

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

April 17, 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, April 17, 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; Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager and CIO, Division of Information and Operations; Ms. Kim Parker, Deputy District Attorney; Mr. Marvin Krout, Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department; Mr. Brad Snapp, Housing Director, Housing Office; Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Division of Community Development; Mr. Tim Coffman, Director of Administrative Services, Division of Human Services; Mr. Ray Vail, Director of Financial and Support Services, Department on Aging; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Ms. Phyllis Gearing-Anderson, Director of Preventive Health, Health Department; Mr. Mansoor Tahir, Senior Epidemiologist, Health Department; Mr. Randy Duncan, Director, Emergency Management Department; Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Division of Finance; Ms. Stephanie Witte, Supervisor of Horticulture, Sedgwick County Zoo; Mr. Jarold Harrison, Assistant County Manager; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. Marvin Duncan, Director, Fleet Management; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications and Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Ms. Darlene Luallen, Volunteer, YWCA Women's Crisis Center Safehouse.

Ms. Carolyn Bunch, KANSEL.

Ms. Julie Carlson, KANSEL.

Ms. Kim Edgington, Agent for Owner, Austin Miller.

Mr. Joe Norton, Bond Counsel, Gilmore and Bell P.C.

Mr. Tim Witsman, President, Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Mike Hill, Chair, Wichita Assembly.

Mr. Bruce Chalmers, Direct Sales Manager for State of Kansas, Wheeled Coach, Hutchinson, KS

INVOCATION: The Invocation was led by Reverend Ernest Clark of First Baptist Church, Valley Center.

FLAG SALUTE

Chairman Sciortino said, "Reverend Clark, you're welcome back anytime. I think that was great

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and it's nice to know that we have our Betsy and our Tom and our Ben and we also have our bookends, Tim and Carolyn. But I was a little confused. There are times, you can come up here and take this chair. There's some meetings that I would welcome you coming up here and taking over this chair. Thank you very much. We really appreciate it. Next item please."

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, March 27, 2002

The Clerk reported that Commissioner Norton was absent at the Regular Meeting of March 27, 2002.

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioners, I believe you've had an opportunity to review the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 27th. What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 27, 2002.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item."

PROCLAMATIONS

A. PROCLAMATIONS.

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1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 22, 2002 AS “EARTH DAY.”

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

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the 32nd annual Earth Day will be celebrated in 2002 by more than 5,000 different community organizations representing 184 countries around the world; and

WHEREAS, local government should strive to be a role model for the communities it serves by exemplifying leadership in the conservation of natural resources and waste reduction practices; and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County continues to educate citizens about the importance of environmental stewardship through the promotion of recycling, reduction and reuse opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Amy, Sedgwick County’s ‘poster child’ for recycling participation, reminds citizens to ‘do the math’ and participate in community recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, more than 140,000 pounds of recyclable materials, including paper, cardboard, aluminium, plastic, printer cartridges, motor oil, tires, hazardous waste and more were diverted from landfills through Sedgwick County’s internal recycling program; and

WHEREAS, the principle to reduce, reuse and recycle is a responsibility which every human being shares, and through voluntary actions like recycling, each of us can join in building a productive land in harmony with nature.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 22, 2002 as

“EARTH DAY”

in Sedgwick County, encouraging residents, businesses and institutions to use the day to celebrate the Earth, while making a commitment to undertake programs and projects that will enhance our natural environment.

Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager & CIO, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m

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also Chair of your Waste Minimization Team for County government. Thank you, Commissioners for this proclamation. I speak on behalf of the entire Waste Minimization Team and I'd like the other folks who were able to come here today to please stand and come on up, if you can. The other members are several here, Allison Ohlman from Communications, Richard Chebultz from Operations, Clancy Holeman is coming up here and and I almost forget your name. Carol Flowers from Corrections. We go by first names so much, sometimes we forget the last ones. We do have several of our folks here and we are a group of more than 15 County employees from all our different County departments and buildings and we try to help proliferate recycling and waste minimization and we have a little report for you later in the agenda. But thank you very much for this proclamation."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, Kathy. And before you leave, let me just make one comment. I will say that your group is very energetic in strongly suggesting to employees that they minimize their waste but I think it's kind of rough when you ask me to empty out my pockets before I leave and put them in the right receptacles.

Ms. Sexton said, "Nothing but 100%, Chairman."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioners, what's the will of the Board on this item?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters 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

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Chairman Sciortino said, “Which one of your was first on your ‘oo-oos’.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I just wanted to thank Kathy. I know you started this about four years ago, I think. And she has been the leader of the group and also it’s been great as you’ve changed that group every year and give other people an opportunity to share in that. And I think that’s a very good deal because then those folks get to go and share within their departments and then the message gets out a little bit better, that kind of thing. So, anyway I know you have lead this group for four years and you’ve done a great job and we certainly appreciate it.

The other thing I just wanted to share, I don’t know if Kristi talked about Earth Day at the Zoo earlier but in case people didn’t catch the first part of our show, Earth Day is out at the Zoo this year. In the past, they’ve had it at Century II. Boeing has sponsored this event for, I believe, about six years now. And it’s been a huge success. I haven’t been outside lately but I hope that the wind is not blowing like it did yesterday and cooperates a little bit but at least there’s a little bit of foliage around there and it may block a little bit of the wind. So, I think if anybody in our viewing audience today that are interested in going out there, I sure encourage you to do that. Thank you.”

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

Commissioner Norton said, “I just wanted to comment, there are many Earth Day activities going on around the County. I heard one today, coming to work, that talked about something in Old Town, that is being sponsored I think Elma Broadfoot is one of the chairman of it. So there’s plenty of Earth Day activities, not only at the Zoo but in Old Town and around the County and I would urge people to participate, grab their children, grab their families and participate in some of the events that are around the County. That’s all.”

Ms. Sexton said, “Commissioners, I would also say there are a couple of events that County employees are participating in. Not only do we have several staff out at the Boeing Earth Day at the Zoo today but we also have Environmental Resources staff who are distributing the new employee recycling guides to the community. It’s a paper version and people can take those. We also have it on our website, which I’ll show you later, it’s sedgwickcounty.org. And we’re distributing those to employees as well and that’s the recycling guide that says all the many places in this community that will accept those recycled items for processing so that you can drop them off at those places or they’ll pick them up, whatever. Just go to that guide.

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The other in-house event we have is this Friday, a swap and shop from 11 to 1, I believe it is, in front of the Historic Courthouse. So for County employees, clean out those desk drawers and those supply closets and some of those old things that you don't use anymore. I have a 'for example' here for you. You know, since we have e-mail and voice mail, I found this at the back of my desk drawer. I never use paper 'while you were out' message notes anymore. Never use them in our office because we use voice mail and e-mail, so that's something that I'm going to take to the swap and shop and see if another office would use something like that. It's just a voluntary trading, instead of wasting items or instead of throwing them out, we just trade them to each other."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Is there any other comments? You're going to have to 'oo-oo' all day because this thing doesn't work. I don't know if I hit something or whatever. Okay, well Kathy, again thank you, thank your group. It does really make me feel good just crushing one pop can and putting it in a little bag at my home. I don't know, it just kind of makes me feel like I've done something. So, anyway I hope we continue to view the Earth as the only biosphere that works for us. Thank you very much. Next item please."

2. **PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 21 - 27, 2002 AS "KANSAS CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK."**

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. I have another proclamation that I'll read into the record. It states:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, one violent crime is committed in America every 19 seconds; and

WHEREAS, 36.8 million Americans are victimized in the United States each year and of those, 9.1 million are victims of violent crime; and

WHEREAS, crime victims play an indispensable role in bringing offenders to justice; and

WHEREAS, law-abiding citizens are no less deserving of justice, rights, resources, restoration and rehabilitation than the violent offenders who victimize them; and

WHEREAS, crime victims and their advocates over the past two decades have made unparalleled progress toward balancing the scales of justice in our criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, as a nation devoted to liberty and justice for all, America must increase its efforts to

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protect, restore and expand crime victims' rights and services; and

WHEREAS, volunteers are joining forces with victim service programs, criminal justice officials and concerned citizens throughout Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas and America to observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 21-27, 2002 as

“KANSAS CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK”

in Sedgwick County and recognize Darlene Luallen, a tireless volunteer for the YWCA Women's Crisis Center/ Safehouse since 1995.”

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

Ms. Kim Parker, Assistant District Attorney, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It's my pleasure to be here and thank the Commission for this proclamation and for this very special recognition of Darlene. Her work, obviously, is extremely important to victims and she is constant and dedicated to volunteering for this special service, a service that continues the tradition of Ben, Betsy, Tom and George and Martha.

The criminal justice system can be a very grueling process for victims and certainly those that enter that system are in desperate need of the volunteer work like Darlene provides. So, congratulations, Darlene.”

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Ms. Darlene Luallen, Volunteer, YWCA Women’s Crisis Center Safehouse, said, “They surprised me. Thank you.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Next item.”

Mr. Jarold Harrison, Assistant County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Mr. Chairman, we would like to request an Off Agenda Item to recognize some achievements of some County employees at this time.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to consider an Off Agenda item.

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

OFF AGENDA ITEM

Mr. Harrison said, “We have a special guest today to help us share some news about some Sedgwick County employees and at this time I would like to ask Ms. Carolyn Bunch from KANSEL to come to the podium.”

Ms. Carolyn Bunch, KANSEL, said, “Talk about surprises. I think most of you know about KANSEL and we have one of your prevention grants. We’re very grateful for that, offering education and training opportunities to individuals 16 and older in our community.

I had originally planned to come because of Reverend Clark because he’s one of our students. He and his wife had taken our Spanish class and he’s also my pastor. But we had our very first fund-

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raising event ever last Friday night. See, our budget is made up 49% is from United Ways and 25% comes from our Sedgwick County grant and the rest of it we make up for in student fees and business contracts and the like. Well, of course with the economy currently we're offering more and more scholarship assistance to our students so we had our first fund-raising event ever. And what we had was a trivia night. We wanted to do something different and more educational, so we invited teams of 8 to compete for the title of trivia champions 2002. And we were very pleased, initially our very own past president, Kathy Sexton, was the first person to step up to the plate. She said, 'I can't come but I'll sponsor a KANSEL team' and that's how we got Ernie involved. Now, next year our KANSEL team has a bit of a disadvantage because we had a couple of our ESL students on there and they said next year they want an international round and then they'll smoke that. And I think if Reverend Clark had a religion round that might be full points on that one.

But we did have . . . and Commissioner McGinn has also been one of our Spanish students and so we invited her and she rounded up really an excellent team. They were called the 'Taxing our Brains' team and they won. They just really came out ahead of everything."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Excuse me, will you say again who won?"

Ms. Bunch said, "The Taxing our Brains team."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And who was that?"

Ms. Bunch said, "On the Taxing our Brains team, Commissioner McGinn was the captain of that team and Betsy Gwin was on the team and Tim Norton and Irene Hart and Jennifer Magana and Bill Buchanan and his wife, Lynn Buchanan and Josh McGinn were on that team and they won. And it is our distinct pleasure and you might ask 'Well what did they win?' Well, they won a shirt, a polo shirt that says that they are the trivia champs 2002 and I have with me this morning Julie Carlson. Julie is our marketing, recruitment coordinator at KANSEL. And she's the young lady that put together the entire event and coordinated it. And also with us this morning is Elizabeth Ancsin and she's our director of program services at KANSEL. So we have ordered the tee-shirts for the rest of the team.

I think Julie has a little bonus here for this winning team because we were so pleased and appreciated so much that the commissioners came and participated in this event. We exceeded our goal. The funds that we raised will really benefit people in our community. Right now we have a lot of people that are coming in and taking our computer classes and we're just offering those

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classes at no charge.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Carolyn was so overwhelmed by your generosity she’s crying.”

Commissioner Norton said, “She wanted her shirt.”

Ms. Julie Carlson, KANSEL, said, “We also have a trophy for the winning team. The trophy says ‘Taxing our Brains, KANSEL Trivia Night 2002’. And I know that it was pretty intense. I was around you guys throughout the evening and it was a lot of fun and we’re really happy that you guys won.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I’d just like to make a few comments. First off, I was glad that we didn’t get thrown out before the evening was over because you had this little star you had to stick up in the air if you didn’t agree with the answer so, at times, things were pretty competitive and it was competitive clear till the end. We did come from behind and win and then we had to hold onto that lead. But you guys did an excellent job, for a first time event. That’s was very well done and I wish you great success in the future. You may want to do a traveling trophy or something like that but since this is the first one, we’ll probably just keep it, in case we don’t win again and it will be out there in our display case as well.

But I do have to share that I played more of the role of team captain, coach, supporter and if we had a most valuable player award, it probably would have been presented to Irene Hart. And I had to work pretty hard to get Irene on the team. She was telling me she was supposed to lay carpet that evening and I told her that was something I thought could be put off. So, I’m glad she did that but everybody on the team certainly contributed and it was a very enjoyable evening. So, thank you and wish you guys great success with what you do everyday, because I have been a student and I’ve been down there and I’ve watched how you work and you do a good job and it’s a great contribution to our community. Thank you.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Before you leave, could I just ask a couple of questions? This was, the purpose of this was for a fundraiser. Could you maybe share with us, was it successful for you?”

Ms. Bunch said, “Yes, it was. Our goal was to have at least \$4,000 in revenue and we exceeded that, at this point anyway. We still have a few more funds coming in. We haven’t got all our expenses calculated yet, but it looks like we will come out ahead for our scholarship fund, around

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\$1,500 for the scholarship fund.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Great. *Felicidades, espero que en el futuro todo estara bien con ustedes.*”

Ms. Bunch said, “I’m going to have to take the Spanish class. *Gracias.*”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Congratulations. What I basically said was congratulations and hopefully in the future everything will continue to be well with you. That’s all I said but anyway, thank you very much for this honor.

Next item please. Wait a minute. We don’t have to do anything do we? Do we have to make a Motion to receive and file the trophy? Next item please.”

CITIZEN INQUIRY

B. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING “DOWNTOWN ARENA.”

Mr. Harrison said, “Commissioners, in light of the action taken by the City Council yesterday, Mr. Helgerson has requested that this item be deleted from the agenda.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to delete Item B from the agenda.

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

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item please."

PRESENTATIONS

C. PRESENTATION OF THE 2001 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WASTE MINIMIZATION TEAM.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Ms. Sexton said, "I just have a brief presentation of some of the success that we saw in county government, in terms of waste reduction and recycling in the year 2001. As you know, we started this annual review so we'd understand what progress we're making. So with no further ado, I'll get into some of that. The numbers and the full report are listed on page 15 in your backup materials.

For the Courthouse Complex this year, as you know that's the main courthouse we're in right now, the detention facility, the Munger Building and the Historic Courthouse. Generally, the Courthouse Complex, we recycled these amounts of pounds of goods this past year, over 95 pounds of office paper, 42,000 pounds of cardboard and some newspaper and cans as well.

Down at Fleet Management, as you know they take care of all our vehicles and they recycle as well and are doing a great job of it. This is the first year we've started reporting this data in our report and we're so proud of that department for participating. They recycle their motor oil, their batteries, tires, paint materials, lots of things, cleaning fluids and we're real proud of them and that's our baseline numbers we'll be able to track for future.

