

## **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**May 8, 2002**

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, May 8, 2002 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Ben Sciortino; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Betsy Gwin; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters, Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Greg Thompson, Fire Marshall, Fire District #1; Sheriff Gary Steed; Mr. Robert W. Parnacott, Assistant County Counselor; Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources Department; Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Division of Community Development; Ms. Pat McDonald, Director of Community Education, Health Department; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. Marvin Duncan, Director, Fleet Management; Mr. Bob Lamkey, Assistant County Manager; Mr. Greg Schuessler, EMS Major; Mr. Boyd Powers, Shop Foreman, Fleet Management; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications and Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

### **GUESTS**

Ms. Lynn Loveland, Chairman, Greater Wichita Convention of Visitors and Tourism Board.  
Ms. Laurel Alkire, Executive Director, Alzheimer's Association Sunflower Chapter.  
Mr. Kevin Bomhoff, Chairman, Sedgwick County Suicide Prevention Task Force.  
Ms. Henrietta Pitts, Winner, Suicide Prevention Task Force poster contest.  
Ms. Caroline Jenlink, Coordinator, Wichita Area Safe Kids Coalition.  
Mr. Kent Hickson, City Administrator, City of Mulvane.  
Mr. Alan Trye, Wheeled Coach.  
Mr. Keen Shauff, Sales Representative, Midwest Vehicle Professionals.

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was led by Reverend Rick Cline of Central Church of Christ, Wichita.

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting, April 17, 2002

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The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of April 17, 2002.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Commissioners, I believe you've had a chance to review the Minutes of the Meeting of April 17<sup>th</sup>. What's the will of the Board please?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 17, 2002.

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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Next item."

**PROCLAMATIONS**

**A. PROCLAMATIONS.**

- 1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 4-12, 2002 AS "NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK."**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. I'd like to read into the record this proclamation. It states:

**PROCLAMATION**

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**WHEREAS**, the travel and tourism industry in Sedgwick County, Kansas is vital to our economic stability and it contributes substantially to the County's cultural and social well being; and

**WHEREAS**, travel is one of our most fundamental freedoms. Every citizen benefits from travel and tourism; and

**WHEREAS**, the travel and tourism industry substantially enhances our personal growth and education, while promoting intercultural understanding and appreciation of Sedgwick County's history, geography and culture; and

**WHEREAS**, travel and tourism is one of America's largest service exports providing a trade surplus of \$7.7 billion. It is one of the nation's largest employers with a total of 7.8 million jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, including the \$90 billion spent in the U.S. by international visitors, tourism generates \$545 billion, providing \$94 billion in tax revenue to local, state and federal governments; and

**WHEREAS**, without the tax revenue generated by tourism each U.S. household would pay \$905 more in annual taxes. In recognition of the unique significance of the travel and tourism industry in the lives of the citizens of our country.

**WHEREAS, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 4-12, 2002 as the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of

**“NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK”**

and call upon the people of Sedgwick County to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

That is the proclamation and what is the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the proclamation and authorize the Chairman to

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sign.

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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. And I believe we have Lynn Loveland, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Greater Wichita Convention of Visitors and Tourism to accept, and a whole list of others, including John Rolfe that’s got a very historically famous name. He came over on . . . no, his mother . . . your grandfather came over on the Mayflower?”

**Ms. Lynn Loveland**, Chairman, Greater Wichita Convention of Visitors and Tourism Board, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you. I appreciate this. With the Bureau, we’re trying to do all that we can to increase tourism in this area. So, thank you very much.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Next item please. I’m sorry, Carolyn McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “I just want to thank Lynn and Bobbie out there and all the others and John that sit on the CVB Board. It’s a volunteer board and I think we have a lot of great attractions in this community. I don’t understand it when people say there’s nothing to do here. I think they need to turn off the TV and go look around and I think they’ll find that we have some very wonderful attractions here in this community.

And the one thing, though, that I challenge you and I guess myself, I’m on the board too, to go out and I know you’re working on a plan, but we need to let others know about all the great attractions and things we already have. We don’t need . . . I mean, we can always build more but what we have right now is very good and we need to share that with our neighboring counties and our

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neighboring states. And so, I want to thank you all for what you do and wish you the best on our journey down the road to great success in tourism. Because, as Commissioner Sciortino shared, that certainly helps offset some of the taxes that we need to pay here in our community and gives us other benefits and amenities as well. Thank you.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Commissioner Winters.”

**Commissioner Winters** said, “Well, I was later in the meeting going to welcome County Commissioners from across the state to town, but this might be an appropriate time to do that. This evening, Kansas County Commissioners’ Association will start their annual meeting and will be here this evening and Thursday and Friday with their statewide convention, which moves around to different parts of the state but we’re certainly glad that the county commissioners are going to be meeting in Wichita and we appreciate all the work that you folks do in the Convention and Tourism Board to make sure that there’s things and opportunities for them to do when they’re not at their meeting. So, thank you for your part and welcome to the county commissioners. We’ll probably say more about that later. Thank you.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Commissioner McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Just a real quick question. I mentioned a couple of you. Is there anyone else out there that’s here today from the CTB?”

*Person in audience introduced members of Convention and Tourism Board.*

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “And you know, I agree with Commissioner McGinn. We’ve got a lot of attractions here. One of the best kept secrets that you are availing yourselves of is the exciting County Commission meetings at 9:00 and I would encourage you get out there, let everyone know, AirTrans in, they can come in from Chicago, they can attend the meeting, then go down and have a nice historical dinner out at Prairie Rose, because that is really an experience to be felt. Okay, next item.”

### **2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 5-11, 2002 AS “SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK.”**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I have another proclamation, and this is a more serious one. I’ll read it into the record.

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**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, suicide is now the eleventh leading cause of all deaths in the United States and one of the leading causes of death for people between the ages of 15-24; and

**WHEREAS**, there are nearly 30,000 suicide deaths in our country each year, and over 330 in Kansas, and thousands more impacted as survivors; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide impacts all ages, with the death rate remaining highest for adults 75 years and older, and dramatic increases in the suicide rate for those 15-24 years old; and

**WHEREAS**, the stigma associated with mental illness works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk of attempting or dying by suicide from seeking lifesaving help; and the stigma associated with suicide deaths further traumatizes those people who lose a loved one to suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, statewide suicide prevention efforts should be developed and encouraged to the maximum extent possible, since most suicide deaths are preventable; and

**WHEREAS**, the Suicide Prevention Task Force of Sedgwick County is dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths, and the pain for those affected by suicide deaths, through educational programs, research projects, intervention services and bereavement services.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 5-11, 2002 as

**“SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK”**

in Sedgwick County.

And I do believe we have Kevin Bomhoff. Excuse me, we do have to see if this will be approved by the Commission. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board on this item?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Gwin 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “And I believe Kevin Bomhoff, the Chairman of the Sedgwick County Suicide Prevention Task Force will accept the proclamation.”

**Mr. Kevin Bomhoff**, Chairman, Sedgwick County Suicide Prevention Task Force, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We appreciate your time this morning to address this and I agree, very serious issue. We wanted to let you know that there is a concerted effort going on in this community to address the suicide need, the suicide prevention need in this area. We have a task force that’s made up of university, law enforcement, school officials, mental health agencies, all levels of government, SRS, the Health Department, researchers, social service agencies, private and public community volunteers. It’s a real concerted effort. In fact, we counted this morning. There are 110 individuals working on either a subcommittee or a committee for this effort.

This is all under the leadership of this Commission and with the support of COMCARE. And it’s important work and we are all focused on one goal and that’s to bring the level of suicides in this community down. And we have a goal for 2010 of six suicides per 100,000. Right now, because it’s . . . this is just to give you an idea of how serious a public health problem this is, our suicide rate in this community was 14.2 per 100,000 in this past year. That’s 52 suicides in Sedgwick County in 2001, with 48 in the year 2000. Across Kansas, the rate is 12.3 per 100,000. So, we have a lot of work to do and we have some bold efforts being made.

Those efforts follow the Surgeon General’s initiative, which is a call to action and it uses the acronym AIM. We are focusing on Awareness, Intervention and Methodologies. We could share with you more information about these, if you have questions about those today.

But for now we’d like to talk to you about just some activities that we have for this week. We will be leaving this meeting and going over and being interviewed by Steve Macintosh on KNSS. We’re going to air a program on six different stations at six different times this week, letting people know what to watch for and how to help.

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We're also going to be having a live interview on B98 and that's . . . Bev, help me. That's at 8:30 on Friday. Great. And then, today we're here unveiling our poster, one of our first posters. We are having . . . we have a resource directory that we're distributing. We have brochures that we're distributing. But we're really targeting two populations, that's youth and the aging population. You heard some of the statistics in the proclamation. One of our efforts with the aging population is to have . . . we had a poster contest and we're very pleased today to unveil our poster, which is targeted for older individuals to let them be aware of the need for understanding the risk of suicide but also how to help. And I just want to introduce to you today Henrietta Pitts, who did this beautiful watercolor piece of art for us, which we incorporated into the poster. And Henrietta is here today to be recognized by our task force and for you as well and also for the public to see this great poster, which we'll soon be seeing all over this community where aging folks gather and demographically, that's everywhere. And so, do you want to say anything?"

**Ms. Henrietta Pitts**, Winner, Suicide Prevention Task Force poster contest, said, "I just want to say it's an honor to be able to be part of this and to help whatever possible to do it."

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "Actually Henrietta captured one of the issues we've talked about as a task force and that's you can directly try to intervene and let folks who are having serious depression or experiencing transitions or difficulties in their lives, but you also need to come along side and talk to the people who are going to be their friends and who are their associates, people in their lives. And this art work depicted not only the person who might be struggling, but it shows that their friends and their family, their church members, their synagogue members, would have a role in their lives to give protection and support during difficult times. So, we're very excited about this piece of artwork and how it can be used. Do you have any questions for us this morning?"

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Kevin, I don't see that we have any questions right now, but thank you very much. I know you've put a lot of yourself into this project and it is a very serious problem and I am looking forward to finding out what the efforts will bear, as far as the results."

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "Right. Can I give a couple of phone numbers real quick?"

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Certainly."

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "Great. If you would like to help us distribute information, resource directories, brochures, you can call Bev Baughman at 660-9600, 660-9600. We would encourage you to watch for signs of suicide concerns in individuals and act. Everyone needs to act. It's not the responsibility of this committee. It's the responsibility of everyone. And we would encourage, when you have a concern, that you can call Suicide Prevention at 263-3770. And if you're

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contemplating suicide definitely call that number, 263-3770. If someone you love is a concern to you, make sure that you call as well and make sure that you remove any means that they have, especially firearms, which is responsible for 60% of all of . . . or used in 60% of all suicides, prescription drugs and get help. The main message is is mental illness and mental health concerns are treatable. Your trouble is serious but your trouble is temporary. You can get help. Thank you.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Yes, I’m glad you said that the problem is temporary because suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem and there are better solutions, in my opinion. Clerk call the next item please.”

