak. I wish you well in your deliberations and I look forward to the possibility of continued and balanced dialogue.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, Reverend Hamilton, for being here today and offering your comments.

Clerk, call the next item please.”

PUBLIC HEARING

E. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS OF FACT AND RATIFYING AND CONFIRMING CERTAIN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN MULTIFAMILY HOUSING PROJECTS FINANCED WITH THE PROCEEDS OF TAXABLE INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS ISSUED BY THE COUNTY IN 1995 AND 1996.

Mr. Joe L. Norton, Gilmore & Bell, P.C., Bond Counsel, greeted the Commissioners and said, “As the agenda item indicates, the County in 1995 and 1996 authorized the issuances of three series of industrial revenue bonds to finance projects for senior citizens within Sedgwick County and
adjacent property. Those projects are located roughly at 21st and Grove, in Country Acres in west Wichita and in the City of Benton in Butler County. Each of those projects were issued on behalf of organizations which were managed by Mennonite Housing Inc.

At the time those bonds were issued, the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to the authority granted by statute, granted an ad valorem property tax abatement for each of those properties for ten years, commencing in the year following in which the bonds were issued, in 1996 and 1997. State law provides that in order to fulfill this property tax abatement, an application has to be filed with the Kansas Board of Tax Appeals after the conclusion of the projects. Unfortunately, in this case, when the projects were completed there was some turn-over in personnel, not only in the County, but at Mennonite Housing that, somewhere along the line, files were inadvertently lost and some of the records that had to be filed to grant the ad valorem tax abatement by the Board of Tax Appeals were no longer able to be found.

As a result of this, we have worked diligently with members of the County’s Legal Department, the Appraiser’s Office and with Mennonite Housing. And as you noted earlier, Andy Bias of Mennonite Housing is here, present to answer any questions that you might have at the hearing. To recreate this documentation, basically what that is is notices of public hearing, mailed notices to affected jurisdictions and preparation of a cost/ benefit analysis all of which were noted in the public record in ’95 and ’96 as being available to the County Commission, but no longer available to us for whatever reason.

So what we have done today is re-noticed up the public hearing, filed the appropriate notices, had the cost/ benefit analysis recreated and before you today is the opportunity to hear from the public and the request, at the conclusion of that public hearing to, in essence, ratify and confirm the actions taken back in 1995 and ’96 so that the application can be forwarded to the Board of Tax Appeals for their processing. I might note that this, in essence, ratifies and confirms the property tax abatements, if granted by the Board of Tax Appeals, will go back to 1995 and ’96 actions and not go forward for ten years. So, just ratifying and confirming what you previously have done.

I’d be available to answer any questions that you may have now, or at the conclusion of the public hearing.”

Chair McGinn said, “Are there any questions for Joe right now? Thank you, Joe. If not, I’ll open the public hearing. If there is anyone here today that would like to speak to this item, please come forward. Anyone here today that would like to speak to this item? I don’t see anybody today.”

Mr. Norton said, “Then I think it would be appropriate to close the public hearing and we would recommend your adoption of the resolution as I outlined before.”
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Chair McGinn said, “Close the public hearing and leave comment to the Bench. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. I’d like to ask Andy Bias a question, if he’d come to the podium. Welcome, Andy. It’s certainly good to have you back in our chamber and it appears that you’re doing a great work with Mennonite Housing. I guess my only question would just be confirmation of the information that Joe has given us and that’s the position of you and your board of directors that we need to just redo this issue and you and your board are in agreement with what we’re about to do today.”

Mr. Andy Bias, President, Mennonite Housing, said, “Oh, absolutely. We’re encouraged with the prospects of all of the facilities that have been mentioned. It’s critical for abatements to be in place to help with affordability, so that we can maintain the excellence that’s there. So, I would encourage you to support that.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well, if I remember correctly, I think you were a part of this Board when we did a couple of these projects. You were very instrumental in making sure that these projects moved forward and were completed from this end. We’re pleased now that you’re in a position where you can continue to serve this community. We certainly want you to know that I’m certainly going to be supportive, as I’m sure all the other Commissioners are, to get this minor problem corrected today. But it’s certainly good to have you in our chambers today.”

Mr. Bias said, “Thank you.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thanks, Andy, for being here. Commissioners, any other questions or comments on this item?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

Commissioner Betsy Gwin  Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton  Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you. Thanks for being here today, Andy. Next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

F. PRESENTATION REGARDING READY TO RESPOND PROGRAM.

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “At your instruction and direction, several weeks ago we began to put together a program that was to review our current policies and procedures and to prepare citizens for natural and un-natural, or terrorist attacks and we’ve done that.

This is a two-headed program and although it says ‘Ready to Respond’ that’s only a piece of it. I’d like to talk about the entire program and finish with the ‘Ready to Respond’ specifically. As I indicated, this is a two-headed approach. The first action is ‘What are we going to do as a government?’ How are we going to protect these buildings and our employees and how do we connect with other governments to make sure that people are aware of the current situation, prepared to act. One of the overriding philosophies of this entire exercise is that preparedness is prevention. There was a sign that I saw at a FEMA office that said that and it seemed to me to make a great deal of sense.

So, what is it we’re doing and what is it we’re about to do? We’ve had an evacuation drill in this building. We’ve learned lots of lessons from that. You will have on your agenda, later today, an item that will talk about the new policies about evacuation. It’s not only this building, but we will have drills and exercises in the other buildings that we operate and we think that will be helpful to our employees.

Secondly, we have our EMS folks, our Fire, our Sheriff in training in awareness program about this whole new world since September 11th. In next month, we will be dealing with the school districts around the County and then again in January we will have a school security planning program where executives from school districts will work with our Emergency Management folks so that they’ll have school security issues in place: when to evacuate, when not to evacuate, how to make
schools secure. This program began about six months ago, through the office of FEMA and our Emergency Management office and now we’re finding it even more critical than we did before.

Currently, the Health Department, as you are aware, Sedgwick County sponsored about a year and a half ago us receiving a grant from the federal government and the state to begin this whole issue of studying weapons of mass destruction and as we heard in yesterday’s briefing and as we’ve heard several times in briefings from this podium, that it’s not just about weapons of mass destruction, but it’s about being prepared for what-if would happen. What if a tanker car full of chlorine would fall over beside St. Francis Hospital, those kinds of issues. The same learning, the same practice, the same procedures and the same preparation for weapons of mass destruction would be in place for that activity.

We know that Dr. Magruder is working closely with the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta and is there currently. We have done a number of training and workshops with hospitals and physicians about learning about what procedures and policies need to be in place for handling laws, large mass casualties of various kinds. We know that drugs, pharmaceuticals will be here in a few weeks that will be able to protect this entire county. There’s plenty of drugs to protect pockets of the county, but for the entire county and we’ll provide ability to do that for Anthrax and some other things for a period of 48 hours. The plan is, if there would be a mass difficulty, with Anthrax or others, that if you had enough Prophylaxis, and we’re learning a new word, a new vocabulary, enough of these drugs for 48 hours, certainly there would be an opportunity to get other drugs from other cities and other communities within that period of time.

There’s a plan for distributing these pharmaceuticals and it’s going to depend upon whether it’s a contagious or non-contagious disease and how we would do . . . if it’s a contagious disease you don’t want people gathering at a place. You want to distribute them some other way and those plans are detailed and in place. If it’s a non-contagious disease, it will be done through health stations and it will be done through public buildings in some of the smaller communities.

So, we continue to plan. We continue to practice what we’re planning and we continue to prevent disasters, natural disasters in this community and we will continue to report on those activities to you.

The Ready to Respond program is a piece of the second head. The one we talked about was government and what we’re doing with other governments and we are talking to school districts and we’re going to train folks in other communities, other police departments and fire departments and
we’ll begin assisting in those. The other is how do we engage communities, how do we engage citizens in this process and what is it that they need to know. And so, less than two weeks ago, Carolyn McGinn, you launched a program of Ready to Respond. And Saturday was the first activity that we had with that program. And you know that sixty-some folks showed up at that event. It was held at the Magdalen school and you’re certainly welcome to comment on that. You’ll also note, for the public, that we have printed these and we will continue printing these, it’s the checklist of eleven things that you need to do in your home. We have a checklist of eleven items that need to be . . . that we think citizens need to be prepared to deal with and we are prepared to talk about that on the eleventh of every month.

The next training program is tomorrow evening in Haysville and people can call our Emergency Management number and I don’t have that. Someone here has it. 383-7546 and if you need to find out information about that training program, or other training programs that will be offered, please call there. This program is for Sunday school groups, neighborhood groups, community groups, citizens who are concerned and we’re going to have several different sessions. One would be for neighborhood watch groups or civic groups. If you are a citizen who is just concerned and want to do this on your own and don’t have a group to attend, call our office at 383-7546 and we’ll hook you up with a training group close to your house. Again, we’re going pretty rapidly. This program is less than two weeks old. The next one is Thursday night and if you want additional information about what’s happening, we’ll also have it on our website, www.sedgwickcounty and you can find it right there.

The other part of Ready to Respond is going to be with the Chamber of Commerce and businesses and we’ve not started that yet but they have a vital . . . and that will be started within a matter of weeks. They play a vital role in this process. We want to make sure that companies have evacuation plans, know exactly how to deal with these sorts of issues. And we’ll be training which ever companies would like to receive that training.

So, we are proceeding with those activities, governmental activities. We’re proceeding with training community folks. We’re proceeding with train the trainers. We’re proceeding with training school folks about security issues. I was not at the Ready to Respond training Saturday but it was apparently a relatively successful event. Our intensions would be to report to you, from time to time, on these activities. Thank you.”

Chair McGinn said, “Okay, thank you, Bill. And I want to thank you, and staff, and I know Communications, Kristi’s department has worked these last few weeks very hard in putting this
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material together.

Yesterday, we had an opportunity to meet with the school board and the City of Wichita officials and share a little bit about this program and I thought we had some very good discussion. I think, in order for this program to be successful, we’re going to have to work with our other community professionals in EMS and in police and fire. And that’s just going to make us better, as we go on down the road.