The various programs that we sponsor, we're not always able to track pounds in but we do have these programs available in most County buildings are the cans, aluminum cans and we donate those proceeds to Habitat for Humanity. We also have a plastic bottle recycling program. Holiday cards for St. Jude's Hospital is where we send all of the holiday cards. That's a tremendous program and they actually take those cards and reuse them and resell those for their fundraiser. We recycle printer cartridges from our various sizes and types of laser and ink-jet printers and then of course phone directories, we have not only recycle them but we have really tried to reduce the number of phone directories that we use in these buildings.

E-line, like a little code, County word. To define that a little bit, the E-line is our County intranet. Members of the public will never see E-line because it's not on the World Wide Web. It's not a Internet site, it's a intranet, meaning that it's only for corporate purposes. The people of Sedgwick

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County can get on their computer, on their E-line and see policies, procedures, announcements, reports, forms for payroll and other types of forms they use everyday. Instead of printing them, we put them on-line and they're available on demand, as needed and people print them themselves if needed to be printed at their own desks. The following departments, County departments have made tremendous progress this past year in putting their policies, procedures and forms on the E-line so therefore reducing just thousands of dollars worth of printing and paper that we used to have to do.

We also started, in November 2001, a mail reduction project that many offices get on mailing lists that are duplicative. Maybe things are being sent to employees who no longer work here, that type of thing. And so we asked every department to go through your incoming mail, pick out the things you don't want, you don't need, you don't read. Maybe you just toss them as soon as you get them and take a concerted effort to respond to those vendors and 'Yes, eliminate me from your mailing list' type of a postcard and we sent thousands of those postcards. Forty-eight offices participated in this program and we've determined there are at least 2,000 pieces of mail that we could eliminate that particular week and we'll do that every year and continue to encourage departments to do that on an ongoing basis, so we can reduce the volume coming into the courthouse.

We do a survey every year as well of all County employees to say, 'What do you need, in terms of help with your recycling programs and what are you doing?' Every department responded to our survey this year and 76% reported that they had increased their efforts at recycling.

We asked one question in this survey of how often does your department recycle various items and we got the following responses. Give you a little graph here and show you that the green line with the triangles represents the 2001 data. The little pink square line reports the previous year of 2000 and the other line, with the blue dots and the blue diamond there represent 1999. So you can see this, in this particular item of office paper we have been recycling office paper very strongly for several years now and so the lines are all in alignment there. The trend line is very consistent, not a lot to report new but certainly we are continuing our good efforts at office paper recycling. In fact, we talked to our representative at Weyerhaeuser Recycling and said, 'What's good'. When it comes to office paper recycling, how do we know when we've done enough and made enough effort and they said, 'You know, really a good goal in the industries is for office workers, if you're recycling 60% of the paper that you're taking in or that you're using, then you're doing very well'. And so we put pencil to paper and started calculating and there are a lot of assumptions you have to make there, because as you know a lot of County employees are not office workers, okay. But then others get additional points, if you're in accounting or engineering, you should be using more paper. So, we made some assumptions and figure that we are recycling anywhere between 57% and 73%. So we are certainly right there with that industry standard of 60% of paper being recycled and we're

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very proud of that.

Other items, in terms of aluminum cans, you can see there by the green line, with the triangles on it, that again we're doing very well there and are, in fact, doing more aluminum can recycling than in past years. In terms of newspapers, again we have more departments recycling newspaper than ever before. Now this is a very low-volume item so we don't get real worked up about this item. Paper is our biggest item and cardboard is a big item as well but newspapers are low-volume. But we do ask people that, once they've read the paper, that they put it in the box and we'll collect those at the end of the week.

Printer cartridges, this is huge. The more printers that we have and the more computerized we've become, the more vital it is that we recycle our printer cartridges and reuse them as best as possible and we're getting great participation in that program."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Kathy, go back to that one again, if I could. Is our program totally voluntary? So if a department says, 'No, I don't want to recycle my cartridges', we allow that. I mean, is there some way . . . maybe this is not politically correct but we could just mandate. I'm taking this one out of context but it seems to me that these are something that . . . I don't know how we dispose of printer cartridges but why can't we just mandate that a department does this or why haven't we?"

Ms. Sexton said, "That's a good question, Commissioner and I think that we have done everything short of that, certainly and the communication that we're doing and the constant reminders and the good opportunities for programs that we're doing have shown that most people in most departments are of such good will they want to do this. And I think we've seen such great participation that way. There probably is another step that we could do to mandate. That, of course, then you do run into some of those circumstances . . ."

Chairman Sciortino said, "The reason I'm saying that it goes with what our Board has decided to do. We're thinking if we can't get people to voluntarily recycle to a certain percentage, we're going to mandate mandatory subscription, voluntary participation and I wouldn't want the people, 'Well, heck you don't mandate your own people'. You follow what I'm saying there. You might want to look into that."

Ms. Sexton said, "Right, we will. We'll do that. Thank you.

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Cardboard, I mentioned . . . cardboard is a marvelous program. People have their extra paper boxes and other shipping boxes and they just put them outside their door and we pick those up and do recycle those. Plastic bottles, it was a new program that we started tracking in 2001 so we just have one baseline data points here but we do see pretty good participation and I think this will be a line that next year we'll see even greater participation. Some areas don't have plastic bottles and don't need to participate but generally, we're getting more and more of those every month."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Let me interject again. Maybe my idea about never, could it be that a particular department doesn't have printer cartridges and therein never, because they should not even be part of the . . ."

Ms. Sexton said, "That's a good point, Commissioner. Yes, we send out kind of a generic survey to all departments, so some people may not have certain things. You may have one or two boxes a year so you may put never on cardboard, for example."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, so you might want to check into that and maybe the next time you give us this, take the departments that don't have printer cartridges or don't have . . . and they're not part of that survey. Maybe that's artificially inflating those numbers."

Ms. Sexton said, "Good point. Holiday cards I mentioned earlier. We got a baseline data on this one and I think some of that is communication but, as you know, some offices received lots of holiday cards from various vendors and other offices and some offices receive very few. So, I think this is a good baseline and we'll see, with additional marketing efforts this next year if we can improve that even more.

Another question we asked was how often does your department reduce the amount of paper in your office by doing several things. One is two-sided copying. Many do that and we did learn those who never do that sometimes often don't have very good copy machines and so they just cannot do the duplex copying. Also another item would be using both sides of the paper. Maybe you turn it over, use it in your printer, your fax machines, use the back for writing or for scratch pads that type of thing and many are doing that as well. Creating scratch pads, another one, our print shop does create scratch pads, if you have old letterhead or something that you no longer use on the one side, you can send it over and they'll cut it and glue it and make little scratch pads out of it.

We also asked our County departments a new question this year and that is how do you get your information about recycling. We thought that would be very helpful to our future efforts. And what we found, we gave them four options and what we found is that many people use their building coordinator, we have someone in every building in the County designated as the recycling and

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waste minimization coordinator. Many use that, many use our waste minimization page on E-line, on our intranet. Many call Environmental Resources and some use Environmental Resources' homepage as well on the Internet.

And I might just end with, this last slide is simply our website address, if anyone wants to write that down it's www.sedgwickcounty.org. That is our website address and if you go to that website today or anytime in the next couple of weeks, you'll see there on the front page a link directly to Environmental Resources and there's a lot of ideas on that page about how you can increase recycling. If you're a teacher, for example, in one of the local schools you can get some ideas for lesson plans and class activities for recycling and waste minimization and certainly our recycling guides are available on the website as well. Thank you very much, Commissioners for your attention this morning to this report."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thanks, Kathy. Commissioners, do we have any questions of Kathy? Yes, Mr. Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I have a couple. First of all, do we offer this service to our partners in the court system in the County building or is this just Sedgwick County employees?"

Ms. Sexton said, "Absolutely. The courts are very good at participating in the recycling efforts and we encourage them and we support them just like we do any other County employee."

Commissioner Norton said, "That's fine. Sixteen hundred pounds of waste paint materials sounds like a lot. If you figure 250 working days a year, that's almost 8 pounds of wasted paint material a day. What is that and are there better methods we could use not to waste so much paint materials."

Ms. Sexton said, "Good question. I'll have to look into it. Those numbers came from the Fleet Manager and I will talk to Marvin, see about those numbers and see if there's a better way of handling that."

Commisisoner Norton said, "I don't know. That just seems like I don't know what waste paint material is but 8 pounds a day sounds . . ."

Mr. David Spears, County Engineer/ Director, Public Works Department, said, "They have a paint shop and they paint cars, Sheriff's cars and equipment all the time."

Ms. Sexton said, "All the special painting on an EMS ambulance, Sheriff's cars, all kinds of vehicles. They do a lot of repainting."

Chairman Sciortino said, "How many pounds in a gallon of paint, do you know?"

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Commissioner Norton said, "Probably about four pounds."

Chairman Sciortino said, "That's what I'm saying. We're wasting two and a half gallons of paint. That's a lot of paint."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I don't know if it is or not but it just caught my attention. Sixteen hundred pounds of waste paint materials sounds like we're over-spraying a lot or I don't know what they're doing."

Chairman Sciortino said, "We'll have to put that in that swap and shop that we're going to set up."

Ms. Sexton said, "There you go. Maybe we could swap some."

Commissioner Norton said, "The last thing I have is you can cancel my subscription to the newspaper, because I read it every morning before I come to the County building and it's just stacking up and very seldom do I use it. So, there's my contribution."

Ms. Sexton said, "Very good. We'll do that. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you, Kathy. Any other questions or comments? What's the will of the Board on this item please?"

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to receive and file.

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

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item please."

D. PRESENTATION OF "SENSE OF THE ASSEMBLY," RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WICHITA ASSEMBLY.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. Mike Hill, Chair, Wichita Assembly, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Misty Buckner is with me. I was told not to touch anything up here. She's the one that's going to man the Powerpoint because this is all beyond me."

We come before you today to report back to you on the findings and the outcomes of the last Wichita Assembly. The last 'Wichita Assembly Community Reconnection and New Beginning for Offenders' convened on the Wichita State University campus February the 1st and 2nd of this year. The reason we met at Wichita State University was to provide a neutral environment and structured form to discuss the challenging issues of offenders reentering our community.

The assembly was jointly sponsored by Sedgwick County, the City of Wichita, the State of Kansas through the Department of Corrections. Nearly 125 area citizens in the metro area with diverse professional, economic and social backgrounds met to address the issue. Citizens represented perspectives from neighborhoods, non-profit agencies, faith-based organizations, business, elected leadership and you were well represented by Commissioners Winters and McGinn who spent a day and a half with us out of their hectic schedule and we appreciate their attendance.

Victims and offenders, our charge and the issue that we have before us, and it's been with us for many, many years and in the future, unless we do something, we don't see that particular issue disappearing and that is the metroplex area is experiences a growing issue of reintegrating offenders, criminal offenders, back into our community. According to the Kansas Department of Corrections, the inmate population has increased by 84% since 1985. During fiscal year 2001, nearly 1,500 offenders were released from State correctional facilities back into Sedgwick County. Now, just stop and think about that a minute. Fifteen hundred people, that's larger than the population of several of our third-class cities in Sedgwick County.

Similar numbers of releases are projected in the next few years. In returning to the community, offenders face overwhelming challenges of reintegrating into society and finding acceptable housing arrangements, employment opportunities and support systems. Returning offenders often jeopardize citizen's sense of security for life and property, real or unreal, perceived or unperceived. Almost 60% of those returning most recently were re-incarcerated and the reason for the re-

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incarceration was because of a parole or probation violation. In other words, the bottom line, the system we presently have is not working.

The participants of the Wichita Assembly prepared by reviewing background papers on offender reentry issues such as employment, housing, support services and community safety. Our first morning, our keynote speaker spoke to us and our keynote speaker, Bob Miller, former governor of Nebraska, challenged all participants to find common ground on the issues of reentry and emphasized the long-term costly community impacts of avoiding these issues. Mr. Kip Kautzky, Director of the Iowa Department of Corrections, addressed national trends regarding offender reentry with specific information on the Iowa model. And last but not least, the third speaker to address us was Ms. Ellen Halbert and she is the director of the Victim/ Witness division of the District Attorney's Office in Travis County, Texas and the editor of Crime Victims Report and she spoke of her personal experiences as a victim and her continued work with offender reentry.

After lunch, the participants were divided into work groups to consider the critical issues of offender reentry, specifically housing, employment, community services and community safety. And all of the working groups addressed the following questions: number one, what are the three main concerns to be addressed, what recommendations do you have to address these issues, what should be the role of government, business, community and neighborhoods, non-profit organizations and others in implementing each recommendation and what do you, as a working group, feel are the most realistic recommendations to implement.

After addressing the issues of offender reentry in the work groups, we came back Saturday and the participants reconvened in full session on Saturday morning. They heard and discussed reports on the recommendations of each group. Participants were then asked to identify recommendations of the highest priority and this process produced substantial agreement, which is summarized.

Regarding community safety, community safety represents a primary concern for all involved in offender reentry. Citizens often feel disconnected from the reentry process and are not supportive of offenders returning because of safety concerns. Community safety issues identified included more effective communication, citizen and neighborhood involvement in the decision making process and the monitoring of offenders.

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And on community safety they gave us . . . the Wichita Assembly has set out some goals. One is to appoint an offender reentry task force. Now how should this task force be composed? Unofficially, we recommend that each of you appoint one member. Each member of the Wichita City Council appoint one member and the State appoint three members. That's a fifteen-member working task force. Now a lot of people seem to think that's a lot of folks but that a workable number because there's a lot of issues that have to be address.

They also recommend establishing a community patrolling unit. Probation officers, parole officers, basically doing what your community policing deputies do and the Wichita Police community police officers do working with offenders. Plan for offender reentry upon prison entry. The reentry process now starts right before they are eligible for release from the institutions. We recommend that a program be started when they enter the facility, and create advocacy teams to assure services for returning offenders. You have before you the sense of the Assembly and it goes into more detail.

Regarding employment, past criminal behavior affects the employability of offenders. Having a legitimate job also lessens the chances of offenders re-offending following release from prison. However, most offenders confront diminished prospects for stable employment and decent wages throughout their lifetimes. Issues associated with employment include job skills and training, job placement, lifestyle changes and the employers reluctance or restrictions in hiring offenders. Some of the steps to address the employment is to establish a private/ public sector partnership for the employment of offenders, identify employers in industries likely to employ offenders, increase post-release job related programs that emphasize soft skills, recognize and publicize employment success stories of offenders. Right now, the only time we ever hear anything is when there's a failure, not when there is a success and I assure you there are successes.

Regarding community services, support services assist offenders with successful reentry. The services required to meet the special needs of offenders are not always available upon release or not well coordinated. The steps to get to that is implement a systems approach to offender reentry, conduct periodic assessments of collective risk and service needs of offender reentry and establish a victim/ offender reconciliation initiative.

And last but not least the issue is housing. Returning offenders often face challenges in finding suitable housing. Housing presents problems for several reasons including limited financial resources, family disconnection and location of housing facilities. The benchmarks to get to appropriate housing is to investigate options to improve housing for offenders, expand public education again on offender reentry and review city and county ordinances regarding offender housing.

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Where do we go from here. Well, the Wichita Assembly, we have met and we have summarized the findings of our citizens in our community. The only people that can take this a step forward now are the governing bodies, the State of Kansas, Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita. We are here, as the Assembly, to assist but now it's up to the governing bodies to take it to the next step.