### **3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 5-11, 2002 AS “ARSON AWARENESS WEEK.”**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. I’d like to read into the record this proclamation. It states:

#### **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, arson is a serious crime that affects each and every person and can only be stopped when citizens realize the severe damage that arson causes; and

**WHEREAS**, countless human injuries and more than 700 deaths result in the needless tragedies caused by acts of arson in America each year; and

**WHEREAS**, arson is the most expensive crime in America, with billions of dollars in property lost each year, and much more spent in tax dollars to pay for firefighting and the investigation of these malicious acts; and

**WHEREAS**, 55% of all those arrested for arson are under 18 years of age, making this the fastest growing teen and pre-teen crime in America; and

**WHEREAS**, nationally, 300 children die and another 3,000 are injured every year by children setting fires; and

**WHEREAS**, Sedgwick County Fire District #1 is dedicated to reducing arson by working with youth and families to prevent juvenile arson, and by working with numerous other public safety agencies throughout the region on the South Central Kansas Arson Strike Force, to assist in the investigation of complicated fire scenes.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 5-11, 2002 as

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**“ARSON AWARENESS WEEK”**

in Sedgwick County and encourage all citizens to help combat arson in Sedgwick County, to protect lives and property.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to adopt the proclamation and authorize the Chairman 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. And I believe we have our Fire Marshall, Greg Thompson here to accept the proclamation.”

**Mr. Greg Thompson**, Fire Marshall, Fire District #1, greeted the Commissioners and said, “First I’d like to thank you for your recognition and your support in recognizing Arson Awareness Week. And also in recognizing that arson is a serious problem in our community and arson is not a victimless crime. Our goal is to raise the public’s awareness and understanding of the arson problem in the United States, as well as here in Sedgwick County and to encourage communities to get involved in the fight against arson and the fight against the number of juvenile set fires.

Let me share some facts with you. They were in the proclamation that you just read. Arson fires kill more than 700 Americans, 300 of those are children. Over half of the arson fires are set by juveniles. Arson has become the fastest growing teen and pre-teen crime in America today. In an effort to reduce the number of juvenile related fires, the Sedgwick County Fire Department has joined with other local fire departments, social and mental health agencies, the courts, social service

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agencies and local businesses to establish a YFIRE committee. YFIRE stands for Youth Fire Intervention Resources and Education.

It's our hope that by teaming up and working together that we can reduce the number of juvenile related fires in our communities. Now, I would like to introduce to you our very good friend, Caroline Jenlink. She is the coordinator of the Wichita Area Safe Kids Coalition and she can explain some things about YFIRE."

**Ms. Caroline Jenlink**, Coordinator, Wichita Area Safe Kids Coalition, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'd also like to thank you for your proclamation today. I think it's a big step in increasing the awareness of the juvenile fire problem. I'm very proud to be part of the YFIRE group that's been working for quite some time now pulling together interventions, resources and education to help solve this juvenile fire problem. And we'll soon have our very first fire academy this summer for children and families that are affected by children who start fires and we've already started an assessment tool, a standardized assessment tool that will be used by all fire departments and we're very pleased by the community group that we've pulled together that are putting resources and ideas together to help solve the problem. Anyone who has a concern about a child starting fires, please call the YFIRE Coalition at 268-7113."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much. I don't see that we have any questions. Thanks a lot. Next item please."

#### **4. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 6-12, 2002 AS "PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK 2002."**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I will read this proclamation into the record. It states:

### **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, government public service employees have both responsibilities and opportunities to improve the quality of life of others in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, dedicated women and men working in public service in Sedgwick County provide vital family, health and recreation services, ensure community safety and responsiveness in emergencies, construct roadways and preserve our environment, maintain property information and

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utilize a multitude of internal services, all to meet the essential needs of a dynamic and diverse community; and

**WHEREAS**, these quiet heroes utilize their talents and energies to give their fellow citizens the tools and opportunities to make the most of their lives, working 24 hours a day, 365 days a year;

**WHEREAS**, these public service employees work daily to make government better, improving efficiencies and forging partnerships to provide the best services to the citizens.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 6-12, 2002 as

**“PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK 2002”**

in Sedgwick County and recognize the efforts of our Sedgwick County employees in delivering quality public service.

And who other but our own Kristi Zukovich to accept this award, once we decide whether or not we’re going to adopt it. What is the will of the Board on this item?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the proclamation and authorize the Chairman 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

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Commissioner Carolyn McGinn     Aye  
Chairman Ben Sciortino            Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Kristi."

**Mr. Kristi Zukovich**, Director, Communications, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is one of my most favorite proclamation that we have throughout the year because I think it does take time to recognize the efforts of the 2,600 County employees who work every day to provide a multitude of services to all of our citizens in Sedgwick County. And as most of you have said and helped to promote that this means, whether you live in Wichita, Andale, Derby, Goddard or any of the surrounding communities or in the unincorporated areas, that Sedgwick County does provide services to you.

We have a number of more visible services, including our EMS folks who you may see the ambulances or our fire department or our sheriff's department or, if you go out to our Sedgwick County Zoo or Old Cowtown Museum. And of course, as Commissioners, you are one of our more visible advocates about county services. But we also have some services that a little bit less visible but equally as important and vital to our community, including our aging services, health department, COMCARE and a number of others as well as our support service folks who provide our technology, make sure our finances are in order, help with employee services and help to maintain our buildings.

As we talked about earlier, Sedgwick County will have an entry in the River Festival parade, once again, just to help folks understand more about the services that we provide. And I also wanted to take just a moment to talk about, I think the timing is excellent, for us to announce that this week the DeVore Foundation has provided us the opportunity to recognize three public service employees throughout our community and they will be honored at a reception tomorrow. One of these is Bess Dreams, who works in our Sedgwick County Appraiser's Office. The second is Ron Hunt, who works for the City of Wichita and then Connie Quintanilla, who is with USD 259. And so, these are just a sample of the many, many employees, not only in the cities and the county and the school districts and the state and our federal service that provides service to citizens every day. I thank you for this proclamation."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Kristi. I don't see that we have any comments, but I'll make a comment. You know people are oftentimes very quick to complain but very slow to compliment and a lot of our people work behind the scenes. We, as commissioners, have the luxury of being a little bit more visible to the public but you take for example our 911. Whenever you're really in need of some emergency service, you pick up the phone and you dial 911 and you get a

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voice on the other end. That voice is part of a body. That body sits in a windowless, darkened room in the basement of this County Commission building. And they're there to service you in a time that could be very critical and very crucial to you. They're very well trained on how to handle emotion and what have you on the phone to get to the facts that they need to have in order to get the proper piece of equipment or person to your place, to save your life oftentimes.

And I think it's great that we can at least recognize some of the work because we all like to be recognized and like to feel that we're doing a good job. And many times, people working for as large an entity as county government don't get that. They're anonymous when they go to the grocery store. You probably don't say, 'Oh, there's my 911 person' or 'there's my fire person or my sheriff's deputy' unless they're in uniform. So, anyway I think it's great that we can recognize these. So, thank you very much. Next item please."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Mr. Chair, if I can just make a comment. I think the important thing that should wash over us is that we are a democracy and public service employees deliver democracy every day. Politicians can make policies and argue about those things but the persons that are down in the trenches, the people that deliver democracy everyday down in the trenches are our public service employees that continue to uphold the greatest values of a great country and they do it every day, silently, making sure that roads are paved and people are taken care of and democracy is delivered. So, just a statement."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Any other comments. Clerk, call the next item please."

5. **PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 13-16, 2002 AS "NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL WEEK."**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, I would like to read this final proclamation into the record. It states:

### PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States of America has designated the week of May 13<sup>th</sup> as ""National Law Enforcement Week"; and

**WHEREAS**, law enforcement officers are warriors in the fight against crime; our guardians of life, and property; defenders of the individual's right to be free and are dedicated to the preservation of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and

**WHEREAS**, Sedgwick County desires to honor the valor, service and dedication of its own Sheriff's Deputies and all law enforcement officers; and

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**WHEREAS**, it is known that every 57 hours an American Law Enforcement Officer will be killed in the line of duty somewhere in the United States and 189 officers will be seriously assaulted in the performance of their duties, our community joins with other counties and cities to honor peace officers everywhere;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 13-16, 2002 as

**“NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL WEEK”**

and call upon all citizens to honor and show our sincere appreciation for the law enforcement officers of Sedgwick County who make it possible to leave our homes and family in safety each day with the knowledge that our communities are protected by men and women willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to guard our loved ones, property and government against all who would violate the law.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to adopt the proclamation and authorize the Chairman 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. And we have Sedgwick County Sheriff Gary Steed to accept the proclamation. Good morning, Sheriff.”

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**Sheriff Gary Steed** greeted the Commissioners and said, "It's always an honor for me to represent law enforcement and public safety in Sedgwick County and all of law enforcement in Sedgwick County and accept this proclamation. You know, the events of September 11<sup>th</sup> changed all our lives and it made this proclamation just that much more important in my mind.

And I want to refer to something that Commissioner Sciortino has used in a speech and I've used in a speech and I've heard Mayor Knight using this speech. I'm not sure who said it first. Probably none of us, I'm not sure. But you know, before September 11<sup>th</sup>, actors and athletes were heroes and after September 11<sup>th</sup>, actors and athletes are celebrities and law enforcement and firefighters are heroes and I think that's perfectly appropriate.

I'm also reminded of another thought about law enforcement and that's that we don't always pay law enforcement for what they do. We pay them for what they're willing to do for us. And I think that's important.

But this is also an opportunity for me to remind everybody that next Tuesday, I think it's the 14<sup>th</sup>, we're having our local ceremony to honor our local fallen heroes over at City Hall with the Wichita Police Department. Chief Williams and I will both be commenting at that ceremony."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, thank you Gary. We do have some comments. Commissioner Gwin."

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Just real quickly, not about this one specifically, but you know we seldom have this many proclamations in a single day but as I review them, it really is a wide range of areas in which I believe Sedgwick County excels. In the tourism aspects of our community, certainly in the public safety aspects of our community, of the human needs and how we go about the business of meeting those. So, it seems to me to be a very nice representation of all the work we're about or a lot of the work we're about in these proclamations today. I want to thank each and every one of you for your time to come here to be a part of this and demonstrate to the public exactly how important each of these aspects of our community is to its success and its well being. So, thank you all for being here this morning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, I continue to read the biographies of the people that died at 9/11 and almost every day there's a firefighter or a public safety officer or an EMS worker or a police person of some type. And it strikes us that first responders in communities, our sheriff's department and policemen and firemen and EMS workers and those that are fallen, either locally or nationally, deserve our greatest praise and honor because they are the people that are on the front line that are

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going to be there first. I mean, we talk about federal governments and state governments but I can tell you, from living through a disaster as a public official, the first people there, the first responders are your sheriff's department and your police and fire and EMS. And this is a great proclamation to honor them today, particularly those that have given their greatest sacrifice. Thanks."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Well, this is the end of our proclamations. The Commission will take a five minute break and we'll be right back to start the Regular Meeting. Thank you."

