

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

May 29, 2002

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 A.M., on Wednesday, May 29, 2002 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Ben Sciortino; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Betsy Gwin; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters, Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Ms. Phyllis Gearing-Anderson, Director of Preventive Health, Health Department; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications and Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Ms. Lynn Wasinger, Outreach Specialist, Community Housing Services.
King David Davis, Wichita, KS.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was led by Liz Owens of the Bahai
Community of Wichita.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item."

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, May 8, 2002
Special Meeting, April 30, 2002

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of May 8, 2002. The Special Meeting of April 30, 2002 was inadvertently placed on the agenda and was previously approved May 22, 2002.

MOTION

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 8, 2002.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item."

CITIZEN INQUIRIES

A. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING NATIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD WORKS WEEK.

Ms. Lynn Wasinger, Outreach Specialist, Community Housing Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm at the Oaklawn Office. I'm here this morning to take Commissioner Sciortino up on his offer. He said he can't be bought but he could be borrowed for a couple of chocolate chip cookies. So, with your approval, I'd like to borrow the whole Commission. Chocolate chip cookies, please."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Oh, okay. That's fine. I woke up on that one. What actually am I going to be borrowed for?"

Ms. Wasinger said, "Actually, what I'm here for is Community Housing Services is a non-profit organization. It's under the umbrella of another non-profit that is Neighborhoods Reinvestment and each year they do a National Neighborhoods Work Week and that is always the first two Saturdays and the first week of June. And this year it's June 1 through June 8th, and in Oaklawn we don't do things in a small way, so we have four major events instead of just one.

But we would like some volunteer help on Saturday, June 1st to do a beautification and a clean-up project around Cooper Elementary School. We're going to be working on about 13 to 14 houses in

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

that area. Also in front of the school, they're pouring a concrete sidewalk that's been donated. We have the concrete donated, as well as the crew to pour and finish and that will be done on Friday morning. We'll be cutting trees down and bushes and a general clean-up in the area and we'd like to invite you to come down and help us and join. And Commissioner Gwin, if you'd like to come down and get warmed up real well before they dunk you on Saturday, we'd love to have you come down. We will be providing lunch for you.

On Saturday, June 8th, we will be painting about six to eight houses, depending on how many of them get their paint out there and how much paint I can get donated for the others. But we will start at 8:30 on both Saturdays, meeting at Cooper Elementary School at the corner of Juniper and Chestnut. It's just off of 47th Street and we hope that you guys can come and we'd love to have as many volunteers as possible and we'd like to thank you for your time.

We also have several other events. We've got an insurance group coming down on Thursday to prep the houses and they're even bringing the funds to donate to rent the power-washers and six of them are coming from McPherson. So, the counties are working well together. This has been a wonderful partnership. We've gotten the residents involved in getting the plants donated besides the sidewalk. We've got water donated. The local merchants have been wonderful in donating funds for that too. So, we hope you can come see and, if nothing else, come check us out after the 8th of June to see how much progress has been made. The name of our project is Let the Sunshine In and we'd love to invite anyone that wants to come down and join us.

It just happens to coincide with the seniors' breakfast. They have a fundraising breakfast and they are going to start their breakfast at 7:30 instead of 8. That's \$2.50 if people want to eat breakfast before they come over and then we'll feed them lunch. So, thank you for your time."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, that was nice. They're having a fund raiser for my campaign. That's really nice of them."

Ms. Wasinger said, "You'll have to talk to the golden-agers down there."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Lynn, first of all, as evidenced by my tongue in tasting that, you're welcome anytime here with those cookies."

Ms. Wasinger said, "Thank you. I'm thanking my daughter for taking the time to bake them last night, since I didn't get home until 10:00."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I want her name. What's her first name?"

Ms. Wasinger said, "Tracy."

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

Chairman Sciortino said, "She's going to get a personal letter from me thanking her. I'm going to be able to come on June 8th. This weekend, I'm involved with a lot of functions down in Derby. They're having their Derby Days but I'll be there June 8th at 8:30 and I'll try to bring my bride with us. You did mention something about a lunch didn't you?"

Ms. Wasinger said, "Yes, sir. We will provide lunch for you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, I'll be there."

Commissioner Gwin said, "My other question is are you still looking for other volunteers or groups?"