We have problems at the State and it trickles down, especially in the financial year. We hear and we see and we read the budget concerns and the closing of facilities. I don't have the numbers but in my other life, Sedgwick County provides at least a third of the offenders that go into the State system and when those folks are released their going to come back into our community. It's a tough job ahead of all of us but we can find solutions. One thing about our community, they face the challenges and they come back to the governing bodies with workable, doable programs and we, as the Assembly, we strongly encourage that the State, the City and the County start dialogue and the next step, in our opinion is that task force to start the facilitation and take this to the next level.

Mr. Chairman, that's our report. We stand before you to answer questions. If you have questions, I will yield to Misty because she has the answers. I'm just the mouthpiece and hopefully we'll see this continue."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you very much, Mike and it's been very informative. I know we have some questions. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Probably more comments than questions. But certain, Mike, did want to say thank you to you for your leadership in that assembly. I mean, your being there, participating, leading that group I think was very important and everyone certainly respected your input and the knowledge on this subject and we certainly want to thank W.S.U. for putting the project together. Misty, thank you for being the on-the-spot person who was in charge of a whole ton of details which it takes to put on one of those events.

I guess, one of the comments that I wanted to make and I was looking over what it appeared that some people thought was important and I tell you, one of the things that I thought was extremely important were those breakout groups. I learned more in the breakout groups, I think, than I learned anything any place else and when you try to put it all together it really gets tough when you try to put all that information. But I was with a group of probably at least 20 people from all parts of the system and I know it was the first time that I was in that situation, so it was a good process for me. So I appreciate you all putting that together. I think the strategies you've developed for the public safety and the community service, housing, employment issues I think they all look to me like they're workable. I would support this task force concept. I think that would be a good idea. So

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my main thought is just thank you for putting this assembly on. I thought it was very worthwhile.”

Mr. Hill said, “Thank you. I’d be remiss if I didn’t recognize Mr. Masterson. He was one of the planning people and represented the County very well.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you for mentioning Mark. We’re very pleased that Mark works for Sedgwick County and is involved in corrections, the Director of our Department of Corrections. He does an excellent job. So, we certainly appreciate his work. So, thank you for mentioning that.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you, Mr. Winters. Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you. I concur with everything Commissioner Winters said. I do want to thank you also for taking the leadership role of doing this and Misty for doing all the detail, run around work.

I agree with Commissioner Winters about the breakout sessions and how much I learned. One of the things I thought was a perfect example was part of the problem they have when they’re released, they didn’t have a birth certificate or driver’s license or anything. And having State and local people that also work in corrections to be at the same table hearing that, thinking someone else was taking care of that and so I think that was an excellent opportunity to find out, first-hand, who was doing what. So, it was just a great opportunity to bring everything together, to listen and learn and I’m glad you’re moving forward with this committee. And we do have a great deal of challenges ahead of us and I’m glad that Mayor Knight and W.S.U. and yourself stepped forward and to say we need to deal with this issue and we need to start talking about it, instead of being in a situation where we’re behind the eight ball. So, thank you.”

Mr. Hill said, “You know, just a side comment, a lot of people don’t realize when a person is released from a State institution they’re given a bus ticket, a set of clothes, \$100 and a name to contact when they get back to their community.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “And somebody made the comment that you wouldn’t even send your kid to college, who doesn’t have problems, with \$100 and a bus ticket. And so that’s a very good point.”

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

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I’m very interested in this subject and I appreciate Tom and

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Carolyn representing us there. I didn't have a chance to be there but it is a wonderful bringing together of minds. One of my questions was were there successful offenders in the mix of the people? Were they included? I tried to read the backup material and I didn't see that. Were they included in the dialogue?"

Mr. Hill said, "In fact, we had a former offender that was to speak to us but he was very uncomfortable. But he then got actively involved in the breakout groups and he got involved in the dialogue then. So, we had the whole gauntlet there."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, it seems to me like breaking the mystic of people that have made mistakes but have come back into society, part of that is integrating them and acculturating them back into these kind of groups and dialogues and if we always think that they're bad and will never get better, that's probably the way it will be. What is the mechanism now for creating the task force?"

Mr. Hill said, "This is just my thought. This is just my thought."

Commissioner Norton said, "I think I could be supportive of that. I'd like to hear more about it and figure out what the mechanism for us to make appointments and to create that."

Mr. Hill said, "Talking to the Secretary of Corrections yesterday, we presented our findings to the Department of Corrections yesterday. He asked the same question. Basically, the same question was asked at the City Council. My opinion is that Secretary Simmons is willing to be the point of contact and I believe at the City Council it would be Council Member Pisciotte, and one of you make calls and get together with your staff and take it to the next step. That, as chair of the assembly, that would be our recommendation because we've done our job. We don't have the authority or the power to take it to the next step."

Commissioner Norton said, "At this point, then I would urge the Commission to think about it and start working on it and I don't know how we do that but I would urge us to do that."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Any other comments or questions? Well, Mike, again this will be the third or fourth time people have said thank you very much for your selfless work on that area. As far as I'm concerned you'll always be Sheriff Hill, just like an ex-president is always referred to as president. But I do think that this has enough merit that we will be entering into some dialogue. We'll probably want to talk to our County Manager and figure out some input from him. But thank you again very much for all the work that you've done."

Commissioners, what's the will of the Board on this item please?"

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MOTION

Commissioner Winters 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, "Next item."

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

E. CASE NUMBER ZON2001-00071 – ZONE CHANGE TO “LC” LIMITED COMMERCIAL FOR PARCELS 1, 3-8, “NR” NEIGHBORHOOD RETAIL FOR PARCEL 2 AND “NO” NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE FOR PARCELS 9-11, AND “SF-5” SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL FOR PARCEL 12, SUBJECT TO PLATTING OF THE ENTIRE PROPERTY WITHIN ONE YEAR;

AND

CASE NUMBER CUP2001-0004 – DP-257 – CREATION OF THE ALBERT FARM COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY UNIT PLAN (CUP), GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF CENTRAL AND 151ST STREET WEST. DISTRICT #3.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

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Mr. Marvin Krout, Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department (MAPD), greeted the Commissioners and said, "I have one planning item for you and I'm pleased to report I think that we have all arrived at a consensus on this project and I'll describe it briefly.

It's 18 acres that is on the southeast corner of 151st and Central. These are two unpaved township roads out in the County and depending on where you stand, you'd say it's a rural area or it's a rapidly urbanizing area and I'll show you that in the aerial photograph shortly.

The zoning of this property, the shade that you see there represents SF-20, which is the suburban residential category that assumes there won't be full urban services and the lighter shade to the left represents the Rural Residential category. However, urbanization is very close and in fact, the city limits are just a half-mile away to the east and there is a platted, developing subdivision over there. And this property is within the anticipated growth area within the next ten years for the City of Wichita and we do expect that the zoning is going to change and there will be development to and beyond this area over that time frame.

The request for this 18 acres is for a combination of zoning districts, Limited Commercial, which allows retail uses, also Neighborhood Retail, which allows more limited retail uses, Neighborhood Office and SF-5, the urban residential single-family category for a reserve area for drainage purposes that's expected in the rear of this 18 acres along a drainage area.

Also, there is the establishment proposed of a commercial Community Unit Plan, which is a requirement for any tract that's zoned that's over six acres and single ownership to a commercial use and there are land use restrictions and development standards for 12 parcels of land and I'll show you the CUP in a minutes.

The surrounding land, as I said, is zoned suburban and rural residential and is primarily agricultural, including the rest of the quarter-section of land that's in the same ownership as this 18 acres. There are scattered houses and over catty-corner on this intersection, in the northwest corner and beyond this screen is a suburban subdivision of five-plus acre lots, about 20 lots all together in that area and that neighborhood did come together and were actively involved in discussion on this plan as it went forward.

Let me go to the next slide. You can get a better idea of the character of the area. There is a small drainage area that forms the reason for this boundary and the reason why there would be a reserve in this general area here. This is almost a quarter-mile in extent along that frontage and similarly along the south. And you can see the platting and at least one of the houses in the five-acre lot subdivision.

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The 12 parcels that I talked about are along here and this kind of looks sort of stretched out along Central, but we did agree, in the end, that this area would be limited to office as a transition. This area would be limited to Neighborhood Retail. This is the area that I was talking about where the reserve and the drainage detention would be located.

This area is within the area that some of you may remember several years ago was studied and, as a result of neighborhood concerns that there be no commercial zoning for a fairly extensive area between Maize Road and 167th Street and this is about right in the middle of that study area. There was a policy that was developed called the Far West policy that was adopted by the City Council, not formally adopted by the County Commission or the Planning Commission but has been used as a guideline over the years that basically says we do expect commercial development at the intersections, as we have had traditionally, but based on the nature of this area and the fact that the zoning hasn't been preset like it was in other parts of growing Wichita. That instead there would be a little bit of a different policy on the acreage and the development standards for this area. And more or less we had several Community Unit Plans for commercial development, anticipating the future that have come in and been approved in this area and I think I would include this now in that category.

The original submission was a little bit off the mark, in terms of what the Planning staff was hoping for and expecting and there was some substantial neighborhood opposition early on in the process. The Planning Commission did vote to defer the item and asked the parties to get together and discuss all these issues. The applicant's agent and the applicant and the neighborhood and the staff were involved in several conversations about this area. And as a result, there were substantial changes that were made, both to the zoning categories, to the development standards for this parcel. There were even some new standards that were added that we haven't had previously, based on some of the neighbor's input about making sure that this was going to be a quality development. I have to say that the applicant and their agent were very accommodating through this process and I would say now that I'm very satisfied with the results that we have and I think that this will be a quality development, based on the standards that have been established.

By the time it went to the Planning Commission, the Planning Commission had a couple of issues that they dealt with but they were minor in nature. They recommended approval and I'm in favor of the recommendations as they have provided them to you. The applicant has no concerns about those. There was no neighborhood opposition at the Planning Commission hearing.

There were protests that were filed and most of them were filed really in the early stages, after the

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initial hearing. And I don't know if they knew that they could withdraw them or they wanted to withdraw them but there were protests from the large property owner to the west and also two of the property owners in the residential subdivision to the northwest. That represents just less than 20% of the area within 1,000 feet so it does require only a simple majority of the Planning Commission to approve this request. As I said though, none of these owners appeared at the Planning Commission meeting when we did do a re-notification of the new hearing with the new CUP, none of them came in opposition to this request.

I'll go through the slides real quick for you. This is looking south of the tract, and this is looking east down 151st Street, obviously in need of some improvement. And looking north and east, this is sort of . . . the tract would be to the right and below the screen and this is Central over here and we're looking back north and east towards Wichita. This is looking to the north, up 151st another township road that will eventually be improved. This is the northwest corner and this is the rear of that corner lot that did file a protest early in the process. And this is looking to the west, up Central looking towards Colwich Road and this is looking on the other side of 151st Street, looking south and west. And this is looking south, down 151st Street.

There's the aerial photograph and the zoning slide again and I'll stand for any questions. The applicant's agent is here. I'm not sure if there's anyone else who is here from the neighborhood but I'll stand for any questions."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you, Marvin. Let me ask at this time, is there anyone here in the audience that would like to speak to this topic? This is your time. If you'd like to say something to us at this time, that would be great."

Ms. Kim Edgington, Agent for the applicant, Austin Miller, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm pleased to have been a part of this process. I think it was a great example of cooperation and compromise between the planning staff, the neighborhood and our client. And I think that what we ended up with was a project that we can all be proud of. We've built in a lot of controls that are going to assure that this is a pleasing development, that it's a quality development. We have tried to cover all the bases. We have assured that no development can occur on this parcel until Central is improved. We know that this is a little bit far out right now but yet we're trying to look into the future and, unfortunately, we don't have a crystal ball but we've done our best to set the table for a good development here. And we have also assured that municipal water and sewer must be available to the site before any development can occur.

And as Mr. Krout mentioned, a lot of the opposition came before we held any public meetings. We met with the neighbors for a series of meetings and all those protests came before any of that work was done. A lot of people put a lot of work into this process and, as I said, I'm quite proud to have

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been a part of it. I would be happy to stand for any questions that you might have.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay, Kim. I think Commissioner Gwin was first.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Thank you. Ms. Edgington, the applicant has a lengthy list of conditions, some of which, as Marvin pointed out, are new to me. You’re telling me that the applicant is agreeable to all of these conditions?”

Ms. Edgington said, “We are completely agreeable. My clients are Winifred and Lawrence Albert. They have owned this property for many decades. They intend to remain a part of this development and it is in their interest to make sure that it is a quality development and they are happy to see some additional architectural controls, signage controls, some site development criteria that they were happy to put in place.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Well, I appreciate that. I also appreciate the planning ahead of time so that neighbors and others understand what the intentions are and that those decisions can be made so that folks making decisions around this parcel will make those based upon what they know will be there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

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

Commissioner Norton said, “My concern is Central will be paved but much of the development will be along 151st Street and that looked like it was . . . was it gravel or sand road?”

Ms. Edgington said, “It’s sand right now.”

Commissioner Norton said, “It looked almost like sugar sand in the pictures. Will that detract from the development on the west side of this project by Central being paved for the upscale project, yet 151st is still going to be in sand?”

Ms. Edgington said, “Well, at this point the applicant intends to phase in the development and it will begin along Central. And as it fills out, then the applicant will also be required to participate in improvements along 151st Street so that it will also be paved and complete the entire development.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Has that conversation been had with the owners of property on the west side of 151st Street?”

Ms. Edgington said, “No, they did not participate in any of the neighborhood discussions. They

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were not present at the meetings, so we were not able to discuss that with them. They were invited and chose not to participate.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, that would be my concern that that becomes a county road or a township road that we have to deal with, at some point, as to whether it’s going to be paved or not. That would be the long-term concern that I would have. It seems like we inherit roads between developments a lot. That’s all I have.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Yes we do. I just have one real brief one. In the people that protested, none of them were on the west side of 151st Street by Central? Those people were not protesting, originally?”

Ms. Edgington said, “They did protest originally but that was done in early January, before any public hearings were held.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you very much, Kim. We have no questions of you. Is there anyone else in this audience that wishes to speak for or against this item? Okay, then we’ll close further discussions and limit comments to the Bench. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “I do have a couple of questions for Marvin. And I think we’ve kind of started on a couple of issues I wanted you to address again, Marvin is the municipal services and what that’s going to look like before this project could move forward, city sewer and water available, roads. Do you have any additional comments to what we had just a few moments ago?”

Mr. Krout said, “No. There is a requirement that city sewer and city water be available before the development occurs. I think more than likely commercial development is going to follow residential development. You’re going to have rooftops that are going to have to support the commercial development and that’s generally what we see is the large residential subdivisions begin and if there’s not a project in, the city’s or the County’s CIP to improve the road but development is expected, then the developer does assume some responsibility for extending a paved road out to his development.

But generally, I think what you’re going to see out in this area is residential development will probably occur. This is just, like Kim said, setting the table for the future commercial development that’s going to serve all of that residential. But municipal water and sewer will come. It’s not quite as easy for sewer as it may look because that development a half-mile to the east, the sewer lines don’t have the capacity to serve this area directly. So the sewer is actually probably going to come .