**The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed at 9:43 a.m. and returned at 10:00 a.m.**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. We're now back in session, and I think it's important perhaps for those of you who are watching television is that the reason that we did have an abrupt recess is that one member of our audience was having some difficulty that necessitated our EMS people to come in and give that woman assistance. The necessary care was taken care of and she is now being transported, I believe, to the hospital to do further checkup and it was a very graphic and serious but although it was an example of how quickly emergency services can respond to any emergency and this one was certainly unforeseeable. But that was the reason for our recession[sic]. So, thank you very much. Clerk, call the next item please."

### **CITIZEN INQUIRY**

#### **B. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION SUNFLOWER CHAPTER'S ADULT CARE CONNECTION PROGRAM.**

**Ms. Laurel Alkire**, Executive Director, Alzheimer's Association Sunflower Chapter, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm just here this morning to say thank you. You were kind enough to grant our original grant in 2001 for our Adult Care Connection program and I thought it was fitting that I was here the same day as all these proclamations, especially about the suicide prevention because that is a very serious issue with older adults and especially with families and caregivers who are dealing with Alzheimer's disease or similar dementias every day. So I commend that

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group on their hard work and building public awareness about the importance of that issue.

As I said, you granted our first grant in 2001 and I'm here to report on the progress of that. We finished that year above goal. Our goal had been to serve 200 families and that money allows us to have a part-time case manager who actually works with the families throughout the progress of the disease. Unfortunately, because we're a very small staff and a very overworked staff. We didn't always have the chance to follow up with families. We didn't want to just give them information and say, "Hey, thanks for calling. Here's the number, good luck". Because we know that when they're in a crisis situation, when they're dealing with these issues every day that sometimes they don't think clearly and they don't always make the right decisions very quickly. With this program, we are able to keep in touch with those families and make sure, did you get the information you need, was it helpful, and work with them through the disease so that they're ready for the different situations that will happen as that individual progresses. So I think it's a very important program. And again, I just want to say thank you.

In 2001, our goal was to serve and work with 200 families and I'm happy to say we surpassed that and actually worked with 218 families and I think we're going to surpass our goals again this year, for 2002, because unfortunately there is a lot of Alzheimer's disease out there and as we get out and educate people and they learn more and understand it, they will come forward with it, hopefully move out of the denial phase and know that there is help available.

And so, we're very happy to do that. I will tell you that about 50% of the families that we worked with that called into the chapter we continue to follow up with. About 25% of those families in 2001 needed immediate assistance in finding care facilities. They had been caregivers for a while but come to the point where it was too difficult to do so at home. And part of our work is to help them make informed decisions about where to place their loved ones. And then about another 25% of families were just wondering could this be Alzheimer's disease, what are the signs and symptoms, how do I get a diagnosis, you know how do I deal with this. So, as I said, I think our numbers are going to increase this year and I'm very excited about that.

I wanted to give you a couple of case studies of families that we worked with in 2001. The first was a woman in her early 60s who had an 81-year-old mother that lived out in Valley Center and had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. The mother lived alone in the house. The daughter, of course, had a family, a full-time job so she wasn't able to be a full-time caregiver but she did go by after work each evening and try to check on her mom and make sure that she was okay. The mother was no longer driving, but she did get out and walk. And the daughter was worried, with the Alzheimer's progressing that mom would get out and get lost as we all hear. So the first thing our case manager did was make sure we got her ready to be in the Safe Return program, which is a

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national data base for people who might wander, where they get like a medic alert bracelet, so if someone finds them they know who they are, where they belong and where they live.

She was constantly worried about her mother and we sent her information, tried to educate her, kept in touch with her, how's mom doing, tried to get some in-home services to help mom. However, at the time the daughter didn't think they needed any outside help but again we just kept in touch with her. A few weeks after our follow-up call, when we called to see how she was doing, mom had wandered out of the house, fallen in the street, hit her head and had a major concussion and was in the hospital at that time and I think that's the point where the daughter realized this is a serious issue. Mom can't be alone anymore so then we were able to work with her to find a facility to take her mom, who had a special unit for Alzheimer's disease and we have talked to her since then and mom is doing fine, daughter feels better and is dealing with the whole issue.

Another case was an elderly woman who was caring for a husband with Alzheimer's disease and he was moving into the later stages and showing a lot of signs of erratic behavior, anger and frustration. She was having a hard time dealing with that information or that situation and wanting information on how to deal with this, what to expect. We sent her lots of information, we visited with her on the phone several times. She even came into our office to use our resource library. We have a wonderful library on site with all kinds of information and we were able to really work with her. She did finally come to the conclusion that she could also no longer keep her husband at home. He was becoming too violence and it was too dangerous a situation and she was elderly and not in the best of health herself."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Ma'am, we do normally allow five minutes. Is there anything else? How much longer would you need? I'd be happy to extend . . ."

**Ms. Alkire** said, "That's it. I'm just finished. I just wanted to say we helped to place him in a facility and worked with the wife to deal with that situation. So, again, I just want to say thank you for your insight and realizing this is an important issue."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. We do have some questions or comments. Commissioner Gwin."

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Laurel, you did point out that the difficulty, one of the difficulties of this disease is the impact it has on the caregivers. I have seen it several times, that the caregivers, in their attempt to keep their loved one at home, go through stress themselves, health problems themselves. Sometimes, because of that, to an earlier death than they should have suffered and so it's important for the caregivers who are attempting to care for folks

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that they love, to understand that there is help out there and that they do have options.”

**Ms. Alkire** said, “And that’s what we’re here to do is make them aware that they’re not alone and that there is help available, so that if they’re a good caregiver and they take care of themselves, it makes their whole job easier.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Exactly. Do you have a number where folks can contact you if they need some information?”

**Ms. Alkire** said, “Our number here in Wichita is 267-7333 and we’re happy to help anybody who has questions or concerns about the disease.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Thank you, Laurel for being here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Any further questions or comments? Thank you very much. Next item please. Matter of fact, we do have to take action on this.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to receive and file.

Commissioner McGinn 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Next item.”

**NEW BUSINESS**

- C. PROPOSED ISLAND ANNEXATION BY MULVANE, KANSAS OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF 111<sup>TH</sup> STREET SOUTH, ¼ MILE EAST OF THE INTERSECTION OF 111<sup>TH</sup> STREET SOUTH AND WEBB ROAD AND THE MULVANE CITY LIMITS.**

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### POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

**Mr. Robert W. Parnacott**, Assistant County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We have an island annexation here, KSA 12-520C, and the requirements for an island annexation are first that the property is wholly within the County. Second, that it is not adjacent to the city. Next, that the landowner consent to or petition for the annexation by the city and then the city has to pass a resolution petitioning the County Commission to make a finding as to whether or not the proposed annexation will hinder or prevent the proper growth and development of any other city or the area. And that’s what we’re here to do today is to discuss the case and let you make the necessary findings. We have Kent Hickson, who is a city administrator for Mulvane is here. Marvin Krout is also here. His staff prepared a report on this matter. That was included as part of the backup.

Briefly, we’ve got a map here that shows this is 111<sup>th</sup> Street South and this should be Webb, it looks like, and the area is right there. That is owned by the Rural Water District #3. It’s about 5.6 acres. It’s right across the street, right south of it, directly south of it is some property that’s owned by the city that has an underground water reservoir and a water treatment plant. Directly east, adjacent to the proposed annexation property, the city also has some property that they’re intending to site an electric generation facility at on a site of about 10 acres. The Rural Water District plans are to build an office building and a storage facility on that proposed site for annexation and they would like to have city services, of course, so the city in return would like to annex the site.

The Comprehensive Plan for the County indicates that area is within the City of Mulvane’s small city growth area and, as I noted earlier, MAPD has reviewed it, prepared a report and we’ve had other parts of other departments in the County review the proposed annexation and everybody is recommending that you make a finding that this proposed annexation will not hinder or prevent the proper growth and development of any other incorporated city or of the area. And if there are any questions, I’d be more than happy to answer them.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. And before we . . . I don’t see that we have a lot of conflicts, but Kent, you’re here. Is there anything that you would like to say or address us on that? Please feel free to come forward. This is Kent Hickson. He’s the City Administrator for the City of Mulvane. Good morning, Kent.”

**Mr. Kent Hickson**, City Administrator, City of Mulvane, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you for having us today and considering this issue. I don’t have anything to add to what Mr. Parnacott has already covered. It is a cooperative effort with the Rural Water District #3 and the City of Mulvane to site similar types of facilities. As Mr. Parnacott indicated, we’re going to be building an electrical generation facility adjacent to this and rather than having the Rural Water District’s office building someplace else away from that facility, we tried to group them together.

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That way, in the future, should that area, and I assume it will be developing into residential, developers will know what's there and then they can make their plans for development around it. So, I think it's a good growth management proposition. It's good for the Rural Water District and it's good for the city and we're comfortable working together to make it happen."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Well, thank you and thank you for showing up for us today. Commissioners, I've looked at this. I didn't see that there was any objections. I'm going to be very supportive of it. But let me just ask what is the will of the Board on this item please?"

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Mr. Chairman, I don't know if this is something that we normally take comment on. I doubt if there's anybody in the audience that might want to address it but if there was, I'd like to hear from them."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I am continually in education as to what the Chairman is supposed to do and on this item, since it is an annexation item, I would like to ask for the record is there anyone else here in the audience today that would like to address this annexation proposal, either for or against? Seeing none, I'll restrict all the comments to the Bench. Thank you for educating me on that. I don't see that we have any lights on indicating any comments. So, what's the will of the Board on this item please?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to make a finding that the proposed annexation will not hinder or prevent the proper growth and development of the area or that of any other incorporated city located in Sedgwick County.

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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

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

**Mr. Parnacott** said, "Pardon me. Thanks, Commissioner. I just wanted to mention that we would

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prepare a formal resolution stating this finding and it will be on the Consent Agenda for next week for your approval and signature.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Fine. Thanks, Kent. Next item please.”

### **D. PERMIT APPLICATION FOR A COMPOSTING FACILITY AT DERBY RECYCLING & TRANSFER STATION.**

#### **OVERHEAD PRESENTATION**

**Ms. Susan Erlenwein**, Director, Environmental Resources Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The Kansas Department of Health and Environment requires that any solid waste permit first be approved by the local government as to its consistency with the local solid waste plan. Derby Recycling and Transfer Station wishes to have a compost facility located on land they owned southwest of the City of Derby. This map shows the City of Derby is to the north, here’s K-15, here’s 91<sup>st</sup> Street South and here’s the Derby Sewage Treatment Plant and their proposed area is just south of that. I have another map that’s a little bit close up that shows K-15 here to the east of the land, here’s 91<sup>st</sup> Street South, here’s the Derby Sewage Treatment Plant and this is the area in question. This used to be a construction and demolition landfill. It’s been built up above the water area. This is the Arkansas River to the west. The compost facility would be located on top of this construction and demolition landfill which is currently going through final closure. There will be a cap put on this C & D landfill and then they proposed doing the composting on top. It will definitely be out of the flood plain at this location.