Ms. Wasinger said, "Anyone is welcome, yes ma'am."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Would you have a phone number where folks could reach you?"

Ms. Wasinger said, "My office is 529-4387. I'm supposed to be part-time but I'm in and out all week because this is a major project. I've got an answering machine. I'll be glad to return calls."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. There might be folks out there watching that would be interested in helping."

Ms. Wasinger said, "Thank you. I appreciate that."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And there's another number isn't there, by Kenmar?"

Ms. Wasinger said, "The Kenmar office is 685-2656."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, good. Well, we'll try to get the word out for you and I definitely will be there and I'll talk to Mary tonight and I'm sure she'll want to join me. So, we'll be seeing you on June 8th."

Ms. Wasinger said, "Appreciate that. We'll see you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thanks, again and I am going to send a little thank you card for Tracy."

Ms. Wasinger said, "Thank you. She'll appreciate that. Thank you very much."

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you very much. Commissioners, do we have to have a Motion just to receive and file?”

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Next item please.”

B. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE PROFOUND POWERS OF RESPECT, AN UNLIMITED RESOURCE.

Chairman Sciortino said, “Is there anyone here that wishes to present this item? If you’d come to the podium, sir and please give your name and address for the record and just as a reminder, you have five minutes.”

King David Davis, Wichita, KS greeted the Commissioners and said, “Concerning the power of respect, an unlimited resource and the responsibilities thereof. It is a great honor to stand here today concerning the subject of respect and responsibilities thereof. I believe if fully embraced by the political heads of our city, we would transform our community by reducing the need for bigger jails, issues that traditionally create divisions and social unrest now become opportunities for

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

citizens to want to work together while carving out those negative elements, without disrupting the social calm.

Examples, I've seen with my own eye how the power of respect enables citizens who traditionally hate each other stand together, arm in arm. A situation that would have broken out into a fight defused itself and everybody goes home. A man who would have been shot or beaten to death lived to see another day. A young man with a bad attitude, no respect for himself or the court system stood up, held his head high, walked into the court room humbly and respectfully faced the judge like a man, as witnessed by his mother. Or a man who once was shunned and misunderstood now commandeers the respect of those who once politically opposed him. The power of respect is a power God has made readily available to all of us. All we have to do is tap into it and act accordingly.

Well, some time later . . . allow me another example. Ten years ago, I was a very vocal, in-your-face kind of guy, full of conviction and passion. I was told by a particular group that I was going to make things worse. Well, some time later, when I was ostracized by that particular group and I was standing alone and up against all my enemies, you would think they would have taken the opportunity to have attacked me, taken advantage of my vulnerability, but instead through the power of respect it was my enemies who gave me blankets when I was cold, food when I was hungry, hugs and friendship when I needed comforting because of respect.

In fact, me and one of the opposing leaders were walking down the street. He put his hand on my shoulder and said to me, 'One thing about you that's different than the rest, is that you respect your enemies and because of that we now cannot help but to respect you.

In essence, he was telling me because I had always listened to them, valued what they had to say and took them seriously and not take cheap shots, they now through the sheer force of respect gave back to me that which I had given to them at a time I most needed it, the fruit of respect, the power of respect, kindness and genuine courtesy.

In ten years time, I've seen a lot of changes for the better. I recall a day when a citizen arrived in your office upset, a citizen who if disrespected one more time was probably going to get noisy. But through the power of respect, kindness and genuine courtesy the ladies in your office diffused his hostility and he walked out of your office a very different man through the power of respect.

Yet despite some of these improvements, we still have issues in our community that need to be seriously addressed. There is an underlying element that continues to set in motion a cycle of social unrest, that results in families wrongfully torn apart, citizens jailed unjustly, a small number of officers who use their badge to bully, judges who allow themselves to be used by organizations who are known to be liars and incompetent while families cry out for justice. The list goes on and on.

The responsibilities of respect demand of us actions that demonstrates respect for the community,

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

the citizen, the God of our nation and your oath, a respect that requires of us to take a stand. It is my wish, now that I'm a permanent part of Wichita's political landscape, you would join me in my effort to address these underlying elements that continue to cycle our citizens through a system of political injustices that sets in motion another cycle of violence.