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.. this drainage divide continues to the northeast, and so there's going to have to be a larger benefit district that's going to bring that sewer main down to this area. But this is a rapidly growing area. The City has just finished their master plan for sewer on how to size the sewers and locate them for this area. So, I think that development will continue to occur in an orderly way out here."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right. Do you have any additional comments about the process with the neighbors? I'm going to say, I had a couple of calls early on and the neighbors were saying things like, 'We know that we can expect this to probably happen but we want it to be a good quality and we want it to be something that is an enhancement to the neighborhood and not poorly done'. In what you've seen of the meetings between the neighbors and the applicant and your staff, you're confident that they accomplished part of what they were after and the applicant still has something that's workable and your staff and you are supportive of what we've got now?"

Mr. Krout said, "Yes."

Chairman Sciortino said, "That's the most succinct answer he's ever given. Let's take yes and move on."

Mr. Krout said, "Unfortunately, residents don't come and laud the staff and the applicant when they've done a good job. You just see them when they're opposed to zoning requests but I think you would have seen them if they had any problems with this request and I think, from the tone of the meetings, that they were very satisfied and they knew that both the staff and the applicant were trying to work towards the common end."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right. I guess another question and this may not have to do with this case that's in front of us today, but in reading the backup material, I think in the staff's background report you did talk about some of the differences between staff recommendations and the applicant's request and there seemed to be some difference over what the rest of this quarter-section is going to look like.

And one of the things that I think is a plus here and I may be wrong, is that with this entire quarter-section under one ownership, it would appear that really a very good plan could be developed for this entire area, as opposed to you move back to the east on Central. And you've got multiple owners on a quarter-section and you get some things that kind of really gets hodge-podged together. Is there some differences here between what the staff thinks about this in the future and what the applicant wants to attempt to do?"

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Mr. Krout said, “No, not really. We were . . . in some of the early stages, we were encouraging . . . and we do encourage people to come in and try to plan and involve the neighborhood in anticipating the development for the whole section or quarter-section or whatever the ownership is if they can. And one of the things that we’re discussing in-house, in-staff is a way to try to, as an incentive to large property owners who have ownership, let’s say on one corner. Even if they have large ownership on one corner, it is sometimes a hodge-podge between how those four corners are developing and so we’re looking at a possibility of an incentive that maybe there would be a contribution towards a small-scale planning effort where multiple property owners in an area like this would hire a consultant like Kim to do some master planning for a larger area than just the 18 acres and get the owners all in agreement and get the neighborhood all involved so that maybe we could bring in even a larger package and not have to come in as many times with zoning requests as we tend to do.”

Commissioner Winters said, “All right, one last comment I would think I would make is this is on the edge of town where water and flooding issues can become an issue and I’m not talking about this 18 acres but what’s happening between this and the rest of the quarter-section I’m getting closer to the point of thinking that there’s some property that’s not really the best place to have buildings to be built, whether they’re homes or commercial or what have you. There’s some pieces of property that need to be flood ways, drainage ways, open spaces to allow for that and I would hope that, as they look at the rest of this quarter-section, they really keep that water drainage issue at the forefront of that development.

Mr. Chairman, I think that’s all I have now but from what I’ve seen in visiting with the agent and the neighbors and Marvin, I’m going to be supportive of this request today.”

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

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you. Commissioner Winters sparked a question for me. Since this is kind of out there, instead of already the houses have developed out to it, that’s one of the things that Tom and I have sat on the drainage committee of how you take care of the Cowskin and all that. I guess the question I have is is there a way that whole drainage area, that easement can be protected? I don’t know if you get into condemnation or what but as we plan, in areas that have not been developed, can we dedicate those areas to be open space or whatever so that when we do have the big floods nothing is in that area?”

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Mr. Krout said, "We hope the committee is going to talk about that some more, as that Cowskin study comes forward in its whole, with the whole report. I think that they'll be looking at issues like protection of larger flood plain areas, at providing better margins of safety for building above the 100-year flood plain and that the concept of stream buffers for protection. Whether or not requires compensation or can be built into the development sometimes becomes a case-by-case issue, depending on how much of someone's land is in that flood plain. But I'm hoping that that Cowskin study is going to give us the considerations and the tools that we need to look at this area. I would say, just concerning this area, that this site on the south side of Central is pretty much the uplands of that tributary and so there's not a lot of drainage."

The key question here is to make sure that you do not increase the runoff substantially from its undeveloped nature. The flood plains are not extremely wide and there's not a lot of water that's being carried through them. As you go on the south side of Central though, on the north side of Central in this area. And you actually have a couple of tributaries coming together. There's some substantial issue with that section of land and I think that the Cowskin study will also be coming back to you and addressing some of those concerns."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Well, and I don't remember at our last meeting when they said they were going to come forth with those recommendations. Do you remember? And I'm not sure if you were at that meeting."

Mr. Krout said, "I don't have the timeline for it, no."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay. Because I know we've been anxiously awaiting to hear what the recommendations are and that seems to be the thing that's been put on, it's the last chapter it seems like and I guess I would have liked to have had them doing it concurrent with some of the other things they were doing. Do you have a comment, David?"

Mr. David Spears said, "If I can, just briefly. You know, I think one of the problems is that we're working with the Corps of Engineers and trying to see what they would be willing to do and the benefit-cost ratio has to be correct or they do not want to participate. So, I think that's what is holding it up quite a bit."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Any further questions? Yes, Commissioner Norton."

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Commissioner Norton said, "Where is the Cowskin Creek in reference to this piece of property? I don't know if I know that."

Mr. Krout said, "Well, the Cowskin is really about three miles to the east but you're in the basin of the tributaries that are feeding the Cowskin and the drainage from this property actually goes north and east to about 13th Street and 119th Street is where that tributary feeds into the Cowskin. So, you're really in the headwaters of that tributary when you're out here."

Commissioner Norton said, "How many basins are close to this piece of property? Do they split anywhere or is this right in the middle of one basin?"

Commissioner Winters said, "This is right on the edge of the Dry Creek and the Calfskin and where, just to the north and the west of this location is where, during the Halloween flood, the Dry Creek broke over and flowed into the other one. So if we were dealing with property that was a mile or three-quarters of a mile north of this, that would be a real deal issue but I don't believe it is an issue on this entire quarter-section."

Mr. Krout said, "Right. This drainage continues in a kind of north . . . I'm sorry, pretty much westerly direction and then there's Dry Creek that is up above that and the problem was that there was a transfer between the Dry Creek to the drainage for this tributary and that led to the flooding that was downstream and the 119th and Maple area."

Commissioner Norton said, "Does the study cover both those basins and all of that, Tom?"

Commissioner Winters said, "Yes. And I guess, if I can interject. Marvin, if somebody came in with a project that was north and west or north of this project, that would be one of the first things your department would be talking about with them if someone was making some kind of a projection in that area."

Mr. Krout said, "Right. That's an area that we've identified as environmentally sensitive because of the transfer of drainage and because of the prospect that some substantial improvements need to occur in this area if you're going to try to relieve some of the flooding that occurred downstream. So, yes, the north area is much more sensitive and we'd be discussing that from the beginning. It wouldn't be a situation like we normally say where the drainage issues can normally be handled at the time of platting. This would be an important enough issue that we would need to bring in the Public Works folks early on in the process and talk about the best use for that property."

Commissioner Winters said, "I think David Spears . . ."

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Mr. Spears said, "One more comment, please. One thing I know the City of Wichita is working on, the meetings we've had, is that they were going to try to pass an ordinance to say that any future development in these basins, the base of the structure would have to be one foot above the Halloween flood. Have they done that yet, Marvin?"

Mr. Krout said, "They've done that for the area further to the east, downstream on this drainage way, the area downstream of where that transfer occurred. They did it just for that area because that was the area where the current flood plain lines are two or three feet lower than they ought to be, based on that transfer that occurred. So that was the most sensitive area and they did pass an ordinance requiring a higher flood elevation just for that tributary currently. I think the overall issue is where should that be in the future. Should we have a higher elevation than we have in the past."

Mr. Spears said, "I'd like to see that, at some point, because they have also asked the County, Sedgwick County, to adopt a similar resolution in the County areas, in case there's development there. So, I want to see what area exactly that we're talking about."

Mr. Krout said, "Okay, I'll get you the ordinance that they passed."

Mr. Spears said, "Thanks."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Just a comment. Knowing what I've dealt with on the south side with drainage, I just want to be sure that we have the core value that our Storm Waste Management group will be actively involved in all of this because we don't want to go back and impose on commissioners twenty years from now the kind of problems we've seen, not only in the Halloween flooding area but down on the south side, because we didn't really drive a stake in the ground and take a stand on making sure that the drainage was a huge part of this kind of development. It's just really a statement but I think we've got to make sure that happens, as we grow in some of these area that we know are fraught with groundwater and storm water problems."

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Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Commissioners, any further comments, questions? All right. What’s the will of the Board on this item please?”

Commissioner Winters said, “Mr. Chairman, just a brief comment and then I’m prepared to make a Motion. I would agree with Commissioner Norton completely and if we were, again, north and west or south of here we would clearly need to know a lot more about it than I think we do on this part. But based on the comments and the work done by staff and the vote of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, which voted I believe ten to two to support this.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the findings of fact of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission and approve the zone change and CUP subject to the condition of platting; and instruct the MAPD to withhold publication until the plat has been recorded with the Register of Deeds.

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, Marvin. Next item please.”

NEW BUSINESS

F. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

- 1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SINGLE FAMILY MORTGAGE REVENUE BONDS (MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES PROGRAM), 2002 SERIES A, OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS AND SHAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS; AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF FINANCING DOCUMENTS.**

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Mr. Brad Snapp, Housing Director, Housing Office, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This morning you have another opportunity before you to approve this resolution to issue Single-family Mortgage Revenue Bonds. This issue will make \$60,000,000 available for first time home buyers across the State, except in the target areas where that requirement is waived.

The program this year will be issued in six increments, instead of all at once, to save us some money on negative arbitrage and there will be up to \$10,000,000 at a time. As those are exhausted, then we’ll roll the next increment out immediately. This time, you know in the past we’ve had rural set asides trying to get rural buyers included in the program. We haven’t had a lot of success with that model, so this time we’re going to set \$5,000,000 aside for rural lenders to use on a first come basis. That way we hope that if they use one or two loans, often times they don’t want to put a commitment fee up on a larger amount in fear that they might not use it. So, if they use one or two loans, hopefully they’ll find that it’s successful and then want to buy into the program further. We’re going to have meetings first part of May in southeast Kansas and then hopefully go to the western part of the State and maybe north central.

We have had a huge response for this program from the public hearing that we had about four weeks ago. We’ve had over 500 calls to our office, and that has been overwhelming. We’ve sent packets to those people. That’s a greater response than we’ve ever had before and so we expect this money to be used very quickly. And those calls weren’t just from the Wichita area, they were out as far away as Hays, north central part of the State, etcetera. We expect 900 people to be able to buy a home through this program and again, our average family is about \$34,000 annual income with a \$61,000 mortgage.

If you have any questions, I’ll be glad to answer them for you at this time.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I just have one real quick one. I mean, based on the responses and what have you, I mean, you’d have to say that this project is an overwhelming success. Is that correct?”

Mr. Snapp said, “It certainly is.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “That’s great. Any questions of Brad on this item?”

Commissioner Winters said, “I see that we have Joe Norton here. Joe, are you representing Sedgwick County and us in this kind of deal? I do have a question of you then. Joe, I’m sure that this is probably an oversimplified question and an obvious answer, but just from your perspective, looking at this from the Board of County Commissioners and representing us, you’ve examined all

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of this, it's in accordance with what we normally do, all the documents in your estimation are in order and proper and ready to move forward?"

Mr. Joe Norton, Bond Counsel, Gilmore and Bell P.C., said, "That is correct. This is basically a continuation of the program that the County has established for many years. As Brad indicated, there's a couple of nuances to try to take advantage of some of the reinvestment lack of opportunities we have now with low interest rates to do the six various series. Otherwise, it's a program that has been successful and continues to be successful and basically has been approved, not only by our firm but the Attorney General's Office year after year and this is basically just an enhancement of that and we find everything to be satisfactory and available for your action."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right. And I do see Mr. Jack Ransom and Mr. Chuck Bouilly from George K Braum and that's the reason they're here is for this agenda item?"

Mr. Norton said, "I believe that's correct."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I don't think we have any questions. I don't anyway, others may. This is just a great project and we're certainly glad for your participation and your help in really offering a great benefit to the citizens on this first time homeowner project. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Any further questions or comments? Commissioner Gwin."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Just a comment real quickly. Brad, I'm encouraged that we're hearing from folks in other parts of the State. You know, that's good news. This program is available throughout the State of Kansas, is it not? And so that encourages me. I think we've been doing this program since the early '80s, as far back as I can remember when I was in the real estate business and it was always successful in Wichita and Sedgwick County. We'd use up our money in a pretty quick fashion. The challenges continue to be, I think and continue to be today the target areas where we want to try to encourage home ownership. But as it expanded to Statewide, then I'm encouraged that we're hearing from folks from other parts of the State who are looking forward to taking this opportunity to buy their home in their community of their choice. So, give us a report when you make those road trips and let us know how you're doing out there, okay?"

Mr. Snapp said, "I have a couple of phone numbers that . . . I've asked Jack and Chuck if they

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would help handle some of the calls this month. So Chuck Bouilly's office with George K. Baum is 264-9351 and Ranson Housing is 263-4991 so if viewers want information, they're welcome to call those numbers. They can also call ours, but these guys want to share that information as well."

Chairman Sciortino said, "They're smiling. I don't know if that's a smile of joy or chagrin or something. Well, maybe Jack would take some of our phone calls that we get once in a while. He's smiling again. All right, thank you very much. Any further comments?"

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

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

Commissioner McGinn left at 10:41 a.m.

2. AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY HOUSING SERVICES WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY, INC. TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE OAKLAWN/SUNVIEW NEIGHBORHOODS.

Mr. Snapp said, "This morning, this operating agreement is a continuation of one that we've had with Community Housing Services for several years. The amount is the same, \$48,000 for the year. We consider Community Housing Services a partner in the Oaklawn/ Sunview Improvement Districts. They provide leadership training for Oaklawn residents and the Oakview Neighborhood Association, home ownership and home maintenance training and low-interest loan products for first-time homebuyers and also people who want to do home maintenance or home improvements

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on their home. They are an organization that continues to build capacity, both for themselves and for the community. So, I would request that you approve this agreement.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you, Brad. Any questions or comments on this item? What’s the will of the Board please?”

MOTION

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

Chairman Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you, Brad. Next item please.”

3. AGREEMENTS (TWO) TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- **WICHITA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: BUSINESS RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION**
- **MID-AMERICA WORLD TRADE CENTER INSTITUTE, DBA KANSAS WORLD TRADE CENTER: PROMOTE AND FACILITATE INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

Mr. Irene Hart, Director, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We have for your consideration today two contracts for . . . they are renewal contracts to continue existing services. The first one is for economic development services with the Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce. The contract continues the partnership among the private sector, the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Wichita

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and Sedgwick County in funding a core economic development team located at the Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce.

The goals of the team and these services are to support expansion and retention of existing business, to recruit new companies to the Sedgwick County area, to promote and enhance creation of new businesses, to maintain partnerships with all the cities in Sedgwick County, with the State, with local organizations, utilities and other kinds of associations.