The current solid waste plan for Sedgwick County calls for waste minimization, cutting back on as much material as possible before final disposal. Our current plan also includes a ban on grass clippings and fallen leaves starting in January 2003. There is a commercial compost facility north of Wichita, at 53<sup>rd</sup> Street North, west of Broadway and this would give a compost facility on the south part of the County. The Solid Waste Committee reviewed this application at their April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and they voted for recommendation to the County Commission that it is consistent with our Solid Waste Plan. And I would recommend that it is consistent with the Solid Waste Plan and sign the permit application for KDHE. I’d be happy to answer any questions.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you, Susan. We do have a few questions or comments. Commissioner Gwin.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Susan, we talked about a composting operation at this site a while back but didn’t accept it because wasn’t it in a different location on this site?”

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**Ms. Erlenwein** said, “Yes. Previously, the location was to the west, closer to the river and also it was not zoned properly. The current proposal is zoned Industrial, from the old construction and demolition landfill, so it’s in the correct zoning.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Okay. Well that makes a huge difference too. I appreciate the recommendation of the Solid Waste Committee and I’ll support them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Commissioner Norton.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Real quick, Susan, just describe what a composting facility is and what it does and what they can take so citizens kind of know what that is. That’s a pretty generic term, composting facility.”

**Ms. Erlenwein** said, “Yes. Composting facilities usually take grass, leaves, tree limbs, actual tree trunks. I know they have a grinder already down at this area that they received a grant through KDHE to purchase the grinder and so citizens would take the material, there’s usually a cost associated per truckload or per bag of grass or leaves. That material is then processed at the facility. If it’s wood material, it’s chipped and then sold as chipped material. Grass and leaves go through a turning, to make sure it’s the right temperature and moisture content and it’s turned into the typical mulch material that we would go to a garden shop and purchase and people can then go to these facilities and purchase it there, take it home and incorporate it in their garden.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Where does this stand, as far as permitting with the transfer station. I mean, it’s called Derby Recycling and Transfer Station, so let us have an update on what’s happening with the transfer station, in juxtaposition with the composting.”

**Ms. Erlenwein** said, “The transfer station would be to the north, just off of 91<sup>st</sup> Street, directly west of . . . sorry about the lighting there, directly west of the sewage treatment plant, so you see the road heading to the south. Their proposed location is right in this area. About two years ago, this company came before the Solid Waste Committee and gave them information on a possible transfer station at that location. The committee requested that they come back with more detailed information. They have been working on their construction and demolition closure and other projects in that area and now they’re at the point that they have asked to be on the Solid Waste Committee agenda for their next meeting in June to bring this transfer station back to them. Then it would come back before the County Commissioners and finally go to KDHE for a permit. So, they still have intentions on building a transfer station, but it’s in the early stages, still having to go through the committee, the commissioners and finally to the state.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Similar area but not the same property.”

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**Ms. Erlenwein** said, "They own this large, general property. Similar area, here's the C & D. It would be to the north, in this area."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "That's all I have, Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioner McGinn."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going back to Betsy's comment about the denial of one composting site earlier, a couple of years ago I guess. You already said, I just want to reiterate it, make sure we've got it to agree here. The composting site will not be in the flood plain."

**Ms. Erlenwein** said, "That's correct. And I . . ."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "I'm looking at that group of trees and that's why I'm asking."

**Ms. Erlenwein** said, "I have a topographic map with me, to give you an idea the lines you see on this that indicates increase in elevation. The Ark River is over here. The trees to the east indicates a tributary going into the Ark River. This area is about 30 feet above the water to the east and the Ark River. So each line indicates an increase in elevation. So, because it was a construction/demolition landfill the area has been built up quite high above the surrounding water area."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "So there will also be a buffer area too? The fact that it's up high?"

**Ms. Erlenwein** said, "That's correct."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Okay. Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Commissioner Winters."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you. Just a very short comment on composting. I had an opportunity, a week ago Monday, to meet up with the Solid Waste Committee as they were doing a

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tour. And we were at the transfer station, Waste Connections Transfer Station, and Susan help me if I've got my numbers wrong but with the transfer station opening in October, they have been averaging about 1,100 tons a day on a five-day week. With the advent of spring and yard waste, that has jumped 500 tons a day. So, they're taking in 500 tons more that could be in other kinds of facilities. And I'm not going to say it's all going here but it certainly doesn't need to be in the transfer station or a landfill. Thank you. That's all I had, Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Susan, I just have one question. I assume that there wasn't any opposition to this at the Solid Waste Committee. Nobody came to present an opposition to it or anything?"

**Ms. Erlenwein** said, "That's correct."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Did this have to go through anything, the Derby Planning Commission or anything?"

**Ms. Erlenwein** said, "It has not. The area was already zoned Industrial."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. I don't see that there are any other questions. So, what's the will of the Board on this item please? Is there anyone here in the audience that would like to speak for or against this item? Okay, I don't hear any. So, now I'll asked once again, what's the will of the Board on this item?"

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to make a finding that the proposed Permit Application for a Composting Facility is consistent with the Solid Waste Management Plan and authorize the Chairman to sign a Composting Facility Permit Certification.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

### **VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin                      Aye

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Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you very much, Susan. Next item please.”

**E. RESIGNATION OF DOROTHY SPEER FROM HER APPOINTMENT TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING.**

**Mr. Rich Euson**, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Ms. Speer has tendered her resignation in writing and I would ask that you accept it.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Commissioners, as you know, Dorothy was my appointee and let me just read the letter that she has tendered to us. She says here:

*It is with deep regret that I tender my resignation from the Sedgwick County Council on Aging Board. My health confines me to my home and I'm no longer able to carry out my council duties, so I feel it's imperative that I resign. Thank you for your confidence in me.*

It is with reluctance that I'm willing to accept that resignation but I can certainly understand and compliment her on her recognition that perhaps maybe she needs to move on and certain restrictions impede her from being able to carry out her duties. What is the will of the Board on this item?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to accept the resignation and add a caveat that maybe you send a letter thanking her for her years of service from the Commission under your name.

Commissioner McGinn 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

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

**F. AGREEMENT WITH MEDIATION CENTER OF WICHITA TO PROVIDE MEDIATION SERVICES TO DISTRICT, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL COURTS IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.**

**Ms. Irene Hart**, Director, Division of Community Development, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The Mediation Center provides mediation services to district, county and municipal courts in Sedgwick County as an alternative to litigation. The program has been funded by Sedgwick County for several years at the current funding level, which is \$9,000 and it's included in our 2002 budget.

The program is successful and cost effective in helping people, courts and businesses of Sedgwick County. Approximately 300 cases generally receive services each year and that's their estimate for 2002. Cases are referred by the court so that they don't have an exact number knowing how many they'll have, since they are referred by the court. The \$9,000 goes to fund a part-time coordinator and trainer for the volunteers. I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I don't see any other than I'll ask you one question, either to you, Irene or to Rich or somebody that's involved in this directly. Do we have any feel as to how much tax dollars are being saved by being able to use a mediation method, as opposed to our normal, traditional courts system? Is there any gut feel? I would assume it would be fairly substantial."

**Ms. Hart** said, "Well, a couple of years ago we tried to reach conclusions there and if I recall correctly, the number of cases would require another judge and a half to hear another 300 cases. That's the best of my recollection but it does save court time and it does come to a more successful resolution than a court finding, because people come to an agreement on that themselves."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "So if I'm just mentally trying to figure out the salary and benefits of a judge and ancillary, we're talking \$100,000 or better a year and we're only spending \$9,000 to accomplish that. And I want to applaud all that got involved in this. I think this is one real prime example that we can show publicly how we really are trying to invest money wisely and provide services in the most efficient manner, so, great. Any other comments or questions? What's the will of the Board on this item please?"

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**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chairman 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Thank you, Irene. Next item please."

**G. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR CONTINUATION OF A SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATION PROGRAM.**

**Ms. Pat MacDonald**, Director of Community Education, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is a renewal of our existing agreement that we had last year. It will be for \$20,000 to cover salaries and mileage, plus a 1,000 of the latest technology smoke detectors to place in eligible homes in Sedgwick County. We're working with the Sedgwick County Fire Department on this, with Chief Thompson and we have a coordinator who is hired by the salary who goes around and solicits neighborhood groups."

This is a smoke detector installation program, so the important point is, as far as KDHE is concerned, is to get those smoke detectors installed, not just given away. So it takes a little more doing to get them installed. And we work with neighborhood groups and Fire is planning a special day, on a Saturday later on in the year, things like that to get them installed into homes."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. We do have some questions and comments. Are you finished then with your presentation? Okay. Commissioner Gwin."

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**Commissioner Gwin** said, “And I think you got to it because I was going to ask you how you go about identifying the needs or do people self-identify?”

**Ms. McDonald** said, “Well, individuals self-identify. We just collect their names and phone numbers. They will be getting back to when we have an installer ready to further recommend someone. So meanwhile, we call churches, we call neighborhood groups, we call service clubs. People call us too, looking for community service projects. We’ve had colleges come in. All kinds of ways to get groups that are willing to go out and install 50 or so, which then we say, ‘We’ve got these addresses’ or we try to clump them together of course or sometimes the neighborhood association takes care of it and they promote the idea and they say, ‘On this day we’re going to do it or call us if you want one’ and they handle it all themselves. There’s all kinds of ways of doing it.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Well, that’s terrific and we look forward to the publicity so that folks understand that this program is available. Thank you, Pat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Pat, let me ask you a question. What are the qualifications or the restrictions for an individual to be able to avail themselves of a free smoke detector and installation?”

**Ms. McDonald** said, “The program qualifications are that they have in their home there are children under six or seniors over 65, because they’re the ones most involved in fire fatalities. There are no income requirements, which was unexpected and there also is an education and paperwork requirement. The installer must go over some certain points about second escape routes from each room in the house and some education about fire prevention and safety and sign off and the homeowner must also sign off that they’ve had this education and then the coordinator will call each home back in six months and say, ‘Have you checked your smoke detector? Is it still working? Any problems with it?’ Some of them are defective, etcetera and so there’s a lot of paperwork and follow up involved in this program.”

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**Chairman Sciortino** said, “And the implementation is actually done with volunteer groups that actually will decide that this is something they would like to take on as service work and assist these people?”