Glad to hear the comments about working with the school districts. As we were talking to Winston Brooks, you talk about those large populations that are in class and ‘duck and cover’ . . . but, I mean, that’s what we learned back then and today it’s a new day. We’re dealing with different kinds of things and one of the things that came up is sometimes parents need to know, don’t go get your kids. The school has a plan. We need to know whether we evacuate or do we stay put. And seeing Dr. Beggs in our audience today just made me think, I think we need to extend that even further to our universities, who have large populations in schools too. So, I think we can add that to our list of who to work with.

But overall, I felt like we do have a handle on this. As we go down and practice, just like anything, perfection is not something that we can always seek to get to. We’re going to see little flaws or something that we need to tweek and make better. For instance, we found out the speakers in here don’t work. I sometimes think that was by design but hopefully somebody will yell at us to leave.

But anyway, again, I want to compliment you and staff because I know, since we made this announcement, you have worked very hard to get these materials put together and to get out to the schools, organizations and I know we’re going to continue to have more meetings and I certainly invite neighborhood groups, civic groups to call that number to set up an appointment.

The other thing, this information, I think you kind of alluded to it. A lot of the materials that Communications has put together and Randy’s department as well, Emergency Management, is on the Internet, sedgwickcounty.org. So, they can pull them off that way. If you don’t have a computer, call the 383-7546 number, correct? And then we can mail that information to them. Okay. Commissioner Sciortino.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Thank you, Madam Chair. Bill, just one thing to clarify, that number, 383-7546, that’s Emergency Management. Now, let’s just project farther. We’re in the middle of a crisis, of a disaster that has occurred, whatever it might be and instead of calling 911,
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they don’t know what they should do. Is this the number they should call, maybe as the first step clearing house and then they could be directed as to another number? What would be the initial thing?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “We would hope that people wouldn’t call. We would hope that we would have in place systems where television and radio and that’s why it’s important, always in your personal disaster kit, to have a portable radio that doesn’t require electricity. We think there’s ways to override the cable system, there’s ways to get in touch with the other media and we would hope that people would pay attention to that and get information that way, rather than calling.

Those lines are often used to call other agencies, state and federal, for assistance and information gathering. So, citizens, to obtain information, we would suggest using the media.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, so basically, what we’re saying if you’re in the middle of a crisis, turn on your portable radio. If the electricity’s working, turn on your TV or what have you and that’s how we’re going to get the information out to them.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Yes, sir.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, I am very . . . and I want to compliment our Chairman too because it was her leadership, I think, that got us started thinking about this and we were . . . the initial reasoning for getting behind it was the September 11th crisis and I want to paraphrase something that Commissioner Norton said last week. It’s better to be prepared and not need to respond than to need to respond and not be prepared. And I think this is a tremendous first step and I think it will be an evolving thing that will just get better and better as we go along. And I think the citizens, with training, will feel more empowered because now there is something they can do to be prepared to protect themselves, instead of being overwhelmed by it. So, I just congratulate our Chairman and staff and the County in general for just taking this leadership role in the community to try to make it a safer place to live. Thank you.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, Commissioner Sciortino. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. I too agree that we’re headed down the right direction, though after yesterday’s meeting I was a bit more confused on some areas than I had some clarification. And on the Health Department and what they’re actually doing and their plan they’re putting together. So, I’m at a point where I’m not sure how much detail I need to have but I know I need to have more detail than I’ve got now about what it all is that the Health Department is doing and along with this transition of the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County and governance of the Health Department. So, I don’t think we need to do that today but I think, some time, somehow we
need to get back with pretty much a clarification of some of the confusion that I got yesterday from the brief report and it wasn’t a detailed report. It was just very, very brief comments on what some of the things that they’re doing, but somehow we need to either have a regular and continuing response, information from the Health Department because I know I’m not clear on what they’re doing.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “If I can take less than a minute. Health Department and the weapons of mass destruction is about the health care end of that business. Are hospitals and physicians ready to deal with those issues? That’s their primary concern and the distribution of health care, medicines and drugs. Emergency Management is involved . . . that’s a piece of what’s happening with Emergency Management. Emergency Management is still the umbrella agency of how we’re going to deal with citizens in crisis. The health care is part of that, putting out fires, making sure that bridges are safe, getting rid of garbage, getting rid of chemical waste, all that is part of Emergency Management.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Where is the Health Department and their preparation of their plan that will allow us then to fit into the federal system to be available for distribution of antibiotics and all of that?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “The federal plan required those . . . the original contract required all that information to be ready to rock and roll in March of 2002. We’ve had a meeting with Charlie Magruder who said that’s unacceptable. Plan is in place now. Some of the details are still being worked on but if there were a large biological catastrophe in this county now, we think we have sufficient pharmaceuticals to deal with it and could be obtained readily. We will have our own stockpile by the middle of next month and there’s a distribution plan ready to go. So, we’ve moved it up. We haven’t dotted all the ‘i’s and crossed all the ‘t’s but I’m sufficiently confident that the Health Department has done enough work and thought through some of the issues and we will continue to work on that, Commissioner, in the next several weeks. But I’m sufficiently confident that there are plans in place that could be implemented in two minutes that would make sense and deliver services.”

Commissioner Winters said, “And that’s what we refer to as our Metropolitan Medical Response Plan?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Yes, sir.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay. Well, once that all gets finalized, I think we need to have a
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briefing or a background on what all that plan says."

Mr. Buchanan said, “Absolutely. What is occurring is a very logical, slow-paced process and procedure that is all going to be ready to be pre-packaged in March of 2002. September 11th changed that. We are moving up the schedules, forgetting some of the bureaucratic niceties and making sure plans are in place, whether they’re approved or not by the feds, so that this community can be served.”

Commissioner Winters said, “All right, thank you. That’s helpful. Thank you, Madam Chair.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Thank you. Well, I’m not particularly a Chicken Little, the sky is falling, but it is imperative that the community understands that this is important stuff. I mean, they may not want to come to County Commission meetings. They may not want to... they may want to dodge meetings about trash and planning, but this is going to effect everybody’s lives and it will for many, many years and I would urge everybody to come to Haysville sooner than later. You know, don’t wait for six months from now to try to make it to a meeting. Come now, be prepared, understand, be connected because this is pretty important stuff and it’s not going to go away any time soon.

So, if this is a harsh advertisement to mobilize people, sixty people is not enough to make it to these meetings. We need to have hundreds of people that represent, not only their families, but the communities to go back out to their churches and say, you know I sat in a meeting and I understood that I learned five or six things that I didn’t know and now our church needs to do it, now our civic group needs to do it, now you need to mobilize Ready to Respond to come out to the community and run meetings for us and not just show up at some other time. Time is running out on this issue and everybody needs to be prepared and have really good knowledge of what to do. Now, is that Chicken Little, I don’t know, but I’ve been watching the news every day and there’s some pretty scary things happening out there and if we think we’re insulated in Wichita, U.S.A I think we’re sorely wrong. Hasn’t happened yet, and hopefully I pray that it never happens, but better to be prepared and have knowledge and connectedness and phone numbers and a disaster kit and a plan for your family than to be caught short. So, I’m 100% behind this. I think we need to have the community rally and take this serious. You know, it’s a Thursday night meeting. It lasts for a couple of hours and I think people need to be carving out that time to take this threat, nationally very, very seriously. Thanks.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you. Commissioner Gwin.”
Commissioner Gwin said, “Just real quickly, yesterday when some of this discussion came up, the comment was made ‘Well, we don’t want to cause a panic. We don’t want to panic people’ and my response was ‘Well, I think people are afraid of what they don’t know’. And these classes are, in my opinion, the way to teach things that maybe we’ve not thought of before and the old expression that knowledge is power, I think, is very important here. That I’m afraid of what I don’t know, what I don’t understand and in these sessions I have experts, I have folks from Emergency Management and Fire and COMCARE and others to help lead me through the nuances of the way the world is today. And being in that class Saturday, like others, I learned things I didn’t know and I do feel more confident that I can be better prepared now. So, and again, in response to you, I don’t think this is to panic people but it is to let them know that there’s information out there and the more you learn, the more powerful you are and the better you are prepared to protect you and your family and your co-workers and your neighbors. So, I too encourage folks to be a part of this learning process, because we will all be the better for it.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “And Commissioner, in our meeting yesterday, one of the mental health professional expressed that sentiment exactly. Anxiety levels are high and one of the reasons some of the anxiety levels are high is because people need more information. And the more information they have, we will be better served.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Exactly. Thank you, Madam Chair.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you, Madam Chair. Well, just to piggy-back on what Commissioner Gwin said, this Ready to Respond while it’s granted that September 11th was the stimulus to get us started thinking about it a little bit quicker, a lot of what I heard can be used in any type of emergency, a tornado, an inland hurricane, a chemical spill because a train got derailed. And some of the things that we’re suggesting, like that kit, like I wouldn’t have thought about a portable radio, because I’m always used to flipping a switch and it works but to have that. One of us suggested that perhaps maybe you also include the family pet and some things that you have to do for that. So, it isn’t just about Anthrax or biological things. A lot of it is just common sense procedures that you can be educated on, on how to better deal with any emergency that may come
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your way.

And I hope the public really takes it to heart, because I do agree with my colleagues. The more knowledge you have the less suspicions you can have about things. You know, like going to the doctor and getting your physical. Then you realize that maybe what you thought you had was something less than what you suspected it would be. So, I hope the public will attend these meetings. We were all there Saturday and I think I saw sixty or seventy people, which is pretty good for a small meeting and I intend to be with Tim, even though he’s not going to serve any food, in Haysville and hope that the people in that area will come and attend that meeting too. Thank you.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you. Again, I just want to say thank you for all the extra work that you’ve done, and your staff and Communications. Commissioner Sciortino made the comment that Tim did last week about it’s better to be prepared and not need somebody and it made me think of Randy Duncan again. And that’s what Randy does all the time is think about how to be prepared and, as our society changes and different things, challenges come to us. That’s Randy’s job to do that year round and so we’re glad that we have him on staff.