Also involved is some marketing efforts for the Wichita/ Sedgwick County area and research and education and support of economic development. This has been a successful partnership, bringing hundreds of jobs to the community each year. The role of the core staff at the Chamber, I wound up with four 'c's to explain what they do. They communicate among all the partners and keep us up to date and provide current information. They coordinate the community response to inquiries from out of town from site selectors, from businesses who are looking to relocate. They coordinate our response, when we're looking to provide incentives or to lure a business to this community. They provide cohesion in that we're not each of us going off in different directions, trying to compete with each other to obtain a company. It's not a fragmented approach. It's one that's cohesive. And the other thing that they do very well is to cajole. They find ways to bring out the best in each of us when it comes to putting a package together that will help a business stay, help a business grow or help a business move to this community.

The second contract that we have for your consideration and they're both under the same action line, so I'll just handle both of them, the second one is a continuing contract with the Kansas World Trade Center to provide trade readiness assessments for businesses that are looking to get more involved in the export business and to do preliminary cost analysis for businesses to determine how effective the use of our foreign trade zone is to their bottom line, is it worth the money to use the foreign trade zone, does it offset the customs duties. So, we use them as partners in helping to arrive at those numbers.

They also do consulting and technical assistance in the area of international trade and they do trade education and advocacy. I'd be happy to answer any questions on either one of these contracts. The president of the Chamber of Commerce, Tim Wittsman is here and I believe has some comments."

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. Tim Wittsman, President, Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce, greeted the Commissioners

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and said, "It's a pleasure to be here. I probably shouldn't start any of these without reminding, not the Commission so much, but the public that we would not have an economic development partnership had not the County come forward with that initiative and asked to partner with the Chamber. And then subsequently, one year later, the City came into that same coalition and the only reason we have it is because the County took the initiative. So thank you for that.

I'm not going to go over this contract. This is a vanilla, same as contract. What I give you is a little bit of a status report and some scene setting, kind of picture painting about where we are and what I think we're facing. Don't worry, on the Trade Center, I won't go through all of that. I'll just give you a very brief status report. But since we have this opportunity, I think we should take it.

I was trying to come up with an analogy to compare how does one community compete with another and baseball is something I pay attention to and there have been a lot of stories over the last few years, a) about salaries and baseball teams. You know, at this point the Yankees pay one player more than some teams pay the entire payroll. This year, they were talking about dropping two teams because of the lack of competition. Money doesn't mean everything. Good organization is part of it. Joe Torre makes a difference for the Yankees. He's a very good manager but I'll give you an analogy here. We went out on the Internet and we found the pay and the records of baseball teams a couple of years ago. In the lower left . . . the x axis is what their payroll was at that time and the y axis, running up, was their winning percentage for the year.

The one thing that jumps out at you is the teams in the lower left are the ones that are the lowest paid and have the poorest record. That's Kansas City, that's Montreal, one of the teams that we're going to try to get rid of. But it also says just paying a lot of money, you can see a couple of teams over there far on the right-hand side that don't have even a 500 record. And I would mention it, since this is '99, last year, Seattle which is in the middle on that funding, won the most games of any team. They didn't win the World Series but they won more games than anybody else in baseball in many, many years, decades.

So it isn't the case that money brings success. It is the case that if you are at the bottom you have no chance. This is a . . . you know, we turned it into a coefficient line simply to show the relationship between the spending and the record. Wanted to give a little report here and then I'll show some more on that in just a moment.

Some of the things that happened in 2001, I should mention, we do something kind of strange. I don't know if any other community does it. We do not include, in any of our figures, the growth of our four big aircraft companies, which means you'll never see those numbers for the largest sector we have and the largest employers in the largest sector we have. Between '95 and '98, they grew

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46% and we don't show any of that in here, in spite of the fact we were in job fairs from Savannah to L.A. and various other support things. That may be stupid on our part. Maybe we should have included them."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Could you go back to the other thing just for a second, Tim. What do you mean by retained jobs. Are those jobs that had been threatening to leave and then, through our . . .?"

Mr. Witsman said, "Yes."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay."

Mr. Witsman said, "Sometimes that a consolidation. Somebody's decided they're going to consolidate operations and we're either going to get it and sometimes grow it. That happened with some of the Excel things a few years ago. Sometimes they had been wooed by somebody else and they're saying 'We're getting out of here'."

Chairman Sciortino said, "These are job that, potentially, we would have lost and by keeping them it eliminated our need to go find two other jobs just to get us to the same place. Okay, I understand."

Mr. Witsman said, "Correct. We just don't throw things down there because they were in town. It's because they were talking about leaving and we had to do work.

New companies, we have some there. I'd have to say this is an area I think we can do better in. So, in terms of job creation results, I wanted to give you a picture of this over time and I'll show you something about the old WISE partnership versus what we're doing today. That's what the numbers look like over the last eight to nine years, in terms of the economic development minus the big aviation companies.

Under WISE, the five year average on recruitment was 480 jobs per year and now it's . . . I'm sorry, 480 versus about 581 over the last few years. And then the expansions, about 50% better than what had been done before and we're doing that with a lot few resources than we had in the WISE era.

The 2000 business plan, there is an attempt to look at what the clusters of innovation study is telling us, what we can do with that, any areas that we should focus on. One of the big desires is to have some stable funding for the future. And this is a comparison chart. I put this together in the summer. We tried to contact some of the other regional chambers. Some either won't give it to us or couldn't. And so these are all the ones we were able to come up with data and this includes the

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workforce funding and while there is some I know in some of the governments who don't think that's part of economic development, our chairman, our board absolutely believes it is. Area Development magazine does an annual survey of businesses and they ask them what are the most important things in your locating a business. Do you know what number one was this year? Availability of skilled labor is the top issue for businesses. So, this is a comparison of where we stand in our pure economic development, the recruitment, the kind of things Laurie Usher, Dave Wood do, plus the workforce piece."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Now, let me ask you, now on these other cities that are comparable to Wichita, other than let's take the City of Tulsa, are there other people that contribute to the funding, the private sector that maybe is lacking here in Wichita and Sedgwick County?"

Mr. Witsman said, "Each one of these has a different mix and I do have a sheet. I don't know that I have a chart, but I have a sheet that would tell you how much came from public, how much came from private for all of it. I can get that to you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "That would be interesting to us to see who we need to . . . okay."

Mr. Witsman said, "So one of the things that I did was to say 'Okay, that's the absolute'. What if we did this on a per capita basis, because all of those except for Des Moines are larger than we are. And let's just say on a level of effort, rather than equal dollars, where would we have to be if we proportioned everybody back to their actual population. And we'd need to be around a million and a half to be average. That doesn't mean that we should have a budget next year at a million and a half. What I think we need to do is all have a discussion, and there's interest in that from the City too, that we really need to look at what we're doing, decide what ought to be done and this is not just a 'Gee, the governments ought to deal with it' because we've got the question of what are we going to do with private sector. How would we motivate them to put money in? And I would challenge the economic development staff not to hit that number but to say, 'What is it you really need?' Don't talk to me about a number. I don't want to get into a discussion where everybody picks a number and then we back into it. That's not the way we do our Chamber budgets. I want to know what it is that would give you a strong program and that's the question and whether or not we can all fund it is another question but let's at least find that out."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Get them to commit to you, if they got the dollars, what kind of outcome could they reasonably expect from us. So, if you come to us we can say, is this a good investment? Is the potential good investment?"

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Mr. Witsman said, "Absolutely. The 2002 business plan, this is what we're trying to accomplish. I'll let them come over and give an update, status on how we're doing this year."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And do you get information like . . . in my old business it was called churn, taking the aircraft industries out of it, how many jobs do we lose on an annual basis so we know how many jobs we have to get just to keep even? I mean, we see new jobs but did we lose 800 jobs, so we're really behind the curve or are we slowly growing. Do you follow what I'm trying to say?"

Mr. Witsman said, "Oh, the nut of what you're saying frankly I consider more important. We've always had these objectives, because the public understands them better. To me, that isn't even the comparison. For me the comparison is how are we doing on net job workforce, population growth against the seven regional cities. That's the real comparison."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Yes, because are we growing the job market in Wichita/ Sedgwick County or, because of like you said you're projecting trying to get 720 new jobs but if the last eight years we've averaged losing a thousand jobs, then we're really behind the curve."

Mr. Witsman said, "Correct. And I actually give a report of this comparison of how we're doing against those regional cities every June. That will come out. The truth is, in a bad economic year, sometimes being a zero is good if the other guy is going down and sometimes you can look like you're having a great year when in fact everybody else is doing better than you are. Having said that, I'll talk again with the Center for Economic Development Business Research. The loss of jobs is a hard number to come up with. You can come up with the net. You can tell where we are in terms of total employment, etcetera but how many jobs are lost out of the community in a given year is a little . . . I don't know whether they can do that because what they're getting is the aggregate reports from the federal government."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Couldn't your Chamber members share that with you?"

Mr. Witsman said, "They're not eager to tell us about . . . You know, sometimes they don't tell us about layoffs and reductions. It's not the first thing they like to go into."

Some marketing strategies, some focus on aero-space, wholesale packaging distribution. If you haven't noticed, we're really doing pretty well in that area, as long as we can provide the water, the sewer accessibility to trains sometimes. But we've got some good locations. We need to stay with that. Plastics, corporate support centers, high-tech communications. We have been going to a lot of these K.D.O.C.H. sponsored trade shows. We have virtually no money to do print kinds of

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advertising, to stick stuff in magazines, etcetera so we're doing gorilla marketing and that consists of putting our folks on the road and being in trade shows, often not having a booth but walking it, going face to face with everybody who's there and trying to entice them.

Personal consultant visits to Phoenix, Dallas, Atlanta, K.C., Chicago. Some direct mail and using e-mail, which is an efficient, not very expensive way to market and I think we've built much better teamwork, I think Irene would agree with that, in terms of the City, the County and the Chamber in spending time together and with these other groups on what needs to be done.

Some of the lead generation, we're trying to use the Wichita State Community Network. What I mean by that, as an idea I'd come up with was some of these folks have gone on to be presidents of major corporations. Let's run them down. Let's figure out who we might go after to put an operation here. CDBR has been looking at 100 companies, outside of those biggies, who might consider consolidating operations that they have outside of our State here. And then that's the Business Growth Committee. I at first wasn't sure what BGC meant but that's our Business Growth Committee who is actually making contact with those companies.

And then community development, I think the air service was hugely important. Sometimes we don't get credit, and I don't mean for the result but the fact that we had four people who are department heads spending the bulk of a month or two on that operation and I think it was very important to the success. And then downtown development, it's good to see that's staffed now. We're in a support mode on that but that support mode means that our economic development people are going to be working closely with Ed Wolverton, the new head, whenever there's a possibly of a prospect.

And that's all for that. But in terms of the Trade Center, the Trade Center is successful but struggling financially. There are considerations going on now as to how that might be restructured. The City is thinking of different ideas. They're going to fund it, at least through June, while we work through some of these ideas. Irene is aware of those discussions. We don't have anything to report in terms of a proposal at this point. I think that the piece that the County has been most interested in has been helping small and medium-size businesses learn and get into those international markets. We think that's also a top priority and whatever happens, we need to make sure that function is preserved.

The visiting people, that's a very important thing too but it's a time eater. It really eats a lot of time and we typically have to scrounge money and get sponsorships just to be able to cover our expenses and make a little money on it."

Chairman Sciortino said, "You don't issue credit cards?"

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Mr. Witsman said, “No. We have not. So both of these contracts are really just steady state for this year and then economic development, I think we all have to have a good dialogue between now and the fall about what’s going to happen and what should we be doing and on the Trade Center, hope we’d have some ideas and proposals as to how to deal with that by July 1.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay, thank you. We do have some questions. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Not really a question, just a comment. For anyone who may be tuning in, this is really the authorization of the contracts. We actually did the budget discussion about this last August. This is in our budget for this year, so today we’re just executing the contracts. Tim, I do appreciate very much your acknowledgement at the very beginning of your presentation of the fact that, after the WISE organization was gone, and I think most of us in the community believed that it lived its life and needed certainly a big change but Sedgwick County was the group that stepped up and, with your assistance, through the Chamber, filled a void that was left and I’m still very proud that we were able to do that and I appreciate the acknowledgement. Thank you.”

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

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I think this is a great partnership. I did, as mayor, and I continue now to sit on the eco devo committee out of the Chamber and they continue to do great work and sometimes it’s with smoke and mirrors. I don’t see how they continue to mine the prospects and plow the ground with such limited resources but they continue to do that and I applaud Laurie and then John Rolfe before her and David Woods for continuing that. We’re involved in some pretty major projects right now that we’re trying to woo to our community and, truthfully, they wouldn’t be off the ground or we wouldn’t even be in consideration as one of the better locations for these major businesses if it wasn’t for this partnership and the ongoing ways that we do business. So, I’ll be very supportive of this and we probably need to have a moratorium. We started this several years ago. We probably need to step back and revisit what the partnership looks like, where the money comes from, how do we take it to the next level. When we talk about

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tourism and we have the whole summit just on tourism. You know, maybe we need to do the same thing when it comes to economic development and how do we get the players to put the money in to do the kinds of things we need to do for the future. But I will be supportive of our contracts.”

Mr. Witsman said, “I concur with that and that is not something that is a purely staff thing. I mean, we need the political leadership, we need the business leadership in that conversation.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Absolutely. That’s all I have.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I just have one comment, Tim. I would really look forward to that June presentation about the World Trade Center because that’s the one element that I’m really having a hard time getting my hands around and is that an investment that’s really worth the dollars that we’re putting into it. I hear that it’s been successful but the City is thinking of not funding it or restructuring it or something and I’ve always had a hard time really figuring it out is it a wise investment for us to do. So, hopefully, when you make your presentation in June, that can give us a little more insight on that project itself.”

Mr. Witsman said, “If it’s all right, I’ll make one comment in response to that. This is a producing State. We make things and we grow things. We’re big exporters. Wichita is a much bigger exporter even than the numbers say, because it doesn’t count Boeing. It’s kind of like our numbers. The biggest opportunity right now in the world, I think, is really in trade agreements. The Uruguay Roundup, what year was that, ’97. Biggest tax cut in the history of the world, Uruguay Roundup, GATT, the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade.

Our opportunities are great if we can do that. That’s one reason we’ve supported trade promotion authority for the President. It takes a lot of work. Give Pam Doonan a lot of credit for having put us on the map. I mean, the Chinese embassy calls when there’s bad weather, Tim and says, ‘Are you guys all right?’ That has been very important but the other part of it is we can’t rely just on the Boeings and the big folks to be in the game. We’ve been in the middle of the country. We’re not like the Europeans, used to trading all the time. We’ve got to get our other folks who are capable into the game.

There are government programs, very good programs, the State has some excellent ones, but there’s

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also hand-holding and time that needs to be spent with these companies, because they don't know how to approach those markets. And that expertise, I think, is something we need to retain. We may have to redo how we're presenting it or organizing it."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. I don't see that we have any other comments. So, what's the will of the Board on these items?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Agreements 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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you both. I'd like to suggest that, before we go on, let's take about a five minute recess and kind of stretch our legs a bit and we'll come back in five minutes."

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed at 11:11 a.m. and returned at 11:20 a.m.