**Ms. McDonald** said, “Yes. It’s usually somebody who knows the person, either from their church or neighborhood group, yes, but volunteer groups.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Is there a phone number that if just an individual that is watching today or may be in the audience that didn’t realize that this was available and now would like to be put on the list, what number would they call?”

**Ms. McDonald** said, “They would call the Health Department, really any number but we’ll give them 268-8401. That’s Community Education where I am and we’ll take their name and phone number and get back with them when we have an installer ready.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “That’s great. And if I understood the backup, we did actually what, 1,500 of these installations last year?”

**Ms. McDonald** said, “Yes, we did and so the state said, ‘Well, gee you did a good job, is there still more need?’ and we thought there was and is there’s still more people that could volunteer. Well, now we’re moving into the County, so we’re picking up some County resources that we didn’t have before. So, we’re trying to . . . we said, ‘Yes, we’ll take another 1,000 and we’ll see how quickly they go’.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay. So, let me just recap. As long as you’re 65 years of age or have children in the home under 6, either/ or. So someone could be a young family, but they have children. There’s no age restriction. Now is there a restriction like, is it just for unincorporated county or what happens if you live inside the city limits of Wichita?”

**Ms. McDonald** said, “That’s fine. Within the County, because it’s a Sedgwick County program. So, we’re not going to Butler County for instance.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I understand but no matter where they live inside one of our 20 cities or outside of it, as long as they live within Sedgwick County, they can avail themselves of this.”

**Ms. McDonald** said, “In fact, we’re trying to work with the A.L.A.R.M. group as well to get programs going in the other cities as well.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “That’s fantastic. Commissioner Winters.”

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**Commissioner Winters** said, “Just one comment. Two years ago, I had an opportunity to participate and congratulate the Boy Scouts out in Andale and I’m not sure they were on this program, but one of their troop projects was to go to every home in Andale and get every home in Andale to have a smoke detector. So, it was a great scout project, and I was out there as the boys went around and then got them installed. So, that might be an idea for others who are looking for a real civic project to team up with this project too. Thank you. That’s all I had.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay. Well, thank you very much. I don’t see that we have any further . . . I think this is a tremendous program that we’re putting out for the citizens. So I would just like to ask the Commissioners what’s the will of the Board on this?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you very much, Pat. Next item please.”

**H. PUBLIC WORKS.**

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- 1. ESTIMATE FOR INSPECTION OF MATERIALS DURING AND AFTER FABRICATION FOR BRIDGE INCLUDED IN SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT NO. 831-AA, BB, CC ON ROCK ROAD FROM DERBY TO MULVANE. CIP# R-243. DISTRICTS #2 AND #5.**

**Mr. David Spears**, Director/County Engineer, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Item H-1 is the approval of an estimate from Wilke Materials for the inspection of structural steel for the bridge over the B.N.S.F. Railway on the Rock Road project between Derby and Mulvane, designated as R-243 in the Capital Improvement Program. The steel to be used for the girders will be inspected at the place of fabrication, which happens to be Billings Montana, to ensure that it meets county and industry standards. The cost will not exceed \$17,480. I recommend that you approve the estimate."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, David. Any questions or comments of David? I don't see any. So, what's the will of the Board on this item please?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the estimate.

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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Next item please."

- 2. KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (KDOT) FORM 1302, "REQUEST FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT," FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT NO. 634-32, 33, 34, 35, 36; 63<sup>RD</sup> STREET SOUTH BETWEEN ROCK ROAD AND THE BUTLER COUNTY LINE. DISTRICT**

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**#5.**

**Mr. Spears** said, "Item H-2 is a request for construction project KDOT Form 1302, that initiates our request for construction and federal funding through KDOT to reconstruct 63<sup>rd</sup> Street South to four lanes between Rock Road and the Butler County line. The purpose is to get this project on KDOT's five-year plan. I recommend that you approve Form 1302 and authorize the Chairman to sign."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, David. I don't see that we have any questions of you on this item. So, what is the will of the Board please?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the KDOT Form 1302 and authorize the Chairman 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "David, thank you very much but before you leave, I want to thank you again in response to a couple of citizens' inquiry and requests down there in the Mulvane area during our construction for some detour signs so that the people would know how to still access their business area and I compliment you on the speedy response to their inquiries."

**Mr. Spears** said, "Not a problem."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Next item please."

**I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 2, 2002.**

**Ms. Iris Baker**, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The item

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being presented today for consideration is a result of the meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2002.

**1) REMODEL 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR JURY ROOM- FACILITY PROJECT  
FUNDING: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

The item is the remodel of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Jury Room for Facility Projects and the recommendation is the low bid from Rainbow Construction for \$341,000.

Be happy to answer any questions and do recommend approval of this item today.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Well, Iris, this isn’t fair. We had four, five, six, seven bidders and you’re taking the low bid. There’s no controversy on this one. That’s not fair.”

**Ms. Baker** said, “Not on this one, sir.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Mr. Chairman, I had just one comment. Hopefully this project will turn out as good as the pay station project because that is a beautiful project and it starts to set the standard for what we want the courthouse to look like on the first level. So, hopefully the Jury Room will be a big improvement to that side of the building. Moving forward later and doing the

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foyer and the entryway. So, hopefully this will carry on the good work you've already done. Thanks."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. And Commissioners, we do have now an Off Agenda item that I would like to bring up at this time. It was just inadvertently left off of our regular . . . it should have just been on as a regular item but it was left off inadvertently."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin 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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**OFF AGENDA ITEM**

**RECONSIDERATION OF ITEM 2, AMBULANCES- FLEET MANAGEMENT, OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2002.**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Iris."

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**Ms. Baker** said, “This item is ambulances and it was deferred at the April 17<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting for further review and analysis. After such review, an evaluation of all of the bids received, the recommendation is to accept the bid meeting most of the specifications, including trade-ins, from Midwest Vehicle Professionals for \$653,136. I do have staff available and committee who did the reviews and evaluating if you have questions.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay. Do we have any questions or comments of Iris at this point? Commissioners, you also received a letter dated May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2002 from a Mr. Allen Trye, who is the regional sales manager of Wheeled Coach. I do believe Mr. Trye and some principals of Wheeled Coach are here. They have asked permission to speak to us and I’m going to allow that. So, if you have no comments at this time. Go ahead, Commissioner Winters.”

**Commissioner Winters** said, “I have no problem with having them speak but you’re offering that to anybody who would be here.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “That’s just the first . . . I’m going to offer anybody that wants to speak for or against this item. So I will now publicly ask is there anyone here in the audience that would like to address us concerning this item? If so, please come up to the podium, give your name and address for the record and you will be limited to five minutes, sir.”

**Mr. Allen Trye**, Regional Manager, Wheeled Coach, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I reside in Roseville, California and I am the regional manager of all states west of the Mississippi. You have all received the letter that I sent you yesterday, explaining our position regarding this bid. And I’d like to take some excerpts from it, if you wish please. Wheeled Coach is a Kansas-based company with ambulance manufacturing . . .”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Sir, if I could just ask you to please speak a little closer to the mic. I’m the only senior on this but I have a little problem.”

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**Mr. Trye** said, "Okay. Wheeled Coach is a Kansas-based company with ambulance manufacturing facilities in Hutchinson Kansas and Orlando Florida. With a staff of over 600 employees, we've been manufacturing innovative, quality, durable and safe ambulances for EMS providers for nearly 30 years. We are the world's largest ambulance manufacturer and we value our partnerships with each and every one of our customers. Among others, our current customers include the cities of Los Angeles, Sacramento, Austin, Dallas, Albuquerque, Detroit, Orlando and Cincinnati. We've also recently delivered high-end custom units to Boeing Aircraft, Los Alamos National Laboratory and the California Speedway.

We've also recently formed partnerships in this state with numerous municipalities in the counties of Labette and Reno. We've also had a long-term relationship with the U.S. government's Goods and Services Administration. As our neighbor, Sedgwick County is a valued customer and partner. We understand the importance of this contract and we firmly believe that we were the lowest qualified bidder with respect to this RFQ.

We submit to you that this contract should be awarded to Wheeled Coach, since we were the low bid, with a few clarifications, that we believe were not significant enough to alter the intent of what was being requested or warrant Sedgwick County taxpayers paying an additional \$75,000. Furthermore, from the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts, the calculated difference on the base unit price bid by Wheeled Coach is \$81,768 versus the high bid from Midwest Vehicle Professionals of \$95,617. This will cost the taxpayers an additional \$13,849 per unit. For 8 units, that amount on the base price is \$110,792. Again, Wheeled Coach would like to express our gratitude to Chairman Sciortino and the Board of Commissioners for taking the time to understand all the facts surrounding this bid.

In the letter I recently wrote to the Chairman, I stated 'The Board of Commissioners must believe the factual information has been presented and proper processes have been followed to support a recommendation'. In closing, no matter what your decision today, the lines of communication between Wheeled Coach and Sedgwick County will remain open, as they always have.

I have also Mr. Kent Tyler from our corporate office in Collins Industries in Hutchinson Kansas here and we'd take your questions."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, thank you. Do we have any questions of this presenter? I don't see any questions, Mr. Trye. Thank you very much for presenting to us. Is there anyone else in the audience that would like to speak for or against this item? Yes, sir. Please come forward. If you would state your name and address for the record and you too, sir I have to advise you that you're limited to five minutes."

**Mr. Keen Shauff**, 1619 N. Glendale, Wichita, Ks., greeted the Commissioners and said, "My business location is here in Wichita. I'm the sales representative for MVP, Midwest Vehicle

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Professionals. I wanted to express our pleasure at the opportunity to bid vehicles to you. We are a custom manufacturer. That is the basis and premise by which we operate our business, a high quality, custom manufacturer. So, when specifications come to us, it is our goal and intent is to build the ambulance the way the customer has deemed it necessary to meet their needs for function, safety and durability. So, if we have to add metal, if we have to add special options, and there's a number in this bid proposal to do that, that is our goal. Not to regulate and tell everybody that our vehicle is what you ought to have. We want to build what you have deemed necessary.

I'm a resident of this County, have been in this business 29 years. As early as '96, when we talked about door rod failures on none of the products that are being discussed here today but yet, at the same time, those failures had to be written out of the specification, because they don't want a door jamming closed at the accident scene, where you can't get a patient in or out. If we had oxygen hose that wasn't protected with proper stainless steel hosing, those kinds of things. Now, those are in the specifications but those are the kinds of issues that address the necessary function of the system, writing in specifications, those items that lend themselves to durability and function, and writing out issues and parameters that lead themselves to fatigue or past durability history.