What do you say we who hold the highest positions of ruling authority, let's set a standard of respect from the highest levels of government, a zero tolerance for anyone in a position of political authority that would dare disrespect the citizens of this community, especially those most vulnerable and in so doing we will set the stage for great things to happen, things that we once thought impossible will become an everyday reality, all through the power of respect and the responsibility thereof. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Commissioners, any comments or questions? I don't hear any. Mr. Davis, thank you very much for coming to us this morning."

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Davis. Next item please."

NEW BUSINESS

C. HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

- 1. AGREEMENT WITH SUSAN G. KOMEN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION, INC. PROVIDING OWNERSHIP RIGHTS TO A**

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

VIETNAMESE TRANSLATION OF A BREAST SELF-EXAMINATION CARD.

Ms. Phyllis Gearing-Anderson, Director of Preventive Health, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This issue involves a shower card that was created by the Susan G. Komen Foundation. We’re requesting your approval of this license agreement and the authorization of the Chairperson to sign.

This shower card was translated by a County Health Department employee into Vietnamese. The license agreement acknowledges the ownership of the Vietnamese translation of this card to be solely owned by Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. We request your authorization for the Chairman to sign and your approval of this license agreement. The shower card is an educational card for women to use for breast cancer examinations, self-breast cancer examination.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Any questions? I just have one. Looking at the term, it started January 1st and it ends December 31st but we’re just now getting it in May. Will it renew, because now we have about seven months left? Will that agreement renew again?”

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, “We would have to bring it before the Board to renew the agreement. The terms of the agreement are the dates as set and it had to go through Legal for language changes.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Oh, okay. It does say here, I just see here ‘this license agreement may be extended for one year upon written agreement of the parties’. So it looks like if everybody agrees that this is a good thing, we can continue it for another year, so fine. Any questions or comments that you may want to have on this? What’s the will of the Board on this please?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

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

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

2. APPLICATION TO KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT TO BECOME A LICENSED LEAD ACTIVITY FIRM.

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "We're requesting and recommending approval of the application for firm licensure and authorization of the Chairman to sign this licensure. The Board of County Commissioners approved the collaboration with KDHE on April 17, 2002 for a blood lead prevention program. As a requirement of this collaboration, we must become a licensed lead activity firm. This allows the nurse to go out and perform home assessments for elevated lead levels, in addition to the other activities she must perform to set up this lead program. There's no cost to the County as a designated, licensed firm for lead activity."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Is that the extent of your presentation on this item?"

Commissioner Gwin said, "Just for a question then, we don't have to hire someone? We already have someone on staff to do that?"

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "We have the nurse in place, the community health nurse in place who performs this and, as a matter of fact, she has performed one home assessment already. We do get reimbursed for performing these home assessments."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Okay. But for her to continue to do this on a regular basis, we just need to sign."

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "Must be a designated, licensed firm."

Commissioner Gwin said, "All right, thanks. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. I have just a couple of questions on this. How do we go about finding the homes that need to be checked? Is that something that people would call in or a child is seen as being sick in the school and they determine it's lead poisoning and then they go . . .

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

How do you get in the home to check it?"

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "Well, through our lead program, we're performing lead screens. Those children with elevated lead levels we must go out and do a home assessment and also KDHE gives us names and addresses of homes with elevated lead levels they receive perhaps from the child's pediatrician and those homes require assessment also, environmental assessments for elevated lead levels."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Do we need the parent's or the owner's permission to go into the home or is that something that the State just gives us the authority to go in with or without permission?"

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "No, we must allow that person . . . that person must be informed that the child has an elevated lead level and the State has asked us to come in and perform a home assessment. Now they can certainly refuse and then that's a whole different procedure if they refuse."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. And you say we are reimbursed by the State, I assume?"

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "We are, KDHE."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, it sounds like a good program. Okay."

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to approve the Application and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

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."

3. GRANT AWARD CONTRACT WITH THE MID-KANSAS AFFILIATE OF THE SUSAN G. KOMEN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION, INC. PROVIDING TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR USE OF GRANT FUNDS.