The other thing I just wanted to briefly share was last week Commissioner Winters and I had the opportunity to go to a SWANA waste convention and learn about long-term disposal options for solid waste. While we were there, we had a chance to visit with our congressman, the political affairs from the Bush administration, the communications from the Bush administration and the Pentagon. And what was interesting in all those conversations was we need to go talk to local government or we need to get that message to local government because, even though at the federal level they’re starting, at the state they’re starting, it’s the local folks that respond first. It was nice to be able to share with them that Sedgwick County had already begun the process and they were very impressed and glad to hear that. And we’re sending them information and so, hopefully what we’re doing here in Sedgwick County can be dispersed all over the nation to help other counties to get to that level as well. So, again, thank you.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Receive and file.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.
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There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin      Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton       Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters   Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino    Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn          Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

G. RESOLUTION APPROVING WICHITA PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION REFUNDING REVENUE BONDS FOR WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY PROJECTS.

Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer, Division of Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, “As you know, the County levies a property tax of 1 ½ mills specifically for the benefit of Wichita State University. In 1992, the Board of Commissioners approved a resolution dedicating a portion of the proceeds of that tax to the repayment of bonds to be issued by the Wichita Public Building Commission in that year. Those bonds refunded prior debt that had been issued for W.S.U. and they also were used principally to construct the Elliott School of Communications.

In 1996, the Board of Commissioners approved a second resolution committing the proceeds of the 1 ½ mill tax levy to the repayment of debt and that debt was issued by the Wichita Public Building Commission in 1997 to pay for improvements to Cessna Stadium. Because of conditions in the financial markets these days, Wichita State is in a position where they can obtain debt service savings, they can reduce their debt service costs by refunding those two bond issues. So, they have requested the Wichita Public Building Commission to issue refunding bonds in the amount of not more than $18,000,000 to do that.

The item that’s before you today is a resolution that, once again, dedicates a portion of the proceeds of the 1 ½ mill tax levy to the repayment of those refunding bonds. The original debt, both the 1992 debt and the 1997 debt, has a final maturity date in 2017. The proposed refunding bonds to be issued this year that would take that debt out also has a final maturity of 2017. So, by this action, you’re not committing yourself to a levy of that 1 ½ mill tax for longer than has already been committed and as long as the tax is pledged to debt service, of course it would be difficult if not impossible for you to eliminate that special tax levy.
The refunding bonds will generate debt service savings in an amount of approximately $50,000 a year for Wichita State University. That is money that, in the budget that you adopt each year for that special tax levy, will be used for things other than debt service, for current services at the university. In addition, the structure of the debt is such that approximately $765,000 of immediate savings will be made available to Wichita State University. And later on in your agenda today, on the consent agenda, you have a budget adjustment for the W.S.U. mill levy budget that transfers the $765,000 of current-year debt service to other lines to allow Wichita State to use that money for ongoing projects and what Wichita State plans to do with that $765,000 are four things. They intend to provide partial support for reconfiguration of Cessna Stadium and for replacement of the track at Cessna Stadium. They plan to do some renovations at the corner of 17th and Hillside, including remodeling a former fraternity house on that corner that has been given to the university. They plan to purchase properties in the area immediately surrounding Wichita State University that can be assets to both the university and to the city and, finally, they plan in the next several years to construct a new welcome center at the corner of Belmont and 21st Street. And so the $765,000 of immediate savings will be used for those four project activities.

Once again, the item that’s before you is a resolution designating the use of a portion of that special 1 ½ mill tax levy to the repayment of these proposed refunding bonds. Unlike the caption on this agenda item, you are not approving the issuance of the debt. That is not your action to take. That is the Wichita Public Building Commission’s action. In the room today, we have a number of people who can answer questions, if you have any. We have Don Beggs, the president of the university, who can speak to you about the projects that the university plans to undertake. We have Chuck Bouly, who represents George K. Baum and Associates who is the underwriter on this deal. Joe Norton is in the room and on this transaction, he is George K. Baum’s attorney, the underwriter’s counsel and is representing them on this deal and we have Winton Hinkle in the room and he is the bond counsel for the Wichita Public Building Commission and both Joe and Winton can speak to you about the structure of the deal if you have any questions about that. I’ll be glad to answer any questions other than those areas, if there are any. And if you have no questions, I recommend your approval of the resolution before you.”

Chair McGinn said, “Okay, thank you, Chris. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thanks. Chris, explain to me again, you said that the refunding, refinance . . . I guess refunding is the legitimate term, of these bonds to get lower interest rates would generate about $50,000 a year in savings?”

Mr. Chronis said, “Yes.”
Commissioner Sciortino said, “What’s the $765,000 windfall? What is that?”

Mr. Chronis said, “The way the refunding bonds are being structured, there is an aggregate amount of savings over the life of the bonds and by placing bond maturities in particular years, you can claim more or less of the savings at a particular point, over the life of the bonds. These bonds have been structured in a way that allows the university to claim much of the savings immediately and then a smaller amount annually over the remaining life of the bonds.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “So, it will be $765,000 immediately and then $50,000 a year, over the life of the bond?”

Mr. Chronis said, “That’s correct.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay. Could these monies be used to reduce the principle of these bonds so that they could be paid off quicker and thereby saving taxpayers some dollars?”

Mr. Chronis said, “That’s a question for counsel, I believe, or for Chuck.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I mean, legally, can that be done?”

Mr. Norton said, “I’ll take a shot at it. What’s legal and what’s practical sometimes don’t often work together well. In order to refund the outstanding debt, there has to be enough principle-amount of bonds to provide money to pay off that debt, when they’re callable. And so the size of the issue is probably not going to materially change, one way or the other. How the repayment of that debt goes, there is some flexibility there, and as Chris indicated, what the university board of trustees would like to do is to structure that debt to where there is, in essence, a window of debt reduction in the upcoming year, to allow the money that would otherwise normally be used to pay debt service on the existing issue to be freed up to be used for other capital projects which Chris has identified.

It’s just like if you had your home mortgage, where you’re paying ‘x’ number of dollars a month now and you had it restructured to where those payments were cut in half next year, but restore it back up to where they were, with a slight savings, the year after that you have that extra cash flow that you would normally use to pay your mortgage available to do other things with. And that’s what they’re talking about here.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Is the restructuring to get that flexibility in payments or to get lower interest rates?”

Mr. Norton said, “Both. The interest rates are lower now than they are in the outstanding debt.
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Because of that, the debt service has been reduced where there’s some opportunities . . . I don’t know what the numbers actually are. Instead of saving $70,000 a year, over the next 17 years, you save $50,000 for 16 years and get a much lower debt service in the upcoming year. What that allows them to do is to have that windfall, as you call it, in debt service requirements to pay cash for certain capital projects, as opposed to having to borrow more money to pay those capital projects. So, I’m not sure your description of lowering taxpayer dollars is really accurate, because they’re paying cash for things they might otherwise have to borrow for.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, I don’t want to belabor but are you saying that the university is borrowing money to pay . . . to service the bonds? Is that how they’re doing it now?”

Mr. Norton said, “It’s just like if you were going to retire one mortgage, you go borrow money from another company to pay off your existing mortgage. That’s how the refunding bond works.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I mean, the ongoing monthly or quarterly or annually payments that are made to service the debt. They’re not borrowing money to pay that debt. That’s coming out of their general fund or however they have it structured.”

Mr. Norton said, “It’s coming out of a variety of monies, including a portion of the 1 ½ mill levy we’re talking about too.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “So, my question is if you got ready to refinance debt to get a lower interest rate but you were paying ‘x’ number of dollars to refinance the debt, could you use that difference in money to reduce the debt so maybe it pays off in 2015 instead of 2017? Can that be . . . ?”

Mr. Norton said, “It is conceivable to have that happen but we can’t lower the principle amount of the new borrowing, because we have to have that full amount of money to pay off the old bond issue, or the old mortgage, as it were. How you structure the repayments, you know, could you have shortened the debt by a portion of a year and paid the same amount you’re paying now. That’s a possible way to do it but then you save money 16 years from now, as opposed to freeing up debt service in the upcoming year and using that money to make capital projects that you’re paying for now, as opposed to waiting and taking the inflation on the capital projects.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I think I’m slowly getting my hands around it. By doing it the way we’re saying it, we’re freeing up the university from the need to go borrow money to handle these other projects that they’re going to use.”

Mr. Norton said, “That’s right. Money that would otherwise be used for debt service payments, currently in the upcoming year, will now be used to pay cash for certain projects in the lieu of
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borrowing money for that.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “I got it. Thank you.”

**Chair McGinn** said, “Commissioner Winters.”

**Commissioner Winters** said, “Thank you. Well, I was just going to follow up and, Commissioner, I see exactly where I think you were headed. But we’re not talking about changing the amount of the mill levy here. The mill levy is 1.5 mill and if they have figured out and determined a way to get a lot more bang for that buck on this refinancing of this debt issue, then I’m going to be very supportive. If we were talking about well we need to lower or if it was county borrowing that we were doing, then we would be absolutely trying to get the lowest mill levy rate we could. But we’re not talking about changing the mill levy rate here, so I think this is just a way that they’ve determined how to really get some more bang out of this buck. But I see exactly where you’re going and I think that’s a valid point to discuss. Thank you, Madam Chair.”

**Chair McGinn** said, “Commissioner Gwin.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Just real quickly, Dr. Beggs, could I get some information from you about the new projects that you’d like to do here?”

**Dr. Donald Beggs,** President, Wichita State University, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Yes, the four and they really are given in priority order, they were given in priority order because what’s important to us is we need to finish off Cessna. That’s an economic development issue that came in higher than we had originally expected and this will allow us to finish that off this year. We have an important commitment that’s being made to increase the number of participants in a May event here in Sedgwick County, what we believe now is going to be on at least a ten-year basis commitment.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “And you need an additional lane in that track.”

**Dr. Beggs** said, “That’s what this is about. That’s what this is about and in having to take off the five rows, with respect to Cessna, there had to be some extra work with respect to the structure part and I’m about over my head in terms of what I’m saying about it. So, that’s our highest priority.