We are a very large company. We're owned by Pierce Manufacturing, which is owned by Oshkosh. My business is here in Wichita. I'm close. I'm familiar with the system and our design is to build you a durable, functional ambulance and stay close and take care of that. If you have any questions, I'll be glad to address that but I wanted to tell you that we are a custom manufacturer, so that's why we're able to address these issues. Certainly at more expense, but able to do those things for whatever the customer requests."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much. I don't see that we have any questions of you but I thank you very much for making a presentation to us. Is there anyone else here that would like to address us on this issue, for or against? Seeing none, I'm going to limit the discussion and comment from the Bench. Commissioner Winters."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you. I have a question of Marv Duncan. Marv, back on whenever it was, April 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>, a Wednesday when we discussed this, we deferred the item at that time. One of the bidders had requested that we delay this in an opportunity to let the committee that evaluated these bids meet with the vendors again. Have you done that?"

**Mr. Marvin Duncan**, Director, Fleet Management, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yes, sir we have."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Met with several of the vendors."

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**Mr. Duncan** said, "Yes. We met with all of the responders."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "And what's the recommendation of the committee again, after all of those meetings?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "In fact, it was quite an extensive process, clarification process and it worked very well between us and we had good conversations and really were able to flush out the spec and the issues. In one case, we actually had to go visit one of the vendors, a manufacturing plant, because we'd never been there, nobody on the team had ever been there so we did take two days and go do that to make sure everybody had a fair observation and a fair input to our process. After we've done all that, we still recommend that we purchase the MVP Med Tech ambulance."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "And that's the Midwest Vehicle Professionals?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Yes, sir."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "That's all I have, Marv. That's all I have, Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Commissioner Winters. Commissioner Gwin."

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Thank you. Also in the process, Marv, I want to thank you for coming by and visiting with us in more detail about the specifications and the criteria, how they were developed and give us more information because it was important for us to understand that. When I met with you and representatives who helped create these specifications, I was much more assured that the specifications were in fact important. I have a great deal of respect for those people who operate and use these pieces of equipment on a daily basis. I have a great deal of respect for those people who maintain these pieces of equipment on a daily basis. Their participation in creating criteria to be able to create vehicles that meet their needs was an important part for me, to learn how important this information, these criteria were for them. And so, given that, given the discussion that you've had, as we asked you to do with the vendors, the information I've got from the men and women who both operate and maintain these pieces of equipment, I'm going to be supportive of the recommendation of the Board of Bids and Contracts back on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. I don't see the light on for anyone else, so I have some . . . Okay, I have some questions. Marvin, as it was pointed out by one of the applicants, Wheeled Coach, we're being asked, if their numbers are correct, to pass on approving a product that is I think their numbers are \$13,849 more per unit. Could you tell us, so that we can justify publicly to any

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citizen asking us why we're spending more on this product, why it's justifiable and why we should be spending this additional money?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Yes, sir. If it please the Board, I have a small presentation that will walk us through the process and point out the differences, if you think that will clarify any questions."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, I'm speaking maybe only for myself, but I would be more comfortable if you could just show us some justification. I mean, the main thing I think, in talking to you, am I right in assuming none of these products are inherently unsafe?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "No, sir."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. And they all meet federal regulations for safety, as required. Yes, I think I would be more comfortable if you could show us why you're asking us to spend close to \$14,000 more per unit."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "And that \$14,000, as Mr. Trye briefed you, is the unit price. The trade-ins haven't been factored in there yet."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Well that's something to show us."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "So after you factor in the trade-ins, it's about a \$9,300 per unit difference, just on this year's buy."

### **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

This is the steps we took for this RFQ. Before I get started, I'd like to introduce the team in case some of you haven't met all of them. Barry Guinn, raise your hand Barry, from EMS, Boyd Powers from Fleet Management, 20 years experience working on ambulances, now our shop chief that takes care of the ambulances and the police cruisers. Greg Schuessler from EMS, Carol Bevelhymer is our purchaser and actually joined us on our trip to visit a manufacturing plant. Other folks that helped out during the interviews, Garry Tolle in the back from EMS, Mark Kemper, another mechanic from Fleet Management, and then my boss, Bob Lamkey, also sat in on some of those clarification meetings.

The first thing we did, and we came to you about a month ago with our recommendation, we had gotten the bid responses, evaluated the bid responses and working with the information that was provided, came up with our recommendation. One of the vendors asked for a clarification interview. This was a good move. It gave us a chance to do some one-on-one. The items we thought were missing from their bid responses, and it was from all the vendors, it wasn't particularly one, they said if we didn't provide it in the information given to you, that meant we're

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going to build it the way you want it. So we clarified what we had called before omissions from the information and they said, 'Yes, we will build it the way you want it'.

So after the interviews, we had determined that . . . we had been to three of the sites. A number of people on the board had visited those plants, knew how they produce ambulances. There was a fourth vendor that we didn't know very much about and they didn't provide very much information, so we thought it was worthy to take a couple of days and go take a look at that manufacturing site. When we got back, last Friday, the team got back together again, reviewed all our facts and did an evaluation, just like we were starting all over again, and came up with the same recommendation that you heard today.

This was the substantial specification criteria that we used. There are bid requirements that we like to see in the responses. We want to know how many ambulances a year the vendors build so we know if there's some sustainability there and there's some experience in producing ambulances. We keyed in on construction material this time. We also had some different construction techniques that we wanted to consider and, as always, module dimensions were important because EMS has certain things that have to go in certain compartments to do their job.

I'll address each one of those, what we thought was specific and how we felt each vendor met that requirement. Under bid requirements, we felt that Wheeled Coach met two of the four. The two that were missing were the wiring schematics for the electronics that's in the box and also the paint and stripe drawings were not submitted with the response as we had asked. We're switching to a new paint scheme and we wanted to make sure that the responsible vendor understood what we wanted.

McCoy Miller we felt met two of the four and they are the same items I just briefed you on for Wheeled Coach. MedTech did respond with all the requirements that we'd asked for in the bid. Taylor Made didn't give us any information, other than, 'Yes, we can' and it became very difficult to evaluate Taylor Made without the required documents and that's kind of what drove us to 'Let's go take a look to see if they would be a player or not'.

Under construction material, what we were interested in was the construction material was four areas. We wanted to look at using a stronger aluminum. It's called 60/ 61 T-6. We wanted buno-rubber insulation. We wanted to reinforce the dome light mounding in the top of the ambulance box and we wanted to use automotive style speed-clips to try to solve the problem of the screws and things backing out of the doors.

And so under the construction material, Wheeled Coach met three of those five areas. The two that they didn't meet was the rubber, buno-rubber insulation and the use of the automotive style speed-

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clips and that has to do with the way that they construct their doors and we'll talk about that on the next slide.

McCoy met three of the five. 60/ 61 T-6 aluminum, in the responses that they sent to us they used 60/ 63 but in the clarification process, when the manufacturer sat down with us, they didn't realize that their dealer was using outdated information. But we had to deal with what we were given with the bid."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Let me ask you, Marvin, I'm trying to write this down. Did Wheeled Coach fail to meet the aluminum requirements or did they meet the aluminum requirements?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "No, they said they would, during the clarification process, they said they would do the 60/ 61."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "So, they missed the rubber insulation . . ."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "The rubber and the automotive style clips that would help hold our screws in place."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "MedTech responded with all of the requirements that we'd asked for. Taylor Made met four of the five but remember, it was very hard to determine what Taylor Made could do, because we didn't get a lot of bid information from them. And as we've toured the plant, we heard over and over again, 'Yes we'll do it, yes we'll do it' but we didn't see any evidence where they were currently doing it or had done it. They didn't meet the one requirement for the automotive speed clips and, again, that's due to the way they construct their doors.

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The next area we looked at was the construction techniques that were important to us to help solve some of our reliability problems. Under construction techniques, there was six areas we looked at. One of the most important was bonding and welding of the skin to the structure of the box. The second area was a crowned roof, which we currently have with our ambulances. Door construction was an area that we want to improve our reliability. Full-length mounting plates that mount the box to the chassis to give it more structure and then, again the last area was to move the air conditioning unit where it's more centered over the center of the box, better cooling for the patient and the tech, rather than off to the side.

Wheeled Coach we felt met two of those six areas. They do bond and weld, but they only do the frame around the box. They don't do it to the internal members of the box, the two by fours on the side of the box."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And was that a requirement that they do it to the two by fours around the box?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Well, that's where the clarification meeting helped. They thought that's what we meant was around the box and that's not what we meant. We meant all of it."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And was that explained in the specs?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Yes, it was. And we asked if that would be possible and they said, no, they'll just do around the frame.

Integral door jams, it was an area of construction, a different way to do door jams that we were looking for. They didn't meet that criteria. Door construction and the air conditioning location wasn't moved on their drawings where we wanted it.

McCoy met two of the six. Again, bonding and welding, in the information they gave us didn't say that they would do that the way we wanted it. Integral door jams was another area, door construction and air conditioning location was again a problem with them meeting our spec.

MedTech responded with all of those items. Taylor Made, again, met four of the six but they don't build their door jams in the doors the way we wanted them. But again, they said, yes they would do it but we didn't see any evidence that they'd ever done it.

On the module dimensions, the three important areas that we looked at on the bid responses were the overall dimensions of the box itself, exterior compartments and interior cabinets and it's very

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important to have the right sizes in there for our EMS folks to store their equipment so they can do their job, meet their mission.

Wheeled Coach . . .”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “And what was the third? You had the overall dimension, interior/exterior boxes and what’s the third?”

**Mr. Duncan** said, “There’s three, overall dimensions of the box, and the second one is exterior compartments and the interior cabinets.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay, got it. I had put that down as one.”

**Mr. Duncan** said, “Wheeled Coach, on the overall dimensions in the drawings they provided us they wanted to provide a 163 inch box and we were asking for 166. Exterior compartments, there were several in there that didn’t meet our measurements on their drawings as well as interior cabinets. Their drawings did not reflect what we had asked for in the spec.

McCoy met one of the three. The two they didn’t meet was exterior compartments and interior cabinets. MedTech, on their drawings and information provided with their response met all of them. Taylor Made met two of the three. The one that they didn’t meet was an exterior compartment back where the gas fill tube is. They couldn’t figure out how to get the dimensions in there that we wanted and we told them three others had figured that out.

The value of our specifications was to improve reliability and strength. We wanted to build the box to meet EMS’ mission requirements, do they have the space where they want it, do they have the lights where they want it, the grab-rails, the air conditioning unit so they can be the best they can be.

As always, when maintenance and EMS look at the specs, we’re looking at reducing costs, maintenance costs. We’re looking at reducing vehicle downtime. And I have the data system now, we’re only in it two years now, but we can track our downtime very accurately. And that drove us to again recommending MVP for MedTech Ambulances and that concludes my briefing. The team is here, if you have questions, they’d certainly help us out.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I believe we do have some, if you’ll just bear with me. Commissioner McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Thank you for that briefing. I agree with some of the criteria is very important to have the ambulance custom made. I do have a question though about, help me

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understand what this 166 versus 163, how did we come up with the fact that we needed three more inches?"