Chairman Sciortino said, "All right, we're back from recess, so Clerk call the next item please."

G. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES.

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1. AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH CENTRAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING CENTER TO PROVIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR HEALTHWAVE CONSUMERS.

Mr. Tim Coffman, Director of Administrative Services, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The Healthwave insurance program is a program for children who are without insurance coverage. COMCARE serves as the managed care organization for mental health services for these children. We are the managed care organization for Sedgwick, Butler and Sumner Counties. In the past year, there were over 300 children who were covered by the Healthwave program. About 10% of those children lived in Butler County. COMCARE's role is to deliver or contract for the mental health services for those children that are covered with that insurance program.

The agreement before you sets the terms and conditions for South Central Mental Health Counseling Center to provide and be paid for those behavioral health services for Healthwave consumers, generally, in instances where the consumers live in Butler County. The recommended action is approval of the agreement and authorization for the Chair to sign. Be happy to answer any questions you may have."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. I think we have a question. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I just happened to attend a co-location kind of revisit meeting. I was invited to participate in that. And how many of these kids come out of the co-location program that are referred on to Healthwave because of funding and everything? Is there a percentage or has that been documented yet?"

Mr. Coffman said, "I don't have that information right now. I can certainly get that for you. The children that are involved in the co-location program come to us with a variety of different resources. Some have Healthwave as a resource, some have private insurance, some are already Medicaid eligible and some are identified and then we recommend approval for the Medicaid waiver program. So there's a diverse source of payers for those children. We'd be happy to get that information for you."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I'm just interested because the evidence, so far, is that the co-location program and the ten schools have been highly successful but I understand that not every child that may be identified as having some kind of issue or problem will have insurance that will take care of it. So Healthwave is a mechanism, I'm sure, that serves some of those young people. I'm just trying to get a feel for how those two interrelate."

Mr. Coffman said, "Be happy to pull some information for you about that population."

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Commissioner Norton said, "Okay, thank you. That's all I have."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Any other comments or questions?"

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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item please."

2. AMENDMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT WITH JAMES JAY RAMSEY FOR SPACE HOUSING COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CARE'S ADDICTION TREATMENT SERVICES LOCATED AT 940 NORTH WACO.

Mr. Coffman said, "COMCARE has been providing addiction treatment services at 940 North Waco for over 11 years now. Last year, there were about 900 citizens that were served at that location and they represented about 25,000 visits to that address. Based on recommendations from a national behavioral health care consulting firm, we are in the process of developing a remodeling plan to improve our efficiencies and our service delivery at that location. The lease amendment that's before you will extend the term of the lease at the current rates through March of 2007. We

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request your approval of the amendment and authorization for the Chairman to sign. Be happy to answer any questions.

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. I don't see that there's any questions. So, what's the will of the Board please on this item?"

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Amendment to Lease Agreement and authorize the Chair to 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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

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

3. AGREEMENT WITH LOVING HEARTS TO PROVIDE IN-HOME SERVICES TO OLDER CITIZENS.

Mr. Ray Vail, Director of Financial and Support Services, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I have, to present to you, a vendor contract for Loving Hearts, a home health agency for the Older Americans Act Title 3-B program, in-home services. This vendor contract is part of the Central Plains Area Agency on Aging's fiscal year 2002 area plan. You have already approved that area plan, through the fiscal year 2002 and the program is outlined in that plan. I ask that you approve the contract and authorize the Chair to sign. I'll answer any questions."

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

Commissioner Gwin said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ray, is Loving Hearts an entity with whom we've contracted before?"

Mr. Vail said, "Yes, they have. We do Senior Care Act IE program with them."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. Well, I've gotten a call recently from a constituent commenting on the homemaker attendant care, the kind of respite care, the things that she needs, the services that she needs to continue to live in her home and these folks and others provide a great service to our seniors out there. So, I'm certainly going to be very supportive of it."

Mr. Vail said, "Yes, we have about 26 providers out there right now."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Any other comments?"

Commissioner Norton said, "I have one. I've asked this question on many other similar issues, but what is the legislative session going to do with this kind of program, because they've talked about cutting some funding for in-home care and respite care for seniors. Do you have a sense on that right now as to what it might do to this kind of program?"

Mr. Vail said, "At the present time, this program won't be affected because it is federally funded, but the State programs, at the present time they're talking about putting the money they were originally taking out of those programs back into them but they haven't got down to what they're going to do with it, probably till the end of May."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, once again I like to continue to raise the issue that some of these programs are wonderful programs but they are at risk right now, depending on what the legislature does and we're going to have some tough decisions to make at the County if the funding goes away and I want to continue to raise that flag up there so people know and aren't surprised when they have a loved one that's been in their home, has lived independently and had some respite care and now are going to have to give up their home and move into the nursing home or move back into the kid's home. So, I think it's very important that people continue to know that information, as we move on these kinds of programs."

Mr. Vail said, "Yes, we try to get that out as much as we can."

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Commissioner Norton said, “Thank you, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Any other comments or questions on this item? What’s the will of the Board please?”

MOTION

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

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

H. AGREEMENT WITH LDF COMPANIES FOR LEASE OF ADVERTISING SPACE AT KANSAS COLISEUM.

Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Approximately a year ago, in conjunction with one of our media partners, we started offering as an experiment an upscale VIP amenity at select events, such as concerts and sporting events. The attendees at this experience responded by sometimes spending twice and some times three times the average of what everybody else spent attending that particular event.

So we decided to take it a step further. We have sold the naming rights to this room, which is our Conference Room B, to Coors LDF Companies. LDF Companies have the Coors brand here in this market. Our intention is to upscale the room, use some of the leverage of some of our other partnerships such as Jabara’s Carpet Outlet, United Cable Direct to supply the sports programming and a large screen TV so we can supply and we can provide this premium customer type offering to

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all of our sporting events, concerts and other select events at the Coliseum. We recommend approval.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Let me ask you a question. Is that where they would watch it on a big screen or something and have libations and food and what have you?”

Mr. Nath said, “Yes, sir.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Great. Any other questions of John? What’s the will of the Board on this item please?”

MOTION

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you, John, very much. Continued success. Next item.”

I. HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

1. CONTRACT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (KDHE) PROVIDING TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR USE OF GRANT FUNDS FOR THE TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM.

Ms. Phyllis Gearing-Anderson, Director of Preventive Health, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I have three agenda items that I’d like to present. The first is approve the renewal of an agreement or a grant with KDHE for our Tuberculosis clinic. The Tuberculosis control grant

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supports the staffing and most of the expenditures for our Tuberculosis clinic.

These services are provided to the community. It includes implementation of normal and outbreak guidelines and standards for interpreting CDC and KDHE standards of care. We work conjunctively with KDHE. This grant provides for testing and treatment of Tuberculosis infection, an active disease for the citizens of Sedgwick County. The grant is in the amount of \$104,658 for the year 2002. We're requesting your approval of this grant contract and authorization for the Chairman to sign."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you very much. Is there any questions or comments? Mr. Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Yes. How many people were tested in the center last year? Do you have that number?"

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "I don't have that exact data but I do know that we have at least approximately 200 contacts, total, of cases of Tuberculosis that are followed in the Tuberculosis clinic."

Commissioner Norton said, "And how many of those were opened last year? Do you have . . .?"

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "I don't have that exact data. Those contacts can go back years because of the treatment and many of them are observed therapy contacts, where nurses have to go out, nurses or our case manager goes out and observes clients taking the medications that are ordered."

Commissioner Norton said, "It seemed like, to me, I remember that cases have grown. There were more cases in the last two or three years each year. Not a substantial number but percentage wise, when you have small numbers it's a larger percent. Is that still the case or has it gone the other way?"

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "You know, I don't think that we had any additional new growth. It's kind of steadied out or evened out at this time. KDHE is not very concerned, at this point, about what's happening with Tuberculosis in Sedgwick County."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. That's all I have. Thanks."

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Any further comment? Don't see any. So, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item please."

2. CONTRACT WITH KDHE PROVIDING TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR USE OF GRANTS FUNDS FOR THE BLOOD LEAD TESTING PROGRAM.

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "The next two agenda items are related and we're requesting the approval of the contract and authorization of the Chairman to sign contracts regarding blood lead testing. KDHE is providing, between April 1st and June 30th, 2002 \$10,000 in funding for hiring a community health nurse to go out and provide testing for lead on children in the Sedgwick County community. This grant really addresses children between the ages of 0 to 6 years old, when lead can really be a problem, as far as health for these children, problems such as developmental delay, renal disease, brain disease, health problems with these children. So, it's important that we go out and test children.

We want to collaborate with the WIC program, Early Head Start and Head Start programs in identifying children. Children at higher risk will be tested from the age of 6 months old."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Any questions or comments on this? I have a question. How do we find the children that we should test?"

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Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, “Well, first of all, WIC program, we have a WIC program within the health department. All those children should be tested for lead. Children between the age of 0 and 6 years old should have at least one lead test, showing that they don’t have elevated levels and high-risk children, at 6 months definitely should be tested. We have Early Headstart Centers, Headstart Centers, all of those identified centers that we can collaborate with and make sure children are tested.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I mean, is the goal to test every child, 0 to 6 years of age in Sedgwick County?”

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, “Every child should have a lead screening test.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “And that’s what we’re going to provide?”

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, “Well, that is what our goal is, to increase the numbers of children that have been tested. I think numbers that I got for last year showed maybe 150 children tested within our health department for lead and we certainly can increase the numbers there.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Well, when you say should, they’re not required. This would have to be parental consent or by being in the WIC program, or some other program they’ve already waived their objections to this testing.”

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, “We would have to have parental consent for this testing.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay. Thank you. I don’t guess there’s any other questions. So, what’s the will of the Board on this item?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

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VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item please."

3. ADDITION OF ONE COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE II POSITION, RANGE 22, TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFFING TABLE.

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "And this is, like I said, this was related to the previous agenda item. And this is the addition of this nurse to the staffing table to perform much of the testing and to develop this lead screening program."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the addition to the Health Department Staffing Table.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, "I just have one comment or question before this. If, all of the sudden again, we get cut from the State and it starts to affect this program and we can no longer provide this service, what happens to this employee? They get let go?"

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "This is a grant funded employee, this is a grant funded position and we will certainly look for a different position for her in the health department."

Chairman Sciortino said, "So, those people know that they're hired under a grant and if the grant goes away, then their job is in jeopardy. Okay, great. Thank you. Clerk, call the roll."

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VOTE

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

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

4. DELETION OF THREE PART-TIME CLERICAL POSITIONS, RANGE 16, FROM, AND ADDITION OF ONE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION, RANGE 18, TO, THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFFING TABLE.

Mr. Mansoor Tahir, Senior Epidemiologist, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here to request the deletion of three part-time clerical positions, range 16 from and addition of one administrative assistant position, range 18 to the Health Department Staffing Table. Sedgwick County Health Department has, over the last two years, made drastic enhancements in its staff resources to improve health and disease surveillance, mandated reporting and management of disease data, early identification and intervention aimed at minimizing the spread of communicable diseases and preparedness for bio-terrorism.

State and federal grant funds and a repositioned staff have made this new section possible. With this endeavor, this new team consisting of a director and ten staff barely needs administrative support. To improve our efficiency and assist us with the development and documentation of new processes system for the section an administrative assistant would allow the more highly trained and specialized staff to concentrate on the areas that require their skills and education. This allows them to be more cost-effective to the County, as they are not spending their time on the mundane tasks.

In addition to administrative support for staff of the entire section, the person in this position would function as secretarial support for the director of the section. I request you to approve the deletion from and addition to the Health Department Staffing Table."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Any questions? Seeing none, what's the will of the Board on this item please?"

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MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the deletion from and addition to the Health Department Staffing Table.

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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you very much."

Commissioner Norton said, "Just a comment, Mr. Chairman. It's nice to have other staff people from the Health Department joining us to give presentations, although I like to see Dr. Magruder's ties and hear the Chairman's comments on them, it's nice to have other Health Department folks stop by and let us know who you are and what you do and everything."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And You've got a nice tie also. Next item please."

J. GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 FROM KANSAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, TO BE USED BY SEDGWICK COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS.

Mr. Randy Duncan, Director, Emergency Management Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "In short, I'm going to ask you to accept this \$50,000 this morning which will help continue to pay for one more year of our Regional Hazardous Materials planner. This is the second year this position has been funded. It is entirely, 100% grant funded. Are there any questions that I might be able to answer?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "I don't see that there's any questions. Excuse me. We have one from

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Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Can I just put a face and a name to this?”

Mr. Duncan said, “Yes, sir. This is Ricky Shellenbarger on our staff, sir.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay. Thank you.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to accept the Grant Award and authorize the Chairman to sign related documents.

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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you, Randy.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Mr. Chairman, before Randy gets out of here, just a comment and kind of a question. Storm season is upon us and are we prepared?”

Mr. Duncan said, “Yes, sir. We are prepared. We are ready to respond, should the situation arise.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Sirens are working fine? We had some pretty inclement weather that kind of passed by us but we’ve got all our problems and niches worked out?”

Mr. Duncan said, “Last night, we were the good weather meat between a bad weather sandwich, north of us and south of us. So, we did indeed luck out and I’m very pleased about that. Our

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system is under maintenance at this time and we're convinced that we're about where we need to be, with respect to reliability issues on our outdoor warning device. We typically aim for about a 95% level of reliability."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay."

Chairman Sciortino said, "The good weather meat in a bad weather sandwich? That ranks right up there with empirical data."

Mr. Duncan said, "Commissioner, food analogies are a subject near and dear to my heart. Thank you."

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

K. GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$309,517 FROM BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FOR THE STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Division of Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Well, we did it again. Sedgwick County once again successfully applied for and received State Criminal Alien Assistance program funding for another year. We received \$309,517 for the 2002 program and that's an increase of \$148,833 from the year before, when we received \$160,684. So, we did good. Justice Benefits and the Sheriff Gary Steed and his staff were very good in working at getting this application out and bringing in this additional funds for the County. So, I'd recommend that you accept the award and, with that, we would be paying Justice Benefits for their share of consulting and helping us put the application together, which will be 22% of \$123,946 or \$27,268. Recommend you accept the award."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I still think we ought to ship these people back home. Any questions? Yes, sir."

Commissioner Norton said, "I just have one. \$309,000. \$148,000 increase from last year. Is this federal money or State money?"

Mr. Hughes said, "It's federal money. It's a Bureau of Justice Assistance grant program where they help . . . well, they kind of partially reimburse us for cost of housing criminal aliens."

Commissioner Norton said, "Is it funneled through the State or does it come directly?"

Mr. Hughes said, "It comes directly from the Department of Justice. In fact, we apply on a website of theirs where we do the application."

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Commissioner Norton said, "That's fine. Just trying to figure out all the funding sources and where they come from that we're going to have to deal with at the budget time this year."

Mr. Hughes said, "Yes, this one doesn't come through the State."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Just trying to figure that out."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Marty, will we continue to use Justice Benefits Incorporated or will there be a time when we'll have this figured out and we won't need their assistance?"