Our second commitment has to do with a discussion I’ve had with the Commission over the three years that I’ve been here. And that’s our ability to deal with facilities surrounding the campus and
improving those facilities and being an asset to the neighborhood and we have an opportunity with the former ATO house that has been given, actually, to the Board of Trustees and what we’re going to be able to do, in that area, is merge some of these dollars with Crumbling Classroom dollars, we’re actually leveraging dollars here, to allow us to do this project now to enhance that facility so all of our support services for international students can be moved into one place and free up other room within the campus because we’re really starting to get pressed and some of our research areas need to have space. So, that’s our second priority.

Our third priority deals with our ongoing effort to continue to monitor the availability of space around our campus for the purpose . . . of course, we always look to 21st Street as what has really happened in the previous decade and so we will constantly be watching for that kind of space because, as I say, we are in a bind with respect to space that we’re trying to work with. As we’re working with the aviation industry right now, in terms of more research areas. We literally have to be careful with how we use that space. So, that third area is an area we’ve discussed with you, over a period of time, and I can’t specifically point to any one thing, because the availability of space may not be there but, in reality, we have three sides that we look at with respect to the campus. We don’t necessarily look to the north but we look to the other directions.

The fourth area is something that, in looking at this opportunity, as dollars are available and I personally treat this as residual. We are starting a fund raising campaign with respect to the welcome center because that’s the next priority in our activities, it’s a part of working with the city and the county as we have the new area in Belmont, the new entrance area to the campus, a new area all the way around. And as dollars are available, I want to put those in those funds, so that we won’t have to be coming back and asking for additional dollars for that activity. We need the up-front dollars. You have the up-front dollar, I’d really appreciate the comments here. The up-front dollar allows us not to have to borrow and that’s literally what this allows us to do. And this allows us to clean up several projects, given the change with respect to the financial scene right now. So, this is very deliberate, follows exactly the plan that we’ve been presenting to the board of trustees, the city, the county, the board of regents. Literally, it’s allowing us to move those next levels, in terms of defining our priorities.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Okay, thank you, Doctor. I appreciate it.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, Doctor.”

Dr. Beggs said, “Can I add one thing? I chose not to come up when you were talking about disaster or crisis management. When I came here, three years ago, I meet monthly with the county manager, the city manager and the superintendent of schools and we talk about what’s going on in our entities. And in my second meeting here, there was a discussion about a simulation with respect to
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crisis management. The reason why I’m saying this, I want you all to know about what you already have in place that is unique. And we weren’t discussing Wichita State participating in that and so I thought well I’d better go back and find out what we have and I found out that our crisis management plan was call the police. And so, as a result of the county’s leadership, we have spent the last 18 months putting in place a crisis management plan in the general context. In my home near the phone, in my office and you were talking about different modes of communication, cell phone has really created a very different component of my plan and you should take pride in what you have here and the leadership. What you mentioned that you saw at a professional meeting, I can testify to that right here, in terms of what it has caused us to do and, as was pointed out, whether it’s a natural disaster, whether it’s a plane accident, whatever it may be, we now have plans with the city and the county and the school district as to who’s the backup for who, who do we make contact with. And so, I know I’m jumping back to your other topic, but I can’t help but compliment the County Commission in terms of what you have here.”

Chair McGinn said, “Well, thank you for your comments. I appreciate knowing that from you very much. So, I have a question and then a comment on the May event. That’s the big track meet and I thought I heard somewhere, I mean, this is one of the largest kinds of track meets in the nation.”

Dr. Beggs said, “Yes, it is the largest track meet held in the United States because all divisions participate at the same time and what adding the eighth lane actually provides about 1,200 slots in the prelims for the state track meet. Now, some of these athletes, someone who qualifies in the 100 and the 200, we can expect anywhere from 500 to probably 800 more participants into that event. And if you’ve tried to get hotel rooms, accommodations during that time period, we’re full in Sedgwick County, with respect to that activity.”

Chair McGinn said, “That is quite an economic boon to our community.”

Dr. Beggs said, “It is. It was reported in the Wichita Business Journal, in terms of an ongoing event, as the event that brings in the most individuals consistently, year after year. And we were talking with the Kansas High School Athletic Association about the continuance of this with the seven lanes. That’s just what we’re doing now. Then this will also allow us to now open up to other events that we have a history of having in Wichita that we’ve lost, for one reason or another. And now that we have the facility, there’s a change that’s happening with respect to the NCAA
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about going to regional qualifying events and this will allow us to compete for that, by having the eighth lane. So, we very much have addressed this as an economic development issue, because this is available to the community. This is available to the region and so, this is an important event for us.”

Chair McGinn said, “Well, I think it’s great. I mean, you know, it was built for football and track and you’re finding other uses for it and, I mean, that’s just a wonderful thing to have that many people come to our community and to have facilities and your vision to make sure those facilities are up to the standards that people want to have. So, I commend you for that.

And then the second thing, I just wanted to share, I had the opportunity to go to the McKinley Hall opening and you had mentioned the Crumbling Classrooms. It will give you the opportunity to leverage that and that’s a state program and what you did to that building is just remarkable. I had a chance to walk through there and I was a student there once before and it just really looks great and I think it’s really going to help bring other students through W.S.U. in that field.”

Dr. Beggs said, “Yes, and again, that’s something else we share with the community and as we get more and more concerned about chemical issues and so forth, the importance of having researchers pursuing this and now we have room to do that, as well as safe room to do that in.”

Chair McGinn said, “Well, thank you for being here today. All right, Commissioners, are there any other questions or comments?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye
Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

H. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FAIR MARKET RENTS APPLICABLE TO SECTION 8 TENANT RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Mr. Brad Snapp, Housing Director, Housing Office, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This morning you have before you a resolution, or a request to approve a resolution to establish HUD Section 8, 2002 rents for fair market rents. HUD publishes these rents every October, at the beginning of their federal fiscal year and I, in turn, come to you every year seeking the new resolution.

The Section 8 Rental Assistance Program, the landlords who participate in the Section 8 Program must adhere to these rents but most of the rents in our area of Sedgwick, Butler and Harvey County, outside the city limits of Wichita, fall below these rents but one other safeguard for the tenant is that we have to do a reasonable rent survey so that they’re not trying to gouge anybody.

The 2002 rents are actually about average $50 a month higher per bedroom unit and that may cause us some concern, as far as meeting the number of vouchers and the assistance that we pay but, right now as of October 1, we’re at 97% utilization of our 318 vouchers. So, it’s an ebb and flow. If you have any question, I’ll try to answer them.”

Chair McGinn said, “All right, are there any questions for Brad? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

Commissioner Betsy Gwin        Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton         Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters     Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino      Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn            Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, Brad. Next item please.”

I. DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

1. RESOLUTION ADOPTING A REVISED COURTHOUSE COMPLEX EVACUATION PLAN POLICY.

Mr. Randy Duncan, Director, Emergency Management Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m coming before you today to ask your consideration of a newly revised policy regarding evacuation for the courthouse complex. We have been working on this for some period of time and a committee was put together of the relevant stakeholders and department heads. This policy that you see represents a consensus of that group.

One of the things I’d like to point out is I think I would like you all to be aware that we have simplified the provisions of this policy quite considerably. Our original policy was about 27 pages in length. This one is about 1/3 of that and we think it’s a much better policy, for being shorter, clearer and to the point.

We think we have incorporated the lessons we have learned with our practice on October 11th and I would be happy to stand, at this point in time, for any questions you might have regarding the policy.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, are there any questions for Randy?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Just one. I would assume that this becomes a living, breathing document that, as we get more evidence of how we handle these and new protocols, that we’ll continue to expand and contract this as we go along and not wait two or three years to revisit it, but that it would be ongoing.”

Mr. Duncan said, “Yes, sir. We’ll have an ongoing assessment of the situation anytime there is sufficient change to warrant the changing of the policy. Again, we’ll bring it to the Board of County Commissioners for your consideration.”
Chair McGinn said, “Good comment, Commissioner Norton. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “And Randy, will the employees then, once it’s adopted now, will it come down to department heads? Will there be meetings with staff, with employees and expose this new plan to them so they know what’s going on?”

Mr. Duncan said, “Yes, sir. That’s exactly right. After you all, assuming that the plan meets your consideration and you adopt it today, in terms of implementing the plan we’ll begin identifying and filling in the gaps in our floor captain system and we’ll begin training for those who have been in that position in the past and we’ll update them with regard to the new plan.”

Chair McGinn said, “Okay, all right.”

Mr. Duncan said, “Commissioners, if you have no further questions, I would request that you consider adopting this revised policy and executing the attached enabiling resolution to make this a part of the policies officially published in the green book.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”
2. APPLICATION TO KANSAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR 2002.

Mr. Duncan said, “This time to talk with you about an action that we undertake on an annual basis, which is participating in the state and local assistance, or SLA grant. This money originates with the congress as a part of FEMA’s budget and gets passed down through to the state level through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management. Then at the local level, counties, which is where Emergency Management Authority in Kansas is vested at, then make application to participate in the program.

Sedgwick County has participated in this program for a number of years, at least as far back as I can trace at least through the mid 1970s. This year we’ll generate approximately $40,000 in reimbursements for expenses that the program incurs and you all know that we spend a lot more than that but at least we are getting some of that money reimbursed to us. I’ll be happy to stand for any questions regarding this, but if it meets with the approval of the Commission, I hope that you would authorize the Chair to sign the application.”

Chair McGinn said, “Randy, how many years have we been . . .?”

Mr. Duncan said, “As far back as I can trace, at least through the mid 1970s. In fact, the facility that we’re currently located in, in the basement of this courthouse, was partially funded through monies from that program in the mid-70s when it was originally put together.”

Chair McGinn said, “Okay, thank you. Are there any other questions for Randy?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Application and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
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Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

3. AGREEMENTS (TWO) WITH CINGULAR WIRELESS AND VOICESTREAM FOR NONDISCLOSURE RELATED TO WIRELESS SERVICE FOR 911 CALLERS.

Ms. Diane Gage, Director, Emergency Communications Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I have two more non-disclosure agreements. I believe we signed two about a month ago, as we’re moving through implementing phase one into our enhanced 911 system. This one is with Cingular and Voicestream. Basically, it’s pretty much the same as the last two. We just agree to not share their trade secrets with anyone outside this organization that doesn’t need to know. Primarily, the counts on the number of towers they have and the number of customers they have is the basic thing that we’ll be working with on these. I’ll be happy to answer any questions.”