**Mr. Greg Schuessler**, EMS Major, greeted the Commissioners and said, "And to answer that question Commissioner, the 166 inches, when we add all the dimensions of the cabinets and the compartments outside, it totals to that dimension."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Okay, so . . ."

**Mr. Schuessler** said, "When we want a certain size in a compartment in the left-forward and a certain size in the compartment in the left-middle, on the outside of the truck and then the rear, those dimensions added up to a total of 166, by the time you put the spaces in and the bumper and the mounting."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Is that currently what we have?"

**Mr. Schuessler** said, "They are 166 inches now, or actually . . . We have two different types of trucks, so some are 166, some are a little bit less than that."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Okay but the 166 is what we prefer because that's what we have right now and that's what works best for us right now."

**Mr. Schuessler** said, "That's what we need to put our equipment in the cabinets and the compartments that we have, we would need that space."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Okay. Thank you. I don't have anything right now."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Any other questions? Okay, Marvin, let me just ask again if I can of you, there is a sizable difference between the low bid and the bid that we took and even factoring trade-in, we're \$9,093 difference. In your opinion, this is a wise decision for us to spend the additional money for this so we can justify that to the taxpayers? I mean, you feel comfortable that we can justify long term that this is a wise investment for us to make?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "I feel very comfortable with it. I can't put a dollar price to downtime. If I can reduce downtime on an ambulance, the more we reduce the downtime, the fewer spares you would need. The more ambulances are available for like events this weekend, with the River Festival.

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Everything we have will be at the River Festival so it's very important that we try to spec out as many problem areas as we can. Long term-wise, we're looking to build a better, stronger box, not that there's anything wrong safety-wise with the fleet we have now, but there are other strategies in the future we can use. If the box performs well, we can look at remounts down the road and that's not to say we'd remount everything, but we feel this might be a stronger product to pursue that kind of long-term strategy with and there could be some savings in 2005, if we head that way."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Let me ask you just a couple of more questions. Right now, with what we're doing knowing the downtime that we have, how many spares do we presently have in our system?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "I think we have four spares."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. And you're convinced that there's a good chance that because of maybe going to this higher priced that we could reduce that to three spares because that would be a sizable savings? Is that what you're saying to us?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "I think we may be able to avoid future spares, because the call rate is increasing all the time. I don't think we can get by with less than what we have now, but I'm looking for the future. I don't know what EMS is doing."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I thought I had you. I thought we could actually see a reduction somewhere. So, what we're saying is we're anticipating having more spares and now we won't have to have . . . but you don't see us reducing the amount of spares that we presently have."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "No, and I'd have to confer with my EMS Department before I'd ever make a statement that says we would reduce a spare."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "But you say you do have records right now that are pretty reliable that can show you the amount of downtime hours, maintenance rehab, latches, doors, knobs, everything that we're having to work on. So, we should be able to see, in the next year or so, what it costs to maintain whatever new ones we buy, assuming we agree with your position, and we should be able to see less maintenance hours and a reduction that that could be acquainted to dollars and cents."

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**Mr. Duncan** said, "I could draw you a comparison, after we've had them in the fleet to gather some data."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "So we could be possibly not needing some mechanics and personnel and what have you if we don't have to do that much work."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Right. The fleet management system we have helps us with those informed decisions and we have reduced the mechanics by three, two last year and I believe we're going to delete . . ."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I was just focusing on these ambulances."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "I only have one ambulance mechanic right now and the others fill in on standby when they can."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. But anyway, you're comfortable that we're going to show sufficient efficiencies, ease of operation or what have you to justify this additional cost?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "In the long term, yes sir."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, I don't see that we have . . . I have another comment or question from Commissioner McGinn."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess just to ease the public here, you made a comment that I hope is wrong that all the ambulances will be at the River Festival and I think what you're saying is all our extra ambulances will be at the River Festival, including the ones that are already located close and nearby. The others will be in the proper locations."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Good point. They're all available. Normally the spares would sit in Fleet Management, but I think in this case the spares will be deployed. Normally, they're kept in our garage and used when needed."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "The others will be distributed around the County. The other thing I

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guess I just wanted to make a comment on or a point, when you guys briefed me on the different bids that we received you also shared that there were two companies that are traditionally even higher than the one that we're looking at today, which we would term in general comments as 'the Cadillac'. And so really we're not buying the Cadillac. We're buying a higher middle grade. It's just that of the bids we received it came in higher, because the others we didn't receive. Is that correct?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Yes. And in our opinion we're kind of the upper middle. And Iris and her staff did some leg work there, if you'd like . . ."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Looks like we have other counties, one next door, Butler County that's used this product and also Johnson County."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "We were interested in are we getting a fair value, just because we're taking the most expensive bid at this time and, again our staff did make some phone calls and we're right in that bid range for this type ambulance."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I have a question of Mr. Trye real quick if I could."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Mr. Trye, would you please come up to the podium again."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Thanks for being here today. As I listened to the presentation and have seen it before and tried to analyze everything, one of the things that struck me is we had 18 protocols or 18 things that we looked at and some of those you could not provide and I just wanted to clear it up. Air conditioning position in the box, you cannot put it where we asked to put it. Is that correct?"

**Mr. Trye** said, "If we have to redesign our whole truck on the front bulkhead, we could but in our normal production techniques, we put the air conditioner on the right."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "It's not about your normal production techniques. Can you put it where we want it?"

**Mr. Trye** said, "No."

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**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay. Dimensions of the box, we want 166. Can you give us that?"

**Mr. Trye** said, "We never took exception to that, sir."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay, so you could do that."

**Mr. Trye** said, "Yes."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Welding on the box skin, other than the outside, can you hit the ones in between?"

**Mr. Trye** said, "Yes. And I have a letter from our director of engineering, if you'd like that."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "So that's changed since we . . ."

**Mr. Trye** said, "We never took exception to that, sir. In our original exceptions list, we did not take exception to the welding of the box in the way it was to be constructed."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Wait a minute. That's one thing you said that they didn't meet. Do they meet it or not meet it, Marvin?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Well, in the clarification process, that's when Al said, 'We thought you meant around the frame' and we asked, 'will you do the internal structures' and as I recall he said, 'No, we don't do the internal structures'."

**Mr. Trye** said, "I don't want to get into a he said/ she said, sir. Commissioner, we did not take exception to the construction of the box. During the clarification meeting, there was some discussion about the ambiguity of the spec and our engineers read it, they interpret it one way, versus what Sedgwick County wrote it for. We will build the box as per the specification. And as I said, I have a letter from our director of engineering confirming that. In our original specification, we did not . . . or bid, we did not take exception to that."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, I didn't write down all of those. I just wrote down three that I had picked at random. Carolyn did you have . . ."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "The electrical design, do you give us a general or generic design or do you give us exactly what's in it?"

**Mr. Trye** said, "We will build the truck as per your specification. What was in the bid was a requirement to provide as-built wiring diagrams before the truck was built and we have never done

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that. You do that, you provide those as-built wiring diagrams after the truck has been built so the mechanics have an as-built picture of the truck. To do that before hand, that would incur probably another 50 to 60 hours of labor on our part just to do drawings for a truck that's not even built yet. That was the requirement we spec."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Thank you."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I guess to me that muddles . . . obviously, the air conditioning box you're not going to do and there's one but if we've described exactly what we want, I mean I think we have every right to do that as an entity and expect that that's what we want. And I guess the price is important but if the price is really not what we're asking to be built, I mean that's like somebody coming to a Target Store and saying, 'I'd like this and would you add this on' and go, 'No, I can only sell you this because that's what we have in stock'."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "But that's not what I'm hearing him say. Okay, Marvin would you come up too, and Mr. Trye you stay here too. Let me go through this again. First you did, under bid requirements, you said they didn't provide you wiring schematics. Now Mr. Trye says he would be willing to provide you as-built wiring schematics. I think I just heard, is that what I just heard that after the vehicle was built, you would provide a wiring schematic of the wiring that's in . . .?"

**Mr. Trye** said, "That's traditionally the way it's done, Chairman."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, but I just wanted to verify that you did . . . Now, explain to us why you needed the wiring schematic . . . why it's a very crucial item is to have the wiring schematics before, as opposed to receiving it after?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Well, in the past, usually we get too generic of a wiring diagram and currently the mechanics don't use the wiring diagrams that are provided with the trucks when they're delivered because they're not built, as-built, as the truck is."

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**Chairman Sciortino** said, “But wait a minute, and this is not my expertise here but on as-built schematic or something would seem to me to be more accurate, as opposed to ‘this is what we think it’s going to look like’ but if it’s actually . . . I’m hanging on the word as-built. Here it is as-built and then here’s a picture, this is where it is and supposedly you open it up and that’s where it is, because that’s the way it’s built. Why is that less accurate than getting a schematic prior to it being built? Please do, Boyd because I’m confused on this.”

**Mr. Boyd Powers**, Shop Foreman, Fleet Management, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We asked to see those wiring schematics to prove to us that the vendor will deliver them to us because there’s like 14 miles of wire inside one of those units. If we don’t have a blueprint of where those wires go, we invest tons more hours in trying to track those problems down. It should have been real easy for Mr. Trye to send them to us, because we’ve bought his trucks for the last two years.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay, but I’m trying to get my hands around why, once you get the vehicle and you have the as-built schematics, why would you need the before- built . . . Are the as-built schematics not sufficient for you to be able to see where the wires are, since supposedly this is how it is built?”

**Mr. Powers** said, “If I’m understanding you correctly, what we’re asking for is as-built for a Sedgwick County truck. Since it’s custom, we have different electrical locations, different things come out of different places and as-built Sedgwick County schematics will tell us where these wires run, what color they are and where they go to. Is that what you mean?”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “No. I’ll say it again. You were asking for schematics of the wiring diagram before the vehicle was built, so it can’t be as-built because it’s not built yet. The manufacturer has said we would provide you as-built schematics, meaning here’s the truck, here’s the schematics as the wiring are now in the vehicle that you purchased. My question is, is that not accurate for you and why did you need to see them before they were built, if you did indeed get a customized, as-built schematic after the vehicle was delivered to you?”

**Mr. Powers** said, “It can be done prior to the build of the vehicle.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “That’s not my question. My question is why did this company get gigged? I don’t know if I’m talking to the right guy here.”

**Mr. Powers** said, “To evaluate that they can do it. To evaluate that the vendor is capable of producing good diagrams.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay. I’m not trying to berate you, I’m just really trying to get by . .

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.Could someone . . . I mean, is this a real crucial thing Marv or Bob that you need to look at the diagram before if you're being given . . . I mean, a schematic is designed that if you have to go in to repair it you can look at the schematic and say, 'Okay, a junction box should be behind this panel' and open it up and, in theory, there's where the junction box is or something."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "That's why we want to know, up front. We ask for a custom-made box. We've got stuff in areas that other people don't and we want to see, up front, the wiring and the components that are used to build the box that we're looking for."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "So that was a requirement that you asked for and this company did not comply with it."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "It was a requirement. Correct."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And, Mr. Trye, I guess they asked for a paint scheme and you failed to present that. Would you explain why."