Ms. Gearing-Anderson said, "We're requesting your approval of this Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation award and grant contract and we're requesting the authorization of the Chairperson to sign. Sedgwick County Health Department has been a Susan G. Komen Foundation grant recipient and provider since the inception of the Komen Foundation in 1990. Grant funds are used exclusively for payment for mammograms and breast ultra-sounds for women under the age of fifty, uninsured and/ or below the 250% poverty level. The Komen Foundation also provides much of the education materials, as previously mentioned the cards to instruct on how to perform self-breast examination and they also provide additional funding for breast cancer screening. Approximately 280 of 562 women screened in 2001 were paid for by this Susan G. Komen grant award. The grant award is \$24,000."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, thank you. Any questions or comments of this item? What's the will of the Board please?"

MOTION

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Contract 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
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Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

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

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

D. PUBLIC WORKS.

1. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY PROVIDING LIGHTING OF CERTAIN ROADS AND HIGHWAYS OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND BRIDGES. ALL DISTRICTS.

Mr. David Spears, Director/County Engineer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Item D-1, this agreement is the reoccurring 10-year renewal of the Westar Energy/ Sedgwick County street light agreement. This agreement lists the types and quantities of the various types of streetlights in the unincorporated areas of Sedgwick County for which the County is fiscally responsible, and it incorporates all of the streetlights installed during the past 10 years. This agreement will be modified during the next 10 years as new streetlights are installed, and a new 10-year agreement will be presented in 2012 for the Commission's consideration. The current amount that the County pays Westar annually is \$92,997.24. This agreement has been reviewed and approved by the Legal Department. I recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Does this include tree trimming?"

Mr. Spears said, "Excuse me?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "Does this include tree trimming?"

Mr. Spears said, "No."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Oh, okay. What's the will of the Board on this item please?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

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, David. Next item please."

- 2. AGREEMENT WITH 22ND SUPPLY SQUADRON PROVIDING TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADOPT A HIGHWAY PROGRAM ON ROCK ROAD FROM PAWNEE TO 39TH STREET SOUTH. DISTRICT #5.**

Mr. Spears said, "Item D-2 is an agreement with the 22nd Supply Squadron of McConnell Air Force Base for the Sedgwick County Adopt-a-Highway program. They will be responsible for Rock Road, from Pawnee to 39th Street South. I recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign."

MOTION

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

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, "The only comment I want to make on this is that I really take my hat off to McConnell and to the folks out there. They're proving time and time again that they want to be good neighbors and good friends and this is a two-mile stretch. Normally, those adopt-a-things are adopt a mile long but they've taken two miles and it just shows, once again, that McConnell is willing to give back to the community in which they reside in and I really appreciate their efforts. So, that's my only comment. We have a Motion and a Second. Any further comments? Clerk, call the roll please."

VOTE

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

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 please."

3. MODIFICATION OF PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION, REQUEST NUMBER ONE AND FINAL, WITH UTILITY CONTRACTORS, INC. ON SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT – 87TH AND HYDRAULIC AREA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS. CIP# D-1 (PHASE 1). DISTRICT #2.

Mr. Spears said, "Item D-3 is a modification of plans and construction, request number one and final, for Sedgwick County project- 87th and Hydraulic area Drainage Improvements designated as D-1 in the Capital Improvement Program. There will be a net decrease of \$2,525.58 due to variations in plan quantities from actual field measurements. I recommend that you approve the modification and authorize the Chairman to sign."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Any questions or comments of David on this item?"

Commissioner Norton said, "I do have some comments. We've had some pretty good rains here recently and I've got a report from Paul Taylor that it's really working pretty well down there. I've had a chance to talk to three or four constituents that I knew live in the area and have problems and they're very pleased with what the drainage on 87th along the turnpike has done. So I think we've spent our money wisely in that first phase and hopefully the next phases and other places throughout the County that we elect to do drainage projects are as successful as this one. But the initial response, for the kind of rain we've gotten, is that the drainage projects are working. It's going to pull a lot of water out of that area and hopefully not only eliminate the surface runoff problems and that but the groundwater problems too in some way. So, I think early indications are that it's working pretty well, Dave. You may have some comments on that."

Mr. Spears said, "Just say the staff went down there during the last rain and the pipe, the 24 inch pipe was flowing half full of water, so we know it's working and we're pleased."