Chair McGinn said, “Are there any questions for Diane?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Agreements and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin  Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton  Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
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Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Thanks, Diane. Next item.”

J. CONTRACT WITH WILLIAM C. AND ERNESTINE DAVISON FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED AT 600 EAST CENTRAL FOR WORK RELATED TO REMODEL OF CORRECTIONS’ ADULT RESIDENTIAL FACILITY. CIP# 1999 PB-409.

Ms. Stephanie Knebel, Manager, Facility Project Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This agenda item in front of you today requests approval for purchasing the final piece of property needed to complete the relocation of our Adult Residential Facility. Previously, I have presented two other purchase agreements for your approval. This is the final one. As a reminder, this property is needed to meet parking requirements, as set forth by the City of Wichita. The purchase price is $160,000. That money is available from the project budget. I request your approval and I’m available for questions.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, are there any questions for Stephanie? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, Stephanie. Next item.”

K. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES.

1. AGREEMENT WITH PREFERRED HEALTH CARE INC. PROVIDING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This first item is with Preferred Health Care and this is an insurance carrier and this contract allows them to pay us for services that we provide to folks that they have insured. I’ll be glad to answer any questions.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, are there any questions for Debbie?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

2. AGREEMENT WITH SUMNER MENTAL HEALTH CENTER FOR COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CARE (COMCARE) TO PROVIDE AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY SERVICES THROUGH COMCARE’S CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES PROGRAM.
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Ms. Donaldson said, “Commissioners, this contract with Sumner County Mental Health Center and this provides their after-hours Crisis Services. They pay us $100 per month administrative fee and then $1.00 per minute of time that we spend on the phone or face-to-face with any of the individuals they serve. Be glad to answer any questions. Would recommend your approval.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, are there any questions for Debbie on this item?”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Yes, I guess I have a question. This will be a long-distance call or do we have an 800 number?”

Ms. Donaldson said, “We have a special line there. I believe it’s an 800 number. I’d have to check that but it’s a specialized line, so we know what’s coming in.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Okay, all right. Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.”

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you. If there are no other questions, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye
Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

3. AGREEMENT WITH SAYED S. JEHAN, M.D. TO PROVIDE PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES TO COMCARE CONSUMERS.

Ms. Donaldson said, “Commissioners, this is a renewal of a contract that we’ve had with Dr. Sayed Jehan to provide psychiatric services. He’s paid $90 an hour. He works approximately four hours a week. These are county funds. I’ll be glad to answer any questions.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, are there any questions for Debbie?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

4. CONTRACT WITH HICKOK AND ASSOCIATES, INC. TO PROVIDE LABORATORY CONSULTING SERVICES.

Ms. Donaldson said, “Commissioners, we provide a small lab service that’s important to our adults with a serious mental illness. This particular laboratory provides for actually a pin-prick, in terms of drawing blood, instead of having to go to your practitioner and do a full blood draw, this type of thing and they can check for a serious ailment that can occur with a specific medication. This
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medication is very critical to folks because this is used when many other medications don’t work and we’ve had many people who have talked about feeling like it’s like coming out of a haze or a fog after many years with serious mental illness. So, the medication is important but it’s critical that you monitor that regularly because there’s a small percent of folks that will develop that disorder and you need to catch it early and get them off the medication.

And so this contract with Hickok and Associates is a consulting one, where they actually come in and provide technical support. They calibrate the equipment. They review the quality control records and the maintenance records for us. We pay them $275 a month. I would recommend your approval.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thanks. Debbie, how many individuals would they be seeing on a monthly basis?”

Ms. Donaldson said, “They won’t actually see folks. They will actually come in and look at records and look at the equipment. But we do maintain somewhere over a hundred folks on this particular medication.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “And these have to do with getting a little blood from your finger and taking it. So, it’s about 100 people on that. Okay, thank you.”

Chair McGinn said, “Are there any other questions for Debbie? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
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Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

5. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES TO PROVIDE CERTIFIED MATCH ALLOCATIONS TO SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS.

Ms. Donaldson said, “Commissioners, this is our yearly certified match agreement with the State S.R.S. Department. This allows the state funds that are used to match the federal portion of Medicaid that we receive every year. This particular agreement contains $2,603,987.94 for those purposes. I’ll be glad to answer any questions.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, are there any questions for Debbie?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin  Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton  Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, Debbie. Next item.”

6. AGREEMENT WITH THE WICHITA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, USD 259 TO PROVIDE A GRANT-FUNDED TRUANCY PROGRAM DESIGNED TO INCREASE COMMITMENT TO SCHOOLS.
Ms. Chris Kautzer, Systems Integration Coordinator, Department of Corrections, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Before you is an agreement with Wichita Public Schools, U.S.D. 259, for truancy intervention services in Sedgwick County. During state fiscal year 2002, the Wichita Public School District will track excessive, unexcused absences and they will provide information, referral information to other truancy coalition partners so that students at four targeted middle schools will be able to receive services in a timely manner.

The four targeted schools in this project are Curtis Middle School, Marshall, Pleasant Valley and Hamilton. U.S.D. 259 will also provide supervision for social work students who will work with truant students and the school district has agreed to take steps to try and increase participation in the Communities That Care survey during this current academic year. The school district is just one of the partners involved in this overall truancy effort, under our community funding plan to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Wichita A.C.T.S. on Truancy will continue to serve as the lead agency for this program. Similar to the D.A.’s office, we are contracting separately with the school district. This is the third and final contract for truancy intervention services. One hundred percent of the funds will come from the Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority. I ask that you approve this agreement and authority the Chair to sign and I’ll be happy to address any questions.”

Chair McGinn said, “Chris, I just have a quick question. On the backup material, I notice the pages are blank. Is this to just show us what you’re going to do?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “In which section?”

Chair McGinn said, “It’s the truancy immunization monthly report, I guess.”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Yes, that is a monthly report that they’ll be filling out on a monthly basis. Yes, that’s just the form they use.”

Chair McGinn said, “Okay. I didn’t know if perhaps we’d forgot to put in the numbers or something. Thank you. Any other questions for Chris? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.
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Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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<td>Commissioner Betsy Gwin</td>
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<td>Chair Carolyn McGinn</td>
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Chair McGinn said, “Thank you. Next item.”

7. AGREEMENTS (SEVEN) TO PROVIDE IN-HOME SERVICES TO ASSIST ELDERS TO LIVE SAFELY IN THEIR HOMES AND INDEPENDENTLY IN THE COMMUNITY.

- ASSOCIATED HOMECARE
- HEAVENLY HELPERS, INC.
- HOME HEALTHCARE CONNECTION
- KELLY ASSISTED LIVING
- MEDICALODGE HOME HEALTH
- SAINT RAFAEL HOME CARE
- SENIOR SERVICES

Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The agreements I bring before you today are with seven home health agencies which are our vendors that provide in-home health services, such as homemaker, respite and personal care under Title 3-B of the Older Americans Program. These services are provided to maintain individuals, age 60 and over, in Butler, Sedgwick and Harvey County, in their homes and in the community. The funding for these programs has already been approved within the 2002 budget, as approved by the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners.

The amount of the funding is $194,000, federal funding, which requires an 8 ½ percent match, which is 25,000 and that’s already been approved in the Sedgwick County mill levy budget.
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These vendor agreements indicate the amount of reimbursement that the home health agencies will receive for providing the 3-B in-home services. The rates are $12.00 an hour for homemaker services, $13.00 an hour for attendant care and respite care is $13.00 an hour.

The agencies that we are having the vendor agreements with, the home health agencies are: Associated Homecare, Heavenly Helpers, Home Healthcare Connections, Kelly Assisted Living, Medicalodge Home Health, Saint Rafael Home Care and Senior Service Incorporated. Be happy to answer any questions and would recommend approval.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioners, are there any questions for Annette? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Agreements and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

8. CONTRACTS (14) TO PROVIDE LEVEL I AND LEVEL II CLIENT ASSESSMENT REFERRAL EVALUATIONS FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE SEEKING NURSING HOME PLACEMENT.

LEVEL I

• DORLAN BALES
Ms. Graham said, “These contracts are with individuals and with COMCARE of Sedgwick County to provide assessments for individuals who are seeking nursing home placements, including those individuals diagnosed with a mental illness, a developmental disability or mental retardation. The client assessment referral evaluation, that is an evaluation that’s required by the state for anybody considering entering into a nursing home. So, Kansas Department on Aging contracts with us, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging, to administer the program.

The level I care assessment is the assessment for anybody seeking nursing home admittance and the contract amount for that, for our assessor, is $35.00 as a reimbursement fee, plus mileage. Individuals to be contracted with for this assessment are: Dorlan Bales, Gayle Cloud, Kathryn Coit, Mary Corrigan, Cindy Crangle, Jaylyn Elliott, Norma Fry, Wilma Loganbill, Jody Lujan, Debra McClellen and Aileen Vaughn.

The contract amount for the level II assessment is a different rate. The level II assessment is for anybody who meets the criteria of having a mental illness, a mental retardation diagnosis or developmental disability that requires a level II to determine what their needs are and if they do need a nursing home placement or if there are some specialized services that could be utilized in the community. So, the rate for the level II, for the individual contractors is $110 per assessment and the individuals to be contracted with are: Aileen Vaughn, Irvin Penner and Jaylyn Elliott.
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The contract amount for COMCARE of Sedgwick County for a level II, to have their staff do it, is $250 per assessment. The contract period is for one year, with a month to month continuance, pending a new contract. This program is fully funded through reimbursement from the state at a unit cost per assessment and no county funds are requested for this.

Last year, we did 2,362 care assessments level I and we did 85 level II assessments. I’d be happy to answer any questions and would recommend your approval.”