**Mr. Trye** said, "Sir, those are normally done in our production process at the pre-construction conference where the paint scheme and the colors are all selected. That's when we normally do that process."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I mean, after you'd got the bid you mean?"

**Mr. Trye** said, "Yes. There's a provision in the contract to have a pre-construction conference mid-point in final inspections. Those are normally done at that point."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "They did ask for a paint scheme prior. I mean, with your RFQ they asked for a paint scheme and that wasn't given."

**Mr. Trye** said, "No."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Marvin, explain to me why that's so important."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "As we mentioned earlier, they are changing the way that they're going to paint the outside of the box. EMS has a new design and we wanted to make sure that whoever was

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awarded the contract understood that up front and one way to do that was to get their drawing back saying, 'Yes, we understand what you want in your spec and this is how it's going to look'."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I can understand the auto speed-clips. That's was explained to me why that was important. The rubber, on the construction material, what was the rubber installation or something?"

**Mr. Duncan** said, "It's called buna-rubber."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Who?"

**Mr. Bob Lamkey**, Assistant County Manager, said, "Buna-rubber, it is an insulation that's used in construction. Three of the vendors said that they would comply. Wheeled Coach said they would not. And I'd like to address, if I may, the issues of our specification with regards to some of the questions that you had.

We asked for some specific things, based upon our experience and needs that we feel that Wheeled Coach or any of the vendors could provide. Fifty or sixty hours worth of cad work is an expense to them that we would have assumed and presumed that they would add to the price of our vehicles if there was a cost. They chose not to do that. They all had the specifications for a month, you were sent, analysis could have been done, questions could have been asked, clarifications could have been had. So all those things that we've asked for, quite frankly, we had at least one vendor who provided them, the critical specifications. It is my belief that any of these vendors could have provided this process should they have chosen to make the investment in doing so.

So it goes, to some degree, we can talk about whether we should have or shouldn't have. What we asked were for the things that we needed to have to evaluate their product to do mid-point inspections to understand what they were going to present to us so we can evaluate whether we were getting the product that we asked for. And really that was the whole function of that process. Our specifications were made for us to be able to do that and to provide what, in our opinion is, a more reliable, durable ambulance to support the citizens of Sedgwick County and the folks that work on them. And that's our only objective and we're right. We're not asking for the sun and the moon in our specifications. We're asking to move them up, based upon our experience and process."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And I agree with you. I didn't hear Wheeled Coach say they couldn't do it. They were trying to conserve costs, but they could have incorporated that in the overall cost of the product."

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**Mr. Lamkey** said, "I think they chose not to. And that is a difference, when you're being responsive to a bid process. What you chose to do or what you're capable of doing bear on that process."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Thank you. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, certainly picking up on what Bob is saying, if we want to relax what our bid specifications are and say, 'Okay, don't move the air conditioner' we would have to re-bid the whole thing and put that specification in because that may have added some cost to MedTech's bid, based on them having a standard of having it on the side or somewhere else in their general construction or manufacturing techniques and now they had to add \$400 and a little design work and some cad work to get it there. I'm not willing to say that we're going to start the process all over again to lower our standards to meet what Wheeled Coach can do. I think we stick to our standards and that's a decision we make as a County Commissioner, as to whether we uphold these standards or would we re-bid the whole thing for something of lesser quality or lesser desired capabilities of what we want. And that's why I was getting at that, can you do it or can you not, do you want to or not want to. And we have the right to say, 'We want the air conditioning in the middle'. On that one issue, we could accept the bid, because that's what we want. And if we want to pay a little more to get the air conditioning in the middle, so be it. It takes the debate away from it. That's all I have."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Any other comments or questions of anyone that's presented to us? What's the will of the Board on this item please?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the recommendation of the Board of Bids and Contracts and award the bid to Midwest Vehicle Professionals.

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 Carolyn McGinn      Aye  
Chairman Ben Sciortino              Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Next item please."

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**J.      CONSENT AGENDA.**

- 1.      One Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Stream Maintenance Project 811-U; Ridge Road between 39<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Streets South. District #2.**
- 2.      Proposed adjustment to service charge for tickets for The Eagles concert at Kansas Coliseum.**
- 3.      Letter to Kansas Attorney General requesting that Sedgwick County be certified as a "Disparate Jurisdiction" under the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program.**
- 4.      Agreement with Saint Raphael Home Care, Inc. providing Community Developmental Disability Provider Status.**
- 5.      Plat.**

Approved by Public Works. The County Treasurer has certified that taxes for the year 2001 and prior years have been paid for the following plat:

Angel's Landing

- 6.      Order dated May 1, 2002 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 7.      Payroll Check Registers (two) of April 26 and April 30, 2002.**
- 8.      General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of May 1 - May 7, 2002.**

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

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**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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 Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Anything else to come before this Board? Commissioner Gwin.”

**K. OTHER**

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Just real quickly, I have photographs but the public can’t see them. They’re too little. They’re very tiny. See, it’s a big lion. We dedicated the lion sculptures last night at the Sedgwick County Zoo. They are life-size bronzes. That’s my granddaughter sitting atop the big male. Tom Winters took these. Thank you, Tom for getting them to me so quickly. They are a gift of the Junior League of Wichita. These are two of the League members, Betsy Redler is the president this year, to complete the Pride of the Plains exhibit. There is a full size male, a female laying down that you can see here with two cubs by her. And there’s a little cub up here by dad and there’s a fourth cub sitting down here kind of staring off into who knows where. But anyway, it’s a wonderful piece of art, public art that we hope everyone will enjoy when they come to visit the Zoo. It joins a number of other life-size sculptures, as well as the Envision sculptures for those folks who are visually impaired.

The sculptor is a Wichitan, graduated from Wichita State University. This is the second of his bronzes at the Zoo and he’ll be doing a third one soon for Envision of a cassowary. So, it was a beautiful wet and rather hail-ly evening but want to celebrate with the Junior League and Sedgwick County Zoo an addition of a beautiful piece of public art. And thank you Tom for being there and taking those pictures and getting them to me so quickly. I appreciate it. That’s it for me.”

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**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioner McGinn."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Well, I'm very brief. I just want to share that the Park City Bluegrass Festival was very good. I had an opportunity to get out there for a little while, did not play but the ones that were playing were great. I want to thank Kristi Zukovich for putting together our public servants from Sedgwick County out . . . bringing them out. We had, I guess, EMS, the Sheriff and the Appraiser. But anyway, it was my understanding there was a lot of people that came up and asked questions and so we thank you for taking the time out on your Saturday to go out and share with the community about what we do."

And then the other thing is it's getting to be graduation season and I know Sedgwick is having graduation ceremonies Sunday, as well as Valley Center and I don't know what other towns out in Sedgwick County are, but tis the season for graduation and my son is graduating and I hope I hold up very well during the ceremonies."

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Congratulations, mom."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "But now he goes to college and you get all those expenses. That's fantastic. Commissioner Winters is next."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you. I just wanted to say again welcome to the Kansas County Commissioners' Association this week. I mentioned that earlier in the meeting. We're certainly glad that they're in town. Their events start later today. They'll be at west Sedgwick County Park for a barbeque picnic this evening. They'll be a Cowtown tomorrow evening. So, in case any of them happen to be in town early watching our show, welcome to town. We're glad you're here and looking forward to the next couple of days. Thanks."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay, if I was a county commissioner, I was away from home in Wichita, I wouldn't be watching the county commissioners' meetings but maybe they are. I just wanted to comment that the River Festival kicks off this Friday with the Sundown Parade. Buy a button. You know that's been a contentious issue but the truth is festivals like that, if you live in a small town or in a big city, festivals like that don't happen by accident. It takes a lot of volunteers and you know what it takes a little money to put them on too and people, you know, I've seen opinion lines talk about, 'Well, I'm not buying a button, this should all be free'. Well,

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you know there's no free rides in this old world and if the funding goes away, so will the River Festival.

I mean, with great intents and all the volunteers in the world, this festival would still not go on. So spend the three dollars, buy a button, support the local economy and have some fun with your family. Sedgwick County will be in the parade tonight and we're going to be showing off the 'Best of the Best' and that's our public service workers, people that work in other departments that supply boundary-less services to the citizens of Sedgwick County. So I would urge you to come to the parade tonight . . . Friday night, I'm sorry and honor our Sedgwick County employees with a wave or a little applause because you know what, we've all discovered as I said earlier, that when there are disasters, when there's a time when you need services, that local officials, local public service agents are the first responders and they're going to be in the parade and we're going to be showing them off and they deserve a little recognition. So, that's all I have. Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Commissioner Norton. Well, I'm going to try my best to join Commissioner Norton Friday morning, down in Haysville at 7 a.m. for breakfast. It's a Tri-City Breakfast they hold annually between Mulvane, Derby and Haysville and they switch the venues. But I have to tell you, my blood's in my ankles that early in the morning but I'm going to do my best to be there for that very high cholesterol meal that I'm sure will be served.

This week, I did attend a couple of very notable functions for economic development and international trade. We have a very large delegation of businesses and governmental entities in our city from Taiwan working with our aviation industry and it was covered on television last night and it's a tremendous opportunity for us to showcase one of our major industries, it's the aviation industry. There was two memorandums of agreement signed between our companies and Taiwanese companies and this is just the beginning of what could be a very, very positive economic impact.

The Taiwanese government has saw that this is important enough, Madame Elizabeth Chew is their general consulate and they have opened up an office in Kansas City so that they can specifically service us here in the Kansas area and I'm real excited about what potentially that can happen. The Chairman [sic] and I are going to be leaving next week to go to Mexico. We'll be there with their president, talking about why, during this entire NAFTA situation and they're using I-35 as the corridor, why not stop in Sedgwick County and spend your money and you can save all the gas if you were planning on going to Canada, you can stop right here and forget that and be environmentally friendly and less petrol-chemical . . . anyway, we're going to do our best there too."

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**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Are you going to take the Manager with you and the Chairman. You just said you were going to take you and the Chairman.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I did?”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “That split-personality thing.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “There’s four of us going, me, myself and I and then the Manager. So, that’s all I have except that this is going to be an exciting weekend with River Fest. Sunday is Mother’s Day and traditionally my wife and I always go to the arts and crafts fair down by Century II and spend the day and unfortunately spend money. But I have the last word in every argument with my wife. I say okay and that’s the end of the fight and we buy it. That’s all I have and this meeting is closed.”

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

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

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**BEN SCIORTINO**, Chairman  
Fifth District

**Regular Meeting, May 8, 2002**

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

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**TIM R. NORTON**, Commissioner  
Second District

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

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**CAROLYN MC GINN**, Commissioner  
Fourth District

ATTEST:

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**Don Brace**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_, 2002