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

Commissioner Norton said, "I talked to Clem Dickerson, who happens to be my appointment to the Solid Waste Committee, but also lives in that area and had real bad problems and he said his ditch drained out. He looked in the middle of the night and it was up to road level and, by morning, where it usually was still standing in front of his house was down to about an inch of water in the bottom of the ditch. So, it's pulling some water out of that area pretty well. So, thanks Dave, good project and I appreciate it."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the modification of plans and construction and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, "The only comment I want to make before we vote on this one is just, in general, to compliment your storm water people again. Usually, by this time, I would have had probably 10 or 12 complaints down in my area about water, like the work you did on 143rd Street, between Kellogg and 143rd. I've only had one call and I think it's unique, because I've never heard from this individual before but it's been very conspicuous the lack of calls. So, you all must be doing something quietly, without coming to us so we can give you the way-to-gos and the 'atta-boys. But I'm another Commissioner that says I think you all are doing a great job in that area."

Mr. Spears said, "Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "That's all I had and I don't see the lights are on. So Clerk, call the roll please."

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, David. Next item please."

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

CONSENT AGENDA

E. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project No. 831-AA, BB, CC; Rock Road between Derby and Mulvane. CIP# R-243. District #5.**
- 2. Agreement with Brandy Ferren Dockers providing Developmental Disability Community Services Provider status.**
- 3. Waiver of policy to hire a Director, Division of Culture, Entertainment and Recreation at step five.**
- 4. Order dated May 22, 2002 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 5. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of May 22 – May 28, 2002.**

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

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, “Any comments? Yes, Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I’d just like to make a comment about Item 3 for the public. You know, when the Manager, he’s been reorganizing because Jerry Harrison, who has been here for twenty-some years is retiring and when it came out in the paper that the County hired Ron Holt, it looked like it was an extra position and I want to make it very clear to the public that this was not an extra position. This was part of what Jerry Harrison’s responsibilities were and he was the director over the culture and attractions that we have. So, then also as Jerry departs the Manager has Kathy Sexton in place as an assistant manager and Kathy Sexton is already on the payroll and already working that role, doing those kinds of activities. So, I just want to make it clear that this was not an extra position. Actually, Ron is being hired at a lower rate and just taking on some of the responsibilities that our assistant manager, Jerry Harrison had and is retiring in June I think or July.”

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

Chairman Sciortino said, “That’s an excellent comment, Commissioner because it’s another example of County government trying to be fiscally responsible and Commissioner McGinn is absolutely right. A lot of the work that Jerry was doing has been given to other people and they’ve just absorbed it as part of their additional work and this was the last remaining element and Commissioner McGinn is absolutely right. The net result is we’ll actually save the citizens’ money and Ron Holt, I think, will be an excellent addition to our staff. Okay, we have a Motion and a Second. Let call the roll on this one please, Clerk.”

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Any other items to come before the Board?”

F. OTHER

Commissioner Norton said, “I checked out last week. I’m sorry.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Now this is a first, folks, nothing from Commissioner Norton. This is a first for us.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Are you sure?”

Commissioner Norton said, “I did some things but I didn’t write any of them down. I’ve check out, mentally, so I don’t have anything to report on my activities the last week. I’m sorry but I’m sure . . .”

Chairman Sciortino said, “That’s all right. Commissioner McGinn is going to take up the slack. Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “This last weekend I had the opportunity, I was invited to go to St. Paul A.M.E. and they had the Bishop, Dr. Joseph Bryant here in town. He’s the Bishop from Mexico to Alaska, Missouri to the California coast and he was at St. Paul A.M.E. and it was a wonderful service and good preaching and yes, they had good food afterwards too.

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

And then the other thing, I had an opportunity to go out to Cowtown for the Wild West weekend and the Buffalo Soldiers were there and had some demonstrations and that kind of thing, plus they had other re-enactors out there too and it was . . . after we got past the rains Friday night, it ended up being a very good weekend.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I heard it was very well attended too, Saturday and Sunday.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I wasn’t out there Saturday. I made it Monday, I guess.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Any other things to come before the Board?”

Commissioner Gwin said, “A couple of things for me.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Yes, ma’am. Commissioner Gwin.”