Chair McGinn said, “Okay. Are there any questions for Annette? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Contracts and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”


POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It’s my pleasure to give you the report on the activities at the Coliseum for the month of September. As you know, September is usually a pretty quite month for us. However, we did have some annual events. The Kansas Junior Livestock Show has always been one of our favorites and actually, that’s one of my favorite pictures. We also do two of our annual horse shows with the Kansas Paint Horse Show and the Kansas Saddle Horse Show. We had over 2,600 people attend those shows, combined.
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But on a more serious note, Commissioners, on September 11th, like it or not, our lives changed. And there are certain things that we have to pay attention to how that quite possibly we haven’t done before. In our industry, which is the arena industry, we have always had a practice, for the last 20 years, of screening entry into the facility. There are certain things that are not permitted: cans, bottles and of course weapons are not to be mentioned. So, we watch for that, especially for concerts. And the reason for concerts is that most of the performance takes place when the lights are out. So, you want to be particularly careful that you’re watching what comes into the facility. These procedures have been in place for 20 years and they’re constantly updated, through our national association. So, we have already been doing that.

One of the things we have instituted is we now utilize hand-held metal detectors on entry into the building, just to be on the safe side. And that is at all the gates and I’ll just show you a little bit of examples for concerts. We’ve had wonderful cooperation from our patrons. They understand the seriousness of the situation and folks who continuously or often attend events or concerts are very much aware of how the procedures work. Unfortunately, it does occasionally result in some delays on entering the building. What we have done is announce, prior to that, please come out earlier. It’s less of a wait if you come in, than to wait till the last minute. This was like five minutes before the show was scheduled to start. People wait until the last minute to come out. We had nice weather. There was really no problem. It worked out very well. Very pleased with the way it’s worked out for us.

But we’ve instructed our people that you always have to be aware of what’s going on around you. Please have a heightened sense of awareness and keep your eyes open for things. So, things like the Johnson’s baby powder that’s spilled on the diaper changing stations in the restrooms are now being noticed. I mean, you take a pause and you take a look. So, our folks are following through. So, it’s working out good for us.

Snoop Dogg in September, quite a show. We had over 6,000 people attend. It was a lot of fun. It was the first urban-type concert that we had presented in quite a long time. We were co-promoters on the date. The promoter, it was the best concert they had experienced in all the time they had been doing concerts in Wichita. It was the best performance that they’ve had, monetarily wise, so they were very happy.

We also had the Second Annual Renaissance Festival out in the park. Gives another use for Wiedemann Park and it was up 30% this year, which is very, very encouraging. We had a lot of folks in medieval garb, a lot of the pageantry and the costumes and the dress of the day, sword demonstrations on medieval sword fighting and it was a lot of fun. They had over 3,000 attend this year. Quite impressive.

We also hosted the Second Annual Kansas Coliseum Invitational and we had an assortment of host
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celebrities, of course, joining the festivities. It was a chance for us to say thank you to our clients and to our sponsors, to our friends. Give them a chance to network with each other and just, again, say we appreciate your business all year long. That’s a good-looking group up there. I’m not too sure about the yellow shorts, but that’s a good looking group.”

Chair McGinn said, “You could see him all over the course.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “He was all over the course.”
Mr. Nath said, “That completes the report for September. If there’s any questions, I’d be happy to answer them at this time.”

Chair McGinn said, “Yeah, I have a question. Going back to the security issue, are you looking into, I don’t know what it costs to go through those metal detectors and maybe those aren’t even that sensitive or do we buy more wands or what?”

Mr. Nath said, “We bought a dozen wands in addition. They are sensitive enough that they could pick up the rivets in the hockey dashers. So, very sensitive.”

Chair McGinn said, “Well, I know . . . and that’s why I don’t know what it costs, like the metal detectors that we have downstairs. They, evidently, aren’t as sensitive as the wands. I know, trying to get on the airplane, they use that wand. They can pick up every, like you said, every rivet or whatever. But I was just wondering if, now that things have changed, if we’re looking at ways that we can continue to have good security, but also try to get people through the doors.”

Mr. Nath said, “Well, part of it is asking folks to arrive earlier. If you can space out the crowd arriving and have them arrive on an earlier basis, you don’t get that last-minute rush to the doors. Any event, no matter what you do, some folks are going to come at the last minute and there’s going to be a little bit of a delay getting in. But it’s an educational process. It’s like going to the airport now. You get there early, there’s no problem, you get through. You learn how to adjust your schedule as going to the event. And that will happen for events also.”

Chair McGinn said, “Okay, thank you, John. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you. John, have we changed, since September 11th, some of the things that we allow into the concert that we now don’t allow? Have there been any changes in what a person can bring in?”

Mr. Nath said, “No, sir. We have always not allowed coolers, cans or bottles.”
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**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “That’s fine. My main thing for asking that, there’s no education of our concert goers that, you know in the past you could bring in a machete, but now you can’t.”

**Mr. Nath** said, “Well, there’s some debate about machete. No, it has always been there’s no knives, no weapons, long chains, some of the folks have long chains holding their wallet.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “So, are we just now . . . I mean, is the change now that we’re wandling everybody, where in the past it was maybe just random wanding?”

**Mr. Nath** said, “Basically, that’s what it is. We are now wandling everybody.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Okay. That’s all I had. Thanks.”

**Chair McGinn** said, “Commissioner Gwin.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “John, you’ve made some internal changes that you showed me the other night. Are you going to hold those off until the October report?”

**Mr. Nath** said, “I think we would. We want to get a little bit of a track record on how they’re producing for us. The first night, like last Friday, very encouraging. Our per caps, which is what we live off of. As you know, our agreements are based upon breaking even and we live off of what we can take care of the patrons when they’re in the building with. They’re up 75 cents a head, which was very, very encouraging.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Very good. Well, I appreciate you walking me around the other evening and look forward to that in more detail coming next month.”

**Mr. Nath** said, “We had a great response from the public and I’ll have that included in next month’s report.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Good. All right, thanks. Thank you.”

**Chair McGinn** said, “Thank you, John.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.
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There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin  Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton  Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, John. Next item.”

1. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS TURNPIKE AUTHORITY FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY DRAINAGE PROJECT ON 87TH STREET SOUTH AND THE KANSAS TURNPIKE; CIP# D-1. DISTRICT #2.

Mr. David Spears, Director/County Engineer, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Item M-1 is an agreement between Sedgwick County and the Kansas Turnpike Authority which allows Sedgwick County to construct a storm sewer in the Turnpike right-of-way under the west ditch of the Kansas Turnpike. This will extend from 87th Street South for approximately 1 ¼ miles to the south where it will outlet into the Cowskin Creek. This is in conjunction with our first drainage project, which will benefit properties near 87th Street South and Hydraulic designated as D-1 in the Capital Improvement Program. I recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “The map is here and you can pass it around. It will kind of show you the route, along 87th Street and then it cuts under the turnpike and moves along the turnpike to the south and spills into the Cowskin Creek.

It is the first project that the Storm Water Management group has put together. We’ve met with citizens. David and his group have done an awesome job trying to put this together and make it be a really great project to kick us off in our drainage endeavors on the south side. So, I’m obviously very supportive of it. We have talked about this quite a few times before, so hopefully it’s not a new issue for anyone and I would urge everybody to support it. I think it’s a fine day that we can
move forward and try to solve some of these kinds of issues, not only on the south side, which has a lot of drainage and storm water problems, but set the pace for other parts of the county that will eventually have problems. And I know, Ben, you’ve got several projects coming up in your district that we’ll need to support too.”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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<tr>
<th>Commissioner</th>
<th>Vote</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Betsy Gwin</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Norton</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Winters</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben Sciortino</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolyn McGinn</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Chair McGinn said, “Next item.”

2. **MODIFICATION OF PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION, REQUEST NUMBER ONE AND FINAL, WITH CONSPEC, INC., DBA KANSAS PAVING ON SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT – KANSAS COLISEUM PARKING LOT E ½ D; CIP# R-234. DISTRICT #4.**

Mr. Spears said, “Item M-2 is a modification of plans and construction for the Kansas Coliseum parking lot east ½ of D, designated as R-234 in the Capital Improvement Program. This project has been constructed and is ready to be ‘finaled out’. There will be a net decrease of $10,848.90 due to variations in plan quantities from actual field measurements. I recommend that you approve the modification and authorize the Chair to sign.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Modification of Plans and Construction and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.
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There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin  Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton  Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you, Dave. Next item.”


Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The following items presented today for your consideration are a result of the regular meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts held on October 11th, 2001 and October 18th, 2001.

1) SYSTEM FURNITURE- FLEET MANAGEMENT FUNDING; CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

First item from the meeting of the 11th, system furniture for Fleet Management. Recommend the quote from Goldsmiths, $26,382.78.

2) COLOR CODED FILE FOLDERS- DISTRICT ATTORNEY FUNDING; DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Item two, color coded file folders for the District Attorney. Recommend the low bid from Records Retrieval, including the option, for $12,645.

3) COMPUTERS- DISTRICT COURT/ DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS FUNDING; CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Item three, computers for the District Court and the Division of Information and Operations. Recommend the quote from Gateway for $70,240.
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4) SLIP-IN PUMP & TANK UNIT- FIRE DISTRICT FUNDING; FIRE DISTRICT

Item four, slip-in pump and tank unit for the Fire District. Recommend the low bid from Hays Fire Equipment of $10,070.

5) SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE RENEWAL- DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS FUNDING: DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS

And item five, software maintenance renewal for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommend the quote from IBM for $215,496.

1) ¾ TON VAN- FLEET MANAGEMENT FUNDING; FLEET MANAGEMENT

The second meeting, held October 18th, item one, ¾ ton van for Fleet Management. Recommend the low bid from Haven Ford for $19,044.

2) SYSTEMS FURNITURE- DISTRICT COURT FUNDING: 18TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Item two, systems furniture for the District Court. Recommend the quote from Goldsmith’s of $80,859.33.

3) SYSTEMS FURNITURE- APPRAISER FUNDING: APPRAISER

Item three, systems furniture for the Appraiser. Recommend the quote from Goldsmith’s of $20,473.02.

4) COMPUTERS- DISTRICT ATTORNEY FUNDING; DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Item four, computers for the District Attorney’s Office. Recommend the quote from Dell of $50,808.50.
5) **TIDEMARK USER LICENSES- CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNDING; CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Item five, tidemark user licenses for Code Enforcement. Recommend the quote from Tidemark Solutions of $12,000.