Mr. Hughes said, "We have a contract with them now. I'm not exactly sure when that ends and at that point we'll make a decision of whether to use them. We'll come back to you and you can make a decision whether to use them or not. I'll tell you though, from my perspective, they really are very helpful. The data and information that we have in the Sheriff's Department doesn't have all the information that we need in the format that we need it. They have . . . to get technical, they have two spaces to put the country code data and the new requirements, under the grant, is that we have the INS code data and it can be up to 5 or 6 digits and we can't put that in with our system. So it requires Justice Benefits or someone to convert our code to the INS codes in order to send out the application. That's just one thing they do. They do a lot of things. They analyze the data and they help out quite a bit. But again, it's your decision to make, once the current contracts up, whether we continue or not."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, if you think they're bringing value to the table, that's fine. I just hope somebody continues to monitor that to see if there's a time that we could do without their services. But I'm going to certainly be supportive of this."

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

Commissioner Gwin said, "This is kind of a bad news, good news I guess. The bad news is that the numbers were up in reportable alien inmates and reportable alien inmate days at our jail. That's the bad news. The good news is that we're receiving almost \$150,000 more than we got last year to try to offset some of those expenses. We certainly need to accept the money and spend it trying to pay some of those bills that we incur."

Mr. Hughes said, "Yes, is it. It's kind of good and bad news but at least we're getting some help."

Commissioner Gwin said, "That's right. Thank you. Thank you Mr. Chairman."

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Chairman Sciortino said, “When you say criminal aliens, is it criminal illegal aliens?”

Mr. Hughes said, “No, it’s just aliens, someone who was born in a different country that aren’t U.S. citizens and they’ve committed either a felony or two misdemeanors are included in the data.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I understand but why don’t we deport them. If they’re legally here and they’ve committed a crime, isn’t that grounds to get them out of the country and let some other country pay for all of this. Because if though we’ve increased our grant, I assume we’ve increased the expenses that the County is going to incur also.”

Mr. Hughes said, “That’s correct.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “My assumption is that some of these folks will be held in jail though, pending their trial and at this point they haven’t even been convicted. So we hold them while they’re awaiting trial. I think that’s why we incur that cost.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “No, I’m sure we do. But it goes back to my old way is that I just have a problem with people being here illegally and especially if they’re here illegally committing crimes and then we’ve got to house them and provide them legal assistance etcetera and so forth. It just frustrates me but I’m going to be supportive of it. What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to accept the Grant Award.

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

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Commissioner Carolyn McGinn Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item. Thank you, Marty."

**L. CLOSURE OF ZOO BOULEVARD, AND IF NECESSARY, WINDMILL ROAD,
DURING A PRAIRIE GRASS BURN ON SEDGWICK COUNTY ZOO PROPERTY.**

Ms. Stephanie Witte, Supervisor of Horticulture, Sedgwick County Zoo, greeted the Commissioners and said, "To give you a little background information, we've been burning the prairie areas in front of the zoo since 1994. The burn served two purposes. One is to destroy the weeds and get rid of the dead material. Also, it helps allow the native prairie grasses and wildflowers to continue to grow. We are requesting to close, as necessary, Zoo Boulevard and Windmill Road during our burn, if the smoke starts to go across the road. We will be assisting with this project, as the County Emergency Management and the County Fire Reserves and we've contacted the Sheriff's Department and they are aware of the possibility that we might need to close the roads."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Is that it. Any questions?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Have we done this every year? I assume we have or something similar."

Ms. Witte said, "We did not do it last year and that was because of the weather, it was a little drier last year and we weren't able to do it. And this is, again, pending weather. We have a permit for 30 days, from April 15th until May 15th and this will occur on a Saturday or a Sunday."

Commissioner Norton said, "Is Sedgwick County Fire or . . .?"

Ms. Witte said, "Fire Reserves and Emergency Management will be there."

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Once you make the decision which day you're going to burn, will the burn be completed in one day?"

Ms. Witte said, "Yes, it's a small portion this year."

Chairman Sciortino said, "So that will be sufficient lead time that you're going to be able to notify

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the public or what have you.”

Ms. Witte said, “Yes.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay, fine. I don’t see that we have any other questions. So, what’s the will of the Board on the burn?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve closure of Zoo Boulevard, and if necessary, Windmill Road, during a prairie grass burn on Sedgwick County Zoo property.

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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

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

M. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND CLASSIFYING STEARNS STREET AND STEARNS COURT TO THE SALEM TOWNSHIP SYSTEM. DISTRICT #2.

Mr. David Spears, Director/County Engineer, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It is standard procedure that after a road is constructed within a platted residential subdivision in accordance with County standards that road is then assigned to the township system. Today Stearns Street and Stearns Court, located in the Southfork Addition, will become the responsibility of Salem

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Township. The Salem Township Board was informed that this resolution would be on the County Commission agenda, by letter, dated March 1, 2002. I recommend that you adopt the resolution.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. What’s the will of the Board on this item please?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “David, thank you very much. Next item please.”

N. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS’ REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2002.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The items presented today for consideration are a result of the regular meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts dated April the 11th, 2002.

**1) TIRES- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: FLEET MANAGEMENT**

The first item today is tires for Fleet Management. Recommend the low bid per group to contract with Karl’s Tire for groups 1 through 5 for an estimated annual cost of \$25,000 and contract with Becker Tire for group 6 at an estimated annual contract \$550.

2) AMBULANCES- FLEET MANAGEMENT

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FUNDING: VEHICLE ACQUISITION

Item two, ambulances for Fleet Management. Recommend the only bid meeting most specifications, including trade-ins, from Midwest Vehicle Professionals in the amount of \$653,136.

**3) SUSTAINABILITY PLAN- SEDGWICK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FUNDING: GRANT FUNDED**

Item three, sustainability plan for the Sedgwick County Health Department. Recommend the proposal from Sharpless Incorporated of \$44,600.

**4) DS-3 CIRCUIT LINE- DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS
FUNDING: NETWORKING & TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Item four, DS-3 circuit line for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommendation is a five-year contract with Southwestern Bell SBC for a cost of \$84,014.

**5) WEED CHEMICALS- NOXIOUS WEEDS
FUNDING: NOXIOUS WEEDS**

And Item five, weed chemicals for Noxious Weeds. Recommend the low bid on item 1 and low bid meeting specifications on item 7 from Vegetation Management for a cost of \$42,601.20. The low bid on items 2, 4, 6 and low bid meeting specifications on item 3 from UAP Timberland for a cost of \$12,168 and low bid meeting specifications on item 5 from Alenza for \$9,753.60.

There is a bidder present today who has requested the opportunity to speak regarding the bid for the ambulances and I'd be happy to answer any questions regarding any of these items and I recommend approval of the items today."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Why don't we do this, just to maybe move this along a little bit. Why don't we see, do we have any questions of Iris on all the items except item 2, for right now? So, why don't we . . ."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts on all items except item 2.

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Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Iris, you might just stand by because there may be something else. We received a letter from Wheeled Coach and I think you all have had it and is there a Mr. Allen Trie here in the audience? Well, is there somebody from Wheeled Coach? If you’d like to come up. You asked to speak to us and we’d like to listen to you. You might give your name and address too.”

Mr. Bruce Chalmers, Direct Sales Manager for the State of Kansas, Wheeled Coach, Hutchinson, Ks., greeted the Commissioners and said, “You all have received a letter which was written by our sales manager. We’re somewhat concerned, as stated in the letter, that there may have been . . . and certainly not to make any accusations, however it would appear that some of the bid specifications were proprietary.

Wheeled Coach, upon received the bid and sending out a quote to Sedgwick County, we understand that certainly we are not able to bid an ambulance exactly to those specifications. It is our position, however, that the specifications and our construction methodology does meet the intent of the specifications. Though not exactly manufactured, we did send clarification as to such and our methodology. It meets the intent of the spec and the vehicle will perform according to the specifications. We feel like, in all honesty, being \$74,000 under the highest bid that it certainly . . . there’s merit in reviewing the RFQ as such. It is our opinion that we build a high-quality vehicle and it will perform as specified. Though, like I say, the construction methodology may be a bit different, the performance is not changed.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay.”

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Commissioner Winters said, "I have one question of this gentleman. I just have one question of you, sir. After you submitted your bid, were you contacted at all by . . . have you had other conversations with the staff from Sedgwick County?"

Mr. Chalmers said, "Yes, we have, sir. We came down and visited with members of the staff, concerning some past issues. I believe that we did answer those questions. However, none of those issues do come up in the bid specifications but yes, there were some issues that we did discuss."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right. In your letter, you suggest that we not accept or we not act on this bid until such a time that Wheeled Coach has met with the committee in evaluating the ambulance bids. What exactly do you mean by that and what would you think that would . . . what would happen in such a meeting?"

Mr. Chalmers said, "It really comes down to, again, the construction methodology and whether or not the way the ambulances are constructed, does it make a difference in the end performance of the vehicle. Will the way we construct the vehicle allow the vehicle perform the way Sedgwick County wants it to do. And we believe that it will, sir."

Commissioner Winters said, "And you don't feel that you've had that discussion with the committee that selected ambulances to this point?"

Mr. Chalmers said, "I would say no, sir."

Commissioner Winters said, "Okay, thank you. That's all I have with this guy."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I don't have any discussion with this gentleman. I do have a question of why we would pick the highest bid out of all the bids. It's not just the one entity, it's all of them."

Commissioner Winters said, "I'd like to have a question for Marv Duncan."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And there may be some other questions of you too, Mr. Chalmers but we're going to put Marv Duncan up here."

Commissioner Norton said, "I guess my question is, if you look at all of them and maybe the other entities just haven't come forward and said, 'Wait a minute'. Did we create specifications that all of the other entities could not meet too?"

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Mr. Marvin Duncan, Fleet Manager, Fleet Management, greeted the Commissioners and said, “When we started the spec . . . looking at the specs last fall, we had a team get together and say, ‘Okay, we want to go out again for an ambulance bid, what do we need to improve on our fleet with?’ because actually we could have done another year by with Wheeled Coach but we weren’t happy with their performance in the past. Otherwise, we wouldn’t be here today. So we didn’t elect to go with that third buy from Wheeled Coach.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Did we have that option not to elect to go with them?”

Mr. Duncan said, “Right. Now the team got together, and we’re talking about folks that have 80 years of experience. They spent, off and on, over two months developing a new spec. You’re going to see a lot of information in there that came from prior specs, but we try to improve it every time we go out for bid. We felt, on this time that we go out for a bid, we felt that we needed to strengthen the structure, the cage of the box, use a stronger metal in there. We felt that we needed to improve upon the hardware that’s used. Ambulances have a lot of doors. Hardware is always a sense of a lot of maintenance goes on with the hardware and I think we’ve done about \$10,000 over the last couple of years just fixing door handles and latches. But more importantly, the ambulances were down for about 2,000 hours, so we could get to the point to fix those doors and latches. So we spec that in there. We want a stronger spec there.

We also spec that the skin on the side of the ambulance be skip-welded and bonded to this new framework that we’re asking for to give us more strength. Our folks have been to seminars and conferences. They’ve seen pictures of accidents. It is our intent to try to build a better, stronger box so that the ambulance doesn’t come apart as easily. And of course it depends on what they hit and how fast they hit and what’s going on at the time but the whole issue of our changing our spec was to make a stronger body, make a stronger ambulance.

There are other companies that can build this ambulance. It went out as an RFQ, here’s our spec. This is what we’re looking for. Can you build it? And then, based on the responses we got, and again the same team got back together again, spent about 40 hours looking at all the responses and then they picked the one that said, ‘we can build to your spec’ but it’s going to cost more money to do that. We can still buy cheaper ambulances, but they won’t meet our spec. If this was a cost issue, and I use that criteria to evaluate the bids, I would not recommend Wheeled Coach. McCoy Miller looks like, over a multi-year buy, they look like a better value cost-wise, money-wise had

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they met the spec.”

Commissioner Winters said, “I don’t see McCoy Miller on here.”

Mr. Duncan said, “EDM. EDM is now McCoy Miller.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay. Commissioner Gwin, did you have a question?”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Yes, I do. In times past, haven’t we bought McCoy Miller equipment? That’s a name I think I remember from when I first started.”

Mr. Duncan said, “Yes, we have. You’re correct, ma’am. Half our fleet is McCoy Miller and we have about seven or eight Wheeled Coaches.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Okay. A couple of comments that you made that raised some questions and it has to do, I guess, it sounds like maintenance and maintenance issues if we want stronger metal, improved hardware, stronger body, stronger ambulance. Have we been having some difficulty with ambulances being down or being damaged or maintenance costs that have exceeded our experience?”

Mr. Duncan said, “With the hardware, we have a lot of problems. The way the screws are attached, they back out and because they’re aluminum, you have to put a bigger one back in. When it backs out, you put a bigger one in. When you construct the doors and those kinds of framework with nut plates or self-locking screws, you don’t run into that maintenance issue and that’s part of our spec.

Asking for a stronger cage, a stronger box is trying to provide a safer vehicle for our operators to operate in. The problems we’ve had in the past, when we do have accidents, is trying to find a vendor to repair them.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Oh, to repair the body of the equipment. We can’t do that ourselves, then.”

Mr. Duncan said, “We can do limited repair.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “But not major, if we had a real problem.”

Mr. Duncan said, “Not major stuff, like the one that hit the light pole a couple of years ago. We had to send that one off.”

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Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. And you also, you talked about this group you brought together who had 80 years combined experience. What kinds of experience? What kinds of people were these?"

Mr. Duncan said, "We have a maintenance rep on that team, has over 20 years of experience maintaining ambulances. He's now our shop chief for that shop. Operators, we had Garry Tolle, Greg Schuessler."

Commissioner Gwin said, "EMS folks."

Mr. Duncan said, "EMS folks, the folks that are going to operate this equipment. I mean, we had top quality folks taking a look at our ambulances and suggesting this is what we need to do in the future to have a better product."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay and the recommendations then didn't just come from the operators, but from the folks who expect to maintain those pieces of equipment too. Am I correct?"

Mr. Duncan said, "Yes, ma'am."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. I think that's all I have for right now."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well Marvin. You have some more? Go ahead, I'll save mine till last."

Commissioner Norton said, "What is the life expectancy of an ambulance?"

Mr. Duncan said, "We run our ambulances, we'd like to have them out of the inventory 95,000 to 100,000 miles and that's primarily based on the chassis."

Chairman Sciortino said, "How many years would that be?"

Mr. Duncan said, "For us, it's three and a half to four years."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. I think I know where you're going with that."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well I guess, do hinges wear out in three and a half, four years? I mean, how quick do hinges wear out in that kind of hardware? I mean, in the first year, second year, third year? When do we start having that failure?"

Mr. Duncan said, "Hardware failures, within a year, six months, first year. They're going to

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average 25,000, 30,000 miles. The thing you don't see is the ambulance is sitting there running a lot, not getting any mileage and they're using the doors a lot, as they come and go, to do their job. So, you can look at a patrol car and run it 100,000 miles or a sedan in the County and run it 80,000 but the ambulance is going to get a lot more wear and tear on it in its 55,000 than some of the other equipment that we own."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. You said there were other companies that would build to that specification. It doesn't appear that anybody that turned in the quotes, other than Midwest, gave us . . . but that's the only one that gave us the product we asked for. You said other companies. Are there other companies? Are there other companies that can build to that spec?"