Commissioner Gwin said, “Kristi mentioned a fund-raiser that we’re doing to benefit the Cancer Society and there are probably others throughout the community for those teams. Just a reminder, the Relay for Life is June 28th I believe at Sedgwick County Zoo starting at 7:00 in the evening. It’s a team event and so most teams are probably underway, raising their money. But I particularly want to invite cancer survivors to come and join us for that first lap. It’s a pretty special moment and a nice opportunity to spend some time with some of your fellow survivors.

Also, this past weekend my family dealt with a horrific fire at my father’s house. I need to thank . . . let’s see, who all did I see at that early hour of the morning, I think Andover Fire and Rose Hill Fire and Sedgwick County Fire for being out there. The other thing we need to talk about Bill, is that the guys from Station 38 took my dad and step-mom and the dog to the fire station 38 at, I don’t know, real early in the morning and we’re sitting there trying to get our thoughts together. That roof leaks. We need that roof fixed. We’re sitting there with water plunking down on us and I’m thinking, ‘Well, let’s see. They smell like smoke and water and I guess this couldn’t be bad’ but that roof leaks. Make a note, we need to fix the roof.

But my dad and step-mom are fine. The dog is fine, thank heavens. The lesson is, I think, and I want folks to know when you’re aware that there’s a fire in your home, get out. Don’t stop to gather stuff, don’t stop to fret, get out. And they did, thank heavens. So, we’re going to be fine. Dad’s already got plans in his head about what his new house is going to look like, so we’re moving on. We’re moving on. Thank you all.”

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you."

Commissioner Norton said, "And how old is your dad?"

Commissioner Gwin said, "Ninety."

Commissioner Norton said, "He's looking to the future already. Boy, I like that Kansas spirit, I'm telling you."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Exactly. It's not going to stop him, so thank you all."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "I have total respect. That's optimism. Next thing he's going to do is get a bird dog puppy and want to groom him for the next eight or nine years to get him trained."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Exactly. Oh yeah, that's my dad."

Commissioner Norton said, "Just a comment. Betsy and I were talking before it started and it seems to me that folks that lived through the Depression here have that spirit of being able to say 'You know what, times have been bad before and you know we came out of it and we'll just move on'. They have that great attitude and spirit that we had nothing and we rose out of that and if we have nothing again, big deal, we'll just work hard and recover and life will be okay. Your dad's got that."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Yep, He's got it."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Same thoughts I had when K State lost to Syracuse. Wait till next year, we'll move on."

Well, the only thing that I wanted to bring to everybody's attention, if you're not doing anything this weekend, actually starting tomorrow evening at 6:30, with the parade in Derby, there's their annual three or four day celebration of Derby Days and there's a parade. Sedgwick County will be represented Saturday. We're going to have a booth at the middle school and really be showing all the citizens the services that we offer and it's a fun time. They have a lot of entertainment, a lot of food and if you're not doing anything and you'd like to join us, we're going to be there and I'll probably be there, off and on, most of the weekend shaking hands and wearing my little pith helmet again and having fun. So, come on out. It will be fun at Derby Days."

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

Commissioner Norton said, "It should be. Kristi does a real nice job with the booth and putting that all together for the places we've been already. It's a great outreach resource."

Chairman Sciortino said, "If it's half as good as what they did in Mulvane, it will be . . . Half as good as what they did when we were in Haysville. I mean, actually Kristi does a great job and as a matter of fact I promised Bill Buchanan that we would start complimenting her instead of giving her raises. She'll look forward to the compliments instead of the cash. So, we'll compliment you once a week, regardless if it's the required step or not. Anything else?"

Commissioner McGinn said, "One more thing. I don't know how many people out there are graduates of Valley Center, but the Valley Center Alumni . . . Valley Center Alumni Banquet is this Saturday night and they can show up at the last minute and pay \$12.00 and be a part of that. The class of '77, since it's the 25th, has to sponsor it. So, that's where my mind will be from our adjournment till Saturday night."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Well, have fun."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you."

Commissioner Gwin said, "Quit counting, Ben. She's much younger than . . ."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, I was just remembering, I was the class of '59 and there's only four of us left. Okay. Well, let's stop all of this fun and games here. I'm going to close the Regular Meeting of May 29th."

G. ADJOURNMENT

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:43 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

Regular Meeting, May 29, 2002

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

CAROLYN MC GINN, Commissioner
Fourth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2002