6) **SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE/ LICENSE RENEWAL- DIV. INFORMATION & OPERATIONS FUNDING; DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS**

Item six, software maintenance and license renewal for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommend the quote from Computer Associates of $17,404.70.

7) **SCANMAIL ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE RENEWAL- DIV. INFORMATION & OPERATIONS FUNDING; DIV. INFORMATION & OPERATIONS**

Item seven, scan-mail anti-virus software renewal for the Department of Information and Operations. Recommend the quote from Insight Direct of $23,000.

8) **CISCO EQUIPMENT- DIV. INFORMATION & OPERATIONS FUNDING; DEPARTMENTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY**

Item eight, Cisco equipment for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommend the quote from Southwestern Bell SBC Data Com for $57,451.95.

9) **TECHNOLOGY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL- DIV. OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS FUNDING; DIV. OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS**

Item nine, technology membership renewal for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommend the quote of Public Technology Incorporated for $13,500.
10) SECURITY SOFTWARE RENEWALS & HARDWARE- DIV. OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS FUNDING; DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS

Item ten, security software renewal and hardware for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommend the quote from Fishnet Security for $36,870.

11) HOTMIX OVERLAYS- PUBLIC WORKS FUNDING; PUBLIC WORKS

And item eleven, hotmix overlays for Public Works. Recommendation is to reject all bids and re-bid at a later date.

Be happy to answer any questions and I recommend approval of these items as presented today.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Iris, just one question. On item eleven, on the hot mix, and I don’t know for sure if I have it from you or maybe just to David. Is that because the bids came in so substantially higher than what we had estimated they would be? Is that the reason why we’re a little confused over that?”

Ms. Baker said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay.”

Mr. Spears said, “Do you want me to elaborate any?”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “No, I don’t think so. Privately you can but not publicly.”

Chair McGinn said, “All right, any other questions? What’s the will of the Board of this item.”
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Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin    Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton    Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters    Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino    Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn    Aye

Chair McGinn said, “Thank you. Next item.”

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**O. CONSENT AGENDA.**

1. **Right-of-Way Easements.**

   a. One Easement for Right-of-Way and one Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project No. 833-AA, BB, CC on Rock Road from Derby to Mulvane. CIP# R-243. Districts #2 and #5.

   b. One Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project No. 807-K, L, N ½ M on Maize Road from 21st Street North to 45th Street North. CIP# R-246. Districts #3 and #4.

   c. One Resolution establishing traffic control devices at intersections of section line roads within or abutting Eagle Township, Sedgwick County, Kansas, and providing for enforcement thereof. *This Resolution corrects Resolution No. 17-01, originally adopted February 14, 2001, in order to make it consistent with Resolution No. 18-01, adopted on the same date.*

2. **Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Contracts.**
3. The following Section 8 Housing Contracts are being amended to reflect a revised monthly amount due to a change in the income level of the participating client.

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<th>New Amount</th>
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4. Continued funding of one Administrative Investigator position, Range 21, for a twelve-month period ending 12/31/02.

5. Agreement with Agape Services providing Developmental disability Community Service Provider status.

6. Agreement with South Central Kansas Economic Development District to provide general contractor services for the HOME Investment Partnership Homeowner Rehabilitation Program in the Oaklawn area.
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7. Ratification of filing of proceedings with the District Court in Board of County Commissioners v. Conspec, Inc.

8. Technical adjustment of $6,854 to the Juvenile Justice Authority Grant Administration State Fiscal Year 2002 Budget.


Approved by Public Works. The County Treasurer has certified that taxes for the year 2000 and prior years have been paid for the following plats:

   Big Foot Estates Addition
   Overview Hills Addition

10. Orders dated October 10 and October 17, 2001 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.


Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, you have the Consent Agenda before you and I would recommend that you approve it.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

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Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin  Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton  Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn  Aye

Commissioner Winters said, “Madam Chair, before we get into community events or whatever, I’d like to take an Off Agenda item for the certification of the KAC voting delegates for the annual meeting.”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to take an Off Agenda item.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Betsy Gwin  Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton  Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters  Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino  Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn

OFF AGENDA ITEM

Commissioner Winters said, “Commissioners, this year the Kansas Association of Counties will be meeting November 18th, 19th and 20th and we need to, no later than Monday, the 29th submit to them our main delegate and a first and second alternate delegates. And these are the members from each county that shall be designated to vote on any issues at the annual association’s business
meeting which will be held on the Tuesday afternoon, the 20th. And as you all remember, one of the most important things that the group does decide on are the legislative priorities and the legislative action of the Kansas Association of Counties. So, I think it is important that we be there. So, we do need to choose a delegate, a first alternate and a second alternate.

I would proposed that we have our Chair and our Vice Chair and one other be there and out of three folks we can surely make sure that somebody’s there.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “And I would suggest, that after the Chair and Vice Chair, that Commissioner Winters would be the obvious second delegate.”

**Chair McGinn** said, “Okay.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to nominate Chair McGinn as delegate, with Vice Chair Sciortino as first alternate and Commissioner Winters as second alternate.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino Aye
Chair Carolyn McGinn Aye

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “And we’ll be looking over your shoulders to make sure you vote the right way.”

**Chair McGinn** said, “Well, I think we’ll all be there. It’s going to be in Wichita.”

**Commissioner Winters** said, “Thank you. Thank you very much.”

**P. OTHER**

**Chair McGinn** said, “Commissioner Sciortino is first on the community issues.”
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**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “No, I think, by tradition we ought to have Commissioner Norton go first.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Oh, I don’t even have to flip on my light then. I actually just have one thing to talk about and that was the Haysville Fall Festival. It was a wonderful weekend for that. The weather cooperated. The crowds were huge. I think there was a sense of community that maybe all communities are starting to have and Haysville, you could certainly see it there.

I’d like to thank Allison Ohlman for putting together the booth and getting staff there. She did a marvelous job, as she did in Mulvane. I’d like to thank Tom and Ben for both stopping by and being part of it. One of my goals is for us to be able to do this in a lot of communities around the county. It just happens that the first two were in my district but I’ll be very willing to go to Derby or Valley Center or Bel Aire or Goddard or any other place. I’d also like to thank Bill Meek and Sheriff Steed for stopping by. A couple other electeds made their presents known and I thought that was encouraging and then we had Gerald Frantz from the Appraiser’s Office, Bob Lamkey from Public Safety, Annette Graham from Aging, Greg Thompson from the Fire District, Dee Konkel from Emergency Management, Project Impact and Ready to Respond and Bev Baughman came, Marla Sutton and Greg Martin from Corrections and Jerry Spencer with the Fire Department.

So, we had a really good turn out of different kinds of staff and the good news is that we actually solved some citizen’s problems while we were there. Several citizens came up with appraisal problems and got to talk eyeball to eyeball with Gerald Frantz and I think that’s how government works best. So, it was a good time to be in Haysville but it was also a good time to spread the good news about Sedgwick County government and I think we did that in Haysville. That’s all I have.”

**Chair McGinn** said, “All right. Commissioner Gwin.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Just real quickly, Tim, don’t you want to promote your event, your Ready to Respond down there again? Advertise that real quickly.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well, it’s at Haysville Middle School. It’s on Grand Avenue, kind of on the west side. It’s at 6:30. We’ll have a lot of staff there and I hope people from all over the county but particularly the south side, Derby, Haysville, south Wichita, Clearwater will make it to Haysville Middle School because I think this is pretty important stuff. People need to stop by and participate and learn how we can all work together to be ready to do the right things, regardless of what the issue is or the disaster may be.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “And then, we need folks to check the Sedgwick County website, sedgwickcounty.org to get a calendar of upcoming Ready to Respond classes, so that they can
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attend those. Just to reiterate a couple of things that Kristi mentioned. The Thunder has started it’s season again and I didn’t realize it had been ten years. But John Nath and I and others were out there to have the commemorative puck drop to start the match last week. And that’s scary. These great big guys with sticks, I don’t do well there but I managed to get out of the way without getting injured."

**Commissioner Norton** said, “I imagine you held your own.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “I did, I did fine and so they had games both Friday and Saturday night to encourage folks to get out and support our local sports teams. Also, another wonderful event for the kids, in these days and times when you’re a little concerned about trick or treating and whether or not your child would be safe in what venue, the Night of the Living Zoo at Sedgwick County Zoo is a wonderful event. It’s Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening, goes from 6:30 till 8:30. You can call the zoo at 942-2212. Tickets are three bucks and it’s a wonderful, safe environment and the kids always have a good time. The parents do too. So, I’d encourage you to take the little ones out there.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Before we move on, I’d like to dove-tail. I saw on the news last night where there’s a couple of cities where the mayors are urging kids not to trick or treat this year. And I think it’s just awesome that we have Night of the Living Zoo, Trick or Treat Street, those alternatives where families can get together, still enjoy the season and not be at risk or not feel intimidated by being out in neighborhoods. So, I think, in order not to have to say that, that we don’t want you out on the streets, we have other alternatives, which is great.”

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

**Chair McGinn** said, “Well, there’s been comments on the radio and the basic is people say, I only let my kids go in my neighborhood to who I know or go out with you child yourself. Don’t just turn them loose. Commissioner Sciortino, did you have anything?”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Yes, I did, just a couple of things. I was there in Haysville and I enjoyed myself and I’m glad Tim mentioned that we were actually able to solve some problems. One lady came up to me and I was chomping down on a roasting ear and she wanted to know where to get it and I was able to point her in the direction where she could buy one of those. So, I felt productive.

This Saturday, Derby has it’s annual chili cook-off. I’ll be there at 7 a.m. at our booth that we have, we being the Derby Fourth of July Celebration Committee has a competition and I’m going to be there to help make the chili and get it ready. It’s actually officially from 10 to 2. It will be in the Walmart parking lot and hopefully the weather will cooperate. So, if you all are needing a chili fix,
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come on down and I’ll take care of you. Last year it was cold and cloudy but at least it will be clear this time.

You really had a great event, Commissioner. I really enjoyed myself and I’ll send you the bill of all the things that Mary bought so I can get reimbursed.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Obviously you didn’t read the fine print in the invitation.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “She went hog-wild at the arts and crafts thing. The one thing I really liked about it was how many local organizations had a booth, like the churches or the different sororities or fraternities or whatever, they were all giving away free stuff and all those cars. It was great. I enjoyed myself. That’s all I have. Thanks.”