Mr. Duncan said, "Well, they should all be able to build to that spec, if they choose to. These ambulances are custom made vehicles. If you want to purchase the more expensive framework to build our ambulance, you could do so. If you want to give us the right hardware . . ."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I think the point Mr. Norton was making that, of the four people that bid, no one met our specs except MVP."

Mr. Duncan said, "Except MVP."

Commissioner Norton said, "But they're all capable of doing it."

Mr. Duncan said, "In my opinion, they are if they choose to."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. I guess my question is then, why wouldn't they put the hinges we want into the proposal? Why wouldn't they build to our specs instead of trying to sell us what they build? It gives them a cheaper proposal but that's not what we asked for. Is that kind of the methodology that was used here?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "Iris, are you wanting to jump in here?"

Ms. Baker said, "If I could. Often times it has to do with just the manufacturing process. These are customized boxes. But it's an assembly line. It's a make to order. So if we start asking for things that are outside the realm of their standardized inventory, then it does affect their costs. In terms of those that have responded, the next closest that we feel would have met the spec and I visited with several of these folks who had responded, so that's where I get that statement, was Horton. Horton elected not to bid for two reasons. One, they didn't feel that they could be competitive, based on the specifications and they knew this was a bid. They are a high-end, their the Cadillac of the ambulance. They're very rugged vehicles but you pay for that and they felt that

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our specifications were more mid-range. The other issue was they did not have production capacity. They have the bid for the ambulance replacements in New York City. So, they couldn't meet our time constraints, so they did not bid. There are a few other ambulance providers out there that could meet the spec as well."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Thank you."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I'm just concerned that we said to all those others and they elected not to give us any kind of a quote."

Ms. Baker said, "No, we didn't send to everybody. We sent to those that we felt would be most competitive in this playing field. The high-end . . . You can get different ranges of vehicles and we didn't choose the very low end, we didn't choose the very high-end to send bids to. We chose just the middle ground."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, it just seems to me, because of the mix of who we sent to and many of them elected not to meet our specifications, now we may pick someone that is competitive or not competitive, based on the specs. I don't know that that's really the best bid, if we found some other companies and got quotations from them, they may come in much, much cheaper. Certainly, that's the cheapest ones of the specs met, but nobody else met the specs. So, I mean, I don't know if we're making a good buy or not."

Ms. Baker said, "I think for the specifications, I believe we'd get an exception. It was 60 pages worth of specifications that were very, very clear. All of these that offered a quote had exceptions and I think any of them would."

Commissioner Norton said, "That's all I have for the time being."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, I have a question, Marvin, of you. I'm also confused why a hinge would wear out in a year. I don't know that a family with three kids and they're driving that station wagon to and from and they're opening their doors constantly and it doesn't seem like a car door hinge wears out in a year. Why an ambulance hinge? But I'm not going to question that part. But taking all of that maintenance and down time, you're estimating that by going with MVP we could save up to \$10,000 a year by going with this plan over the other three. Is that correct?"

Mr. Duncan said, "No, I'm just saying, over the last two years, with the ambulances we have, we've experienced \$10,000 worth of labor and parts of this hardware."

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Chairman Sciortino said, "I understand but you say potential savings, meaning that you don't assume that MVP is going to cost you as much money but then the savings won't be \$10,000. They'll cost you something to maintain them in three years. Do you have a feel for what the actual savings to the County might be, annually?"

Mr. Duncan said, "Well, I would hope to save this \$5,000 a year."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, \$5,000 a year. So you think the maintenance of this coach will be about half that of present."

Mr. Duncan said, "Right. It's \$10,000 for the last two years. I would just half that, \$5,000 a year just on the hardware and the assemblies."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, a savings of \$5,000 per year. Okay. Now, my math isn't that great but that means we would have to keep that piece of equipment for more than 14 years to offset the initial cost of the equipment to begin with and if we trade it in every three years and we save \$15,000 but it cost us \$74,000 to save \$15,000, there seems to be some fuzzy math as to why that's in the best interest of the County."

Mr. Duncan said, "Well, I think the best interest of the County and to our operators and maintainers was to strengthen the structure itself. Provide a safer ambulance to operate and drive. At the same time, we wanted to strengthen the hardware problem so we don't have to tie up our ambulances there with downtime. I don't know how to put a dollar figure to 2,000 hours of downtime."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I understand but also, giving the devil his due, you're not saying that MVP won't have any downtime."

Mr. Duncan said, "No."

Chairman Sciortino said, "So, I mean, I'm a little confused to try to figure out really, is it worth saving . . . is the extra money that we pay upfront really got a dollars/ safety value to the County and I also share Commissioner Norton's concerns that we don't know if there's another competitive bid out there that does meet specifications. Commissioner Winters, do you have a suggestion?"

Commissioner Winters said, "Yes, I do, at least a comment and then perhaps a suggestion. One, I,

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over the years, have certainly responded to low bid but I also have not responded to low bid often. When you look over long-term costs, often times low priced today is not your best long-term commitment. And I'm not here to say that I have a better feel than the committee that was put together to analyze these bids. I feel like they probably know a whole lot more about ambulances and the maintenance of ambulances than I do. I do have, though, a concern when Wheeled Coach, which is a legitimate bona fide company, has some questions and in the letter that we got from them they're talking about wanting the ability to meet with the committee to discuss their proposal. So, Marv, I guess my question to you would be I would like to perhaps defer this and let any of these bidders that want to meet with the committee or a portion of the committee meet with the committee and, at the end of the day, if the committee still wants to support this bid that they've got, at least the other bidders will have had a chance to say, 'Well, here's our other data on these screws, they don't come out' or whatever. I mean, let them make their case to you.

Is that something that you would think would be acceptable? Again, I'm not wanting to sit here and tell the committee that's made this recommendation that they don't know how to bid an ambulance, because I'm sure they do. But I also want to tell Wheeled Coach and the others that we want to give them every opportunity to sell their product and if they don't have it, they don't have it."

Mr. Duncan said, "I guess my only concern there would be I don't want to get into a negotiation situation, because that's not what this is about. It was an RFQ and not an RFP. But we can certainly meet with them. We can meet with folks."

Commissioner Winters said, "I don't think we want to get it into a negotiation process but I hear at least a couple of Commissioners got some concerns why we're spending \$75,000 more than the low bid. And again, I think that needs a little bit of clarification to the Commissioners. I may be wrong."

Mr. Duncan said, "And we'll certainly look at that but if cost is the issue now and not the spec, I have other recommendations and we'll come back to you with those recommendations as well."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, I don't know that . . . I don't think you heard here that cost was our only concern. What I heard from . . . What I was concerned about is I didn't see a presentation where the benefits outweighed the additional cost. At first, in our backup it was saying that it was estimated that we would save \$10,000 a year if we went with the one that met specs and then, in discussing with you, you cut that down to \$5,000 a year. Well, then if that was the only benefit and it would be fourteen and a half years before we'd realize that benefit, not factoring in the cost of money, then that isn't a very good decision to make if that's the only real benefit to purchasing this particular vehicle. Because we really have to really watch how we're spending the money, given we're in a real tight money crunch and the State's not going to make it any easier for us. This maybe deferring like Commissioner Winters suggested might also give you all a time to come up with other dollar reasons why it would be a better buy for us.

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And I also am not going to try to second-guess the committee, but I didn't get enough data when you made your presentation to justify immediately why we should spend the money. I get a little concerned when you start alluding that the other vehicles are unsafe, because I think that would get you into a big problem area, because I don't know that they're unsafe. Anyway, that's what you need to maybe come up with and maybe this deferral would give Mr. Chalmers and his people a chance to visit with you, anyone else that might want to visit with the committee. Not to get into a negotiation, but maybe just present why they feel . . . I mean, I'd be interested in having them try to tell the committee why they couldn't meet the specs. That would have been a little bit easier and maybe they can explain to them why they can't meet the specs and why the committee should consider a lower spec or something."

Commissioner Gwin said, "And I have another thought as we look at this. Tom, if it's a deferral, I can certainly support that. I think what we need to remind ourselves is though that, I don't know what the result of this will be but I think this Commission and this County takes a great deal of pride in EMS and the service that it provides to all of us. It is certainly important that we have highly qualified individuals who make those calls. It's important to use that training. It certainly is important that we have qualified folks who are available to maintain the equipment so that it's available so that folks don't have to be without that very valuable service. I think whatever the result is, what this Board wants to assure is that we continue to provide the best possible service to the folks here in Sedgwick County. And a discussion about types of equipment, I don't think, in any way, shape or form should lend anyone to think that this service is not top-quality service and doesn't provide extraordinary service to the people of this County.

But this kind of discussion is certainly not uncommon at this Board level when we looked at how we expend those dollars and how we provide those quality services for the folks out there. So, I think a deferral is probably appropriate. Rich, I'm going to ask for you or Legal's help to make sure that discussions or those sorts of things don't get into some sort of bidding competition but just an opportunity for staff and others to answer questions, or committee members or others either to continue to support the recommendations and the specs that they thought were important. I don't, like I said, I don't want this to get into some sort of negotiated business. I think, if there are questions to be answered we want to try to answer those and then bring it back and we, ultimately, will make the decision as to what we think the right suitable equipment is. Thank you, Mr.

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Chairman.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I want to make sure that in no way does this send a message that I don’t believe that we have the greatest EMS employees in the State and maybe in the nation. I certainly don’t want that to be the thought process of this. But I do believe that we have a mechanism at this County that’s different than many counties. We have a buffer called the Bids and Contracts Board and that almost lets us abdicate our ability to ask some of these pertinent questions.

You know, and I don’t believe we should do that. I think we should ask hard questions and if we don’t see that maybe we have all the information, that it’s prudent for us not to go blindly into the good night and just say that we’ve seen all the information that we need. And I think that’s what we’re getting to here today. It has nothing to do with EMS, as far as I’m concerned, and the job they do. I’m just concerned at the process of how we got to this one bid and whether it’s prudent for us to spend that extra money at this time. And if it takes a little time to process that and come to a conclusion, as a Board of County Commissioners, that staff’s recommendation is the best public policy, then I’m willing to do that but I don’t know that I’ve got that information right now.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “I think we need more.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Mr. Euson, I’ve got one other question of you. Now, I don’t know exactly how the Motion is going to be, but I think what Tom was going for was to defer for one week and allow any of the other bidders to visit with the committee. Does this . . . the concern I’ve got . . . I have a little concern about that but does this get us into setting a precedent so that, from now on, every time there’s a bid and it isn’t the highest bidder, the other five bidders can demand to have a second chance or a second look. I don’t think they’re talking about changing their bid here at this discussion. It’s just to try to at least present to the Board why their specs should be okay. I believe that’s what you were recommending. Not to try to say, ‘Okay, we’ll change this part of our bid or we’ll change that part of a bid’. So is that still . . .”

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It’s possible that could happen with other bidders but this is a pretty unusual circumstance and I think it’s worth going through the process to do that. It could happen but I think you’re better off doing this.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay. Thank you very much. Any other questions of anyone?”

Commissioner Winters said, “Mr. Chairman, I was thinking about a two week deferral. I don’t know they can get that all done in one week.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “That’s fine. One week just came out of my mouth, along with

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everything else that's come out of it."

Commissioner Gwin said, "And the other part of it is, is I hear Commissioner Norton say is that maybe we need some more information too before it comes back to us for a decision. I certainly do, I think I'd welcome some more conversation."

Commissioner Norton said, "I may not be right, but as I understand in the process, we're under no obligation to take any of these bids and if we deny them we can do something else. It is not accepted bid or anything else until we say it is and the process can start all over again if we want it to in some way. This is just a recommendation from staff and if we look at it and go 'Wow. That's too much money. Throw it out to them again and let everybody reconsider and let's make everybody hold up to the specifications'. We finally may find out that's the only person that will hold to those specifications and then we decide do we listen to our maintenance people and EMS and just accept the extra money and go with it or do something different. We have that obligation and that right to do that. Is that not correct, Rich?"

Mr. Euson said, "Yes, sir. You certainly have the right to reject any and all bids."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. So, do you want to try a Motion, Tom?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to defer Item 2, regarding ambulances, for two weeks.

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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you, Marvin. Thank you, Iris. Next item please."

CONSENT AGENDA

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O. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Four Easements for Right-of-Way and two Temporary Construction Easements for Sedgwick County Bridge Project No. 604-14-0648; Bridge on 61st Street North between 183rd and 199th Streets West. CIP# B-342. District #3.**
- 2. Agreements (10) with Community Developmental Disability Organization Affiliated Service Providers for payment of supplemental State funding.**
 - Topeka Independent Living Resource Center
 - Life Patterns
 - Res-Care Kansas, Inc. Life Choices
 - Interim Health Care of Wichita, Inc.
 - Assist, LLC
 - Progressive Home Health Care
 - Leticia Aldrete
 - Goodwill Industries Easter Seals of Kansas, Inc.
 - Home Instead Senior Care
 - Rainbows United, Inc.

3. Plats.

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:

Deer Lake Estates 2nd Addition
Northridge Heights

- 4. Adjustments to Juvenile Justice Authority budget line items to transfer salary savings to other operating costs.**
- 5. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of April 10 – 16, 2002.**

Mr. Jarold Harrison, Assistant County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I would recommend you approve the Consent Agenda as presented.”

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Is there anything else to come before the Board? Do we have any other items?"

P. OTHER

Commissioner Norton said, "I just got a couple. The Admiral's Ball is this weekend and if anybody would like tickets. There's still tickets available. That's the kickoff of the River Festival, 267-2817 to pick up tickets if you'd like to come. It's a great evening of dancing and festivities and food under the tent in Old Town. And I'd like people to consider that.

I also would let people know that River Festival is getting kicked off. Please buy a button. That has become an issue and I am on the Merchandising Button Committee so, please as I am on television, buy a button.

And then, finally, the Haysville Trade Show will be at the Haysville Activity Center on April 27th. Starts at 9 in the morning and goes till 5. Sedgwick County will have a booth there and 40 other businesses and trades will be there representing Haysville and I'd like to invite Commissioners to come."

Chairman Sciortino said, "When is that? What day is that?"

Commissioner Norton said, "April 27th, Haysville Activity Center from 9 to 5."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Is that on a Saturday?"

Commissioner Norton said, "That's a Saturday, yes. And Haysville and the south side will be

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showcasing businesses from that area. And that's all I have."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you very much. Anything else?"

Commissioner Gwin said, "Get busy. Talk about Cow Town."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, I'm going to be very quick. First of all, I failed to mention the reason that Commissioner McGinn left, she had to run over to Cow Town and get prepared for our Spruce up the Town project tomorrow. She was nice enough to make sure that I got my paint brush and there's been a lot of businesses and organizations that have come forward and they said they would adopt buildings for the painting and repair of this facility. We're excited about that. If it doesn't rain, it looks like it's going to be a great success. If it does rain, I guess we'll have a rain date.

But in the past, our budget only allows us to do one building one year and this time we're going to have a chance to do a lot of buildings at one big time and the Commissioners have adopted Turnburin Hall and we're going to be out painting and scraping and invite everybody that's listening. If you don't have anything to do tomorrow, come on out and join us. That's all I have. If there's nothing else, this meeting is adjourned."

Q. ADJOURNMENT

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:25 a.m.

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

BEN SCIORTINO, Chairman
Fifth District

BETSY GWIN, Chair Pro Tem
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

CAROLYN MC GINN, Commissioner
Fourth District

ATTEST:

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Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2002