Chair McGinn said, “All right, thank you. I’d just like to speak to a solid waste issue, in a way. October 10th, the transfer station opened. I drive by 96 Highway. It looks like things are going smoothly. There has been a little bit of confusion out there, so I’d like to address that. But before I do, I’d like to share that Commissioner Winters and I went to the Waste Convention last week because this commission is looking for long-term disposal options and I know two that are high priority for our community deal with incineration and landfills. While we were there, this was in Baltimore, we got to go see an incineration plant and it was very interesting to learn about how that works. And I know that that, when we did our survey, that was one of the things the community would like to see was incineration. But they had this plant that they built in 1984, around that time, and what they did, they converted a pyrolysis plant that did not work. I know we want to look at pyrolysis and hopefully we can someday in the future but it’s needs fed certain things and you just can’t get that out of the waste stream. And so they converted it to this incineration and in 1984 or 85 when they built it, it cost $250,000,000. And that was those dollars and so, in thinking about what it would cost today it was over $300,000,000 and they said that they don’t know of anybody that’s building them right now.

This was also a little bit of a waste to energy incinerator. They were gathering steam and taking it into the city but the one thing they said that the reason that they could do that and not get the cost too high was the fact that they already had the infrastructure in place, because it’s an old city. It’s not the mid-west, where we have new cities and different things like that. So, that was interesting, producing just a little bit of electricity so I think, though, as we go and we look at that, the community says ‘yes, we want incineration’ but will they bear that cost. And so, that’s one of the things we wanted to learn about.

The other thing was, as we looked around at the different vendors, I had the opportunity to talk to some people that actually install landfills and do the engineering design. Found that very interesting. In the northeast, and I’m not going to pretend to know what all these are, so I’m going to kind of fudge through this a little bit, but we talk about one liner, two liners and, you know, when
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you haven’t been around it, you don’t really know what they look like. And so, we were talking to a guy from back east that said this is basically how they line them now. This top one is like a leachee collection and then you have your first liner, then you have another collector and then you have another liner and then you have this bentonite thing and he said that some people, somewhere in here, they’re putting this one inside of here too. And so, I think, as we look at landfill and our Solid Waste Committee gets to that point, I’m very interested what this will cost. They said, these engineers said that you could potentially always have a leak and a lot of it has to do with the instillation because they have to seam these just right. Found out that somebody used a . . what kind of a stake?”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well, as they were putting the liner in, as they put the clay in, they just took stakes and drove it through with a hammer, drove through the liner to mark the depth of the material that they were putting on top. So, compromised their liner before they even put the first load of trash in.”

Chair McGinn said, “And then they put two layers of dirt on top of this liner as well. So, it was just very interesting to hear about what goes into these Subtitle B Landfills, so I’m very interested in finding out what that will cost and if that’s an economic solution.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Is that the federal requirement that that’s what is done?”

Chair McGinn said, “No, it’s what some communities and some states, because it’s a state level requirement. Okay.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “It would be interesting if you could find out what does the State of Kansas require and then what that would increase the cost of what the state wants.”

Chair McGinn said, “Absolutely, and that’s what I’m hoping. I’ll have our Solid Waste people take a look at all that.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Because if we could go five or six more layers if we wanted to.”

Chair McGinn said, “If the cost was right, yeah. The other thing, so anyway that was just interesting to really go to that convention and learn about these long-term solutions, since that’s something that we are looking at.

The other thing I just wanted to briefly share is that when the transfer station opened, we received some calls about the price increase that they were getting from their haulers and we’ve been telling
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them it’s going to be about a dollar or two a month. And some were a great deal higher than that. And I called and found out that at least one hauler company decided to take an internal price increase and just do it at that same time and that was convenient. So, there’s confusion about was it the transfer station that caused that price increase or was it a company. And so, we had some of our staff call around to the different haulers to find out what they were charging and so I think, eventually, the market is going to come into play here and settle things down a little bit. But I just want to let our viewers know that they can call either our office or the Environmental Resource office and get a copy of this. We had them do a price comparison of all the haulers that they could get a hold of and find out what they were charging. And so, some of the customers or citizens out there that I’ve talked to said they started doing that and leaving certain companies because they charged too much and then, what I heard in the store the other day is now they’re saying ‘well, we’ll match that price’. And so, I think the market is starting to come into play here. So, I think that’s very good. So, I do want people out there that if they’re concerned about the price, please call our office at 383-7411 or Environmental Resources at 721-9418 and get this list. It also gives you information about who does curb-side recycling and that kind of thing. And so, just something for all of them to know.

The other thing that I guess I think I personally would ask, I know that when our prices increased, the fuel prices here across the nation, they put on a surcharge that said, increased fuel charge or something because of that and our gas prices, if I remember right, were about where they are today and I think I’m certainly going to call and ask them why we still have that fuel surcharge on there because prices are back down and maybe it’s time that that’s removed at this time. But I would encourage people to call and ask that question as well.

The final thing, I guess I want to talk about, on the landfill issue there has been some paper ads, there’s been some things on the news and it has to do with the cost of the transfer station and that kind of thing. I just want people to know, we are looking at long-term solutions and if cost is certainly a driving point, we want to make sure we look at franchising. That’s a piece of the cost that we can save people. We can be more efficient. We can keep trucks off of our inner roads and infrastructure, keep emissions down and that type of thing. The other thing that I think we need to look at, we’re certainly going to look at the private company’s plan that has been proposed, just as soon as we get to that segment but I think we also need to look at is this going to be a public or a private venture. If it is about cost and giving the most amount of money back to our citizens, we may need to be talking to the City of Wichita, partnering with them. We may want to just do it ourselves as Sedgwick County. Because if it’s certainly about giving as much money back to the citizens, then we have to look at those options as well. And so, that’s all I wanted to share but I did want people to know that we are looking at long-term solutions and, again, please call if you would like this list of what competitors are charging in our area.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Since you opened up the topic, I’d like to just ask a couple of
suggestions here. One of the questions that I’ve been getting, if I looked at what Susan gave us about the timeline when the Solid Waste Committee is going to address certain items, it appears to be like well over a year before they address the local landfill issue and they’re asking me how come it’s going to take so long to even look at the local landfill. So, that’s one thing that I don’t know how to respond to them.

The other thing was, I’m getting some calls, I don’t know if you are, from the business community complaining that their bills are going up 35 or 40% and could you get, maybe Susan or somebody, calling those people again and letting them know what are the business community rates going up because I’m starting to get a lot of small businesses calling me, saying my bill went up 40% and that flies in the face of the dollar or two a month that we were talking about.”

Chair McGinn said, “We need to gather that information and get it out as well. To answer you first question, I did address the Solid Waste Committee about that schedule and what you’ll see in there is, you know, the one thing we said was, ‘two years is time certain’. That’s the longest this is going to be. If we can do it quicker, we’re going to do it quicker. And you’ll see in there, they’ve managed certain amount of times, like one was waste reduction and they had three meetings on that. They have to also conduct their regular business as well and what we wanted to do, rather than say, oops, we can’t get it all done, and then go further out, we thought it was best to build backwards. And, so the thing that I directed the Solid Waste Committee if it only takes you one meeting to do waste reduction, move on to the next item and clear the schedule. So, I think that they understand that they’re to work as quickly as possible.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Because before we can discuss, I think, whether or not a landfill should be privately run or publicly run, we need to get the Solid Waste Committee to recommend that we can even look at a landfill, because right now it’s not even in our plan. Great, thanks.”

Chair McGinn said, “Commissioner Gwin.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Just real quickly, a couple of other things. That list of haulers you discussed, I was out talking to the senior citizens group in Bel Aire the other evening and took copies of that with me because I’d heard some complaint about increased prices. Several of them told me that they had called their haulers, regarding their price increases, and were pleasantly surprised to find that they would lower those, based upon what information they got.

Secondly, on the length of time that the Solid Waste Committee has, I would hope that in part of that time, that they’ll have to opportunity to assess the current method of trash disposal and see what works and what doesn’t. So, I think I’d need a little time to look at the current plan and how we’re doing it. And then also, tomorrow I have a meeting, just a very first, primary meeting with a county commissioner from an adjacent county to start the very preliminary discussions of

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Regionalization of this issue and how we might look at that maybe in this metropolitan statistical area, the counties around us and Sedgwick County to what maybe the long-term answer for the region might be, the very beginning processes. We don’t have anything concrete to report but I just want you to know that we’re starting, that this commissioner and I, are starting to look at ‘how about the whole area’. I mean, we’re all dealing with these issues. Might there be an answer that would service our MSA better. So, I’ll keep you posted if anything concrete comes out of that, but certainly that’s just the very open the door and discuss it and I think REAP’s going to start talking about that too.”

Chair McGinn said, “And that’s one of the things, when you look at waste energy, you have to have that volume. And that’s when you’ve got to bring in those surrounding counties.

Well, thank you. Is there any other business to come before this Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved that the Board of County Commissioners recess into Executive Session for 30 minutes to consider consultation with Legal Counsel on matters privileged in the attorney/client relationship relating to pending claims and litigation and legal advice and that the Board of County Commissioners return from Executive Session no sooner than 12:00 p.m.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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<tr>
<th>Commissioner</th>
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<tr>
<td>Commissioner Betsy Gwin</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commissioner Tim Norton</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<td>Commissioner Thomas Winters</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commissioner Ben Sciortino</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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Chair Carolyn McGinn        Aye

Chair McGinn said, “We’re in Executive Session.”

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into Executive Session at 11:29 a.m. and returned at 12:49 p.m.

Chair McGinn said, "We’re back from Executive Session. Let the record show there were no binding action taken while in Executive Session. Is there any other business to come before this Board? Mr. Euson? Mr. Buchanan? This meeting is adjourned.”

Q. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

____________________________
CAROLYN McGINN, Chair
Fourth District

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BEN SCIORTINO, Chairman Pro Tem
Fifth District

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BETSY GWIN, Commissioner
First District

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