

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

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**July 24, 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, July 24, 2002 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Ben Sciortino; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Betsy Gwin; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters, Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Doug Russell, Director, Division of Human Resources; Mr. James Bryant, Security Coordinator, COMCARE; Mr. Truman Ware, Engineering Technician, Public Works Department; Mr. Jerry Harrison, Assistant County Manager; Ms. Phyllis Gearing-Anderson, Director of Preventive Health, Health Department; Mr. Brad Snapp, Housing Director, Housing Office; Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Division of Human Services; Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care (COMCARE); Dr. Rex Lear, M.D., Medical Director, COMCARE; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Mr. Mark Reed, Director, Sedgwick County Zoo; Mr. Randy Duncan, Director, Emergency Management Department; Mr. Gary Curmode, Chief, Fire District #1; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications and Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

### **GUESTS**

Mr. Parvan Bakardiev, General Director, Wichita Grand Opera.  
Mr. Kevin Bomhoff, Wichita State University Self-Help Network.  
Ms. Janet Valente, Catholic Charities.  
Ms. Sarah Robinson, Wichita Children's Home.

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was led by Ms. Judy Press from Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation, Wichita, Ks.

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting, June 26, 2002

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The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2002.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Commissioners, I believe you’ve had a opportunity to review the Minutes of the June 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting. What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 26<sup>th</sup>, 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.”

**APPOINTMENT**

**A. RESOLUTION APPOINTING PAT HANRAHAN (AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY JUVENILE CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD.**

**Mr. Rich Euson**, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We’ve prepared a resolution which would reappoint Mr. Hanrahan to an ex-officio position on this board. That is for a term of three years and I would recommend that you adopt the resolution.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

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Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Before you read the next item, I’ve asked our Vice Chairman Betsy Gwin to come down to officiate on the presentations that we’re going to have this morning. So she’ll be making her way down. When she does figure out how to open up that door then we can start. There it is. Okay, next item please.”

**RETIREMENTS**

**B. PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT CLOCKS.**

**1. JAMES BRYANT, SECURITY COORDINATOR, COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CARE (COMCARE), WILL RETIRE AUGUST 1, 2002 AFTER 32 YEARS OF SERVICE.**

**Mr. Doug Russell**, Director, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I couldn’t believe it. I was expecting some wheezy old guy and I go, ‘Oh, that Jim’. And I go, ‘Good gosh, he can’t have 32 years’ but he does.

Jim says that he plans to spend time with his wife, with whom he’s been married for 33 years. Blessed to have two sons, two daughters-in-law. Seven grandchildren, three boys, three girls. Now, seven, three, three and I go ‘and?’, one due this fall. A host of other relatives and friends. Upon retirement I plan to fly and visit my oldest son, who resides in Florida with his wife and kids. I also plan to spend time with my grandchildren with whom I enjoy taking shopping. He says that since working for the County, he has only been in the Security department, 32 years. Period of employment, I would have to describe my period of employment with Sedgwick County to be very good. I’ve enjoyed meeting new people and all the duties that came with my job.

And miscellaneous information here he says that he’s pleased to share that he served in the Navy

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for four years. After leaving the Navy, he served in the Army for two years and then he served in the National Guard for 15 years, in which he retired in 1996 before coming to Sedgwick County and he had worked at Beech Aircraft before that.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “James come on up. Certainly your career here at Sedgwick County has been very extraordinary but certainly also your service to your country. We wish you well. This is your retirement clock we’d like you to have on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners and the people of Sedgwick County, knowing that you won’t have to punch one ever again.”

**Mr. James Bryant**, Security Coordinator, Comprehensive Community Care, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I don’t have too much to say but everybody was trying to tell me to say something anyway. I have enjoyed working at Sedgwick County. This is a great place to work. Thank you very much.”

### 2. **TRUMAN WARE, SENIOR ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN, PUBLIC WORKS, WILL RETIRE AUGUST 1, 2002 AFTER 29 YEARS OF SERVICE.**

**Mr. Russell** said, “Another legend, Truman Ware. I heard Truman and Jim talking about going to the Tool concert but Jerry said it wasn’t far out enough for him.

Truman plans to spend time with his wife, two sons and two grandsons. He has worked for the County forever, 29 years. He plans to devote more time to drawing, painting and Indian silver-smithing, live a day at a time.

Truman has worked for the Bureau of Public Services Engineering Department as a construction inspector. He describes his employment with Sedgwick County as ‘I have enjoyed my tenure with Sedgwick County. If I could turn back time, I would do it again, many wonderful people, I have enjoyed being a public servant’. That’s pretty powerful.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “There’s your retirement certificate. Truman, on behalf of the Board and all your co-workers, folks of Sedgwick County, we want to thank you for your service. I have something to say about Jerry. I thought you were here for a long time. These guys have beaten you and I think their legend preceded them. Thank you for your service to Sedgwick County.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Truman, before you start, the lights are lighting up here so don’t leave. I think there are some people who want to say something back to you when you get done.

**Mr. Truman Ware**, Senior Engineering Technician, Public Works Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Okay. I want to thank the Commission, again Winters, Sciortino, Gwin and Norton and all the past Commissioners who have been here before you who have made this job

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enjoyable. And David Spears, my immediate superior has made this job very wonderful, very easy. Sometimes I felt guilty that I wasn't doing enough and all the past Commissioners and the engineers and all the staff at the courthouse, wonderful people, over time, I've learned to love and enjoyed working with. I find it hard today to leave. Many words are going through my mind but Sedgwick County is the best employer anywhere. And like I said, if I could do it again, I would. At the drop of a hat, I'd do it again.

I was an inspector, coordinator, trouble-shooter, expeditor, ambassador for Sedgwick County when I was out in the field. Last but not least, I was also a public servant. And I thank the people of Sedgwick County that made it possible for me to be here my 29 years, very enjoyable job.

This clock, symbolic of time, we all live with it. We wake up in the morning. It's time to go to work, time to go home, time to eat supper, time to go to bed, time to get up and do it again. Time goes into days, days into weeks, weeks into months, months into years. We all deal with time but we're also public servants and I'm grateful to the people of Sedgwick County who have made this possible for me to be here.

And in my language I would like to bid you a farewell. There's no such thing as good in goodbye so in my Kiowa language I'm going to express to you my parting words. *(Spoke in Kiowa and then translates following)* I'm leaving now. I'll see you again. Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Now Truman, we need you back up here because now the fun part begins. Commissioner Winters."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Just one comment I would like to share with folks and the list could go on and on about the things that Truman has been involved in, both in the public life, on the private side and with employees on various events and activities here at Sedgwick County.

But for those of you who have been here for 29 years you probably know this. For those of us who are newcomers, prior to 1982, Sedgwick County did not have a logo or a seal or an emblem and the emblem that you see Truman wearing this morning, the emblem in front of the logo in front of the podium this morning was the desires of the Commissioners to have something that designated Sedgwick County. And Truman was the person that decided and worked on the making of that very first logo that has stood the test of time. And we're all very proud of that logo. We know what it symbolizes but here is the gentleman who created it. And so for that we'll always be very thankful to you and to Black Bear Bosin, who created the wonderful statue that's at the conference of the

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Little Arkansas, Big Arkansas near the All American Indian Center. You blended that into what was just a terrific symbol and we thank you again for your work in that one small project. But thank you and we hope you're proud of that logo."

**Mr. Ware** said, "Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. And this is what Truman looked like when his hair was dark, 20 years ago. Any other comments, Commissioners? Truman, I just want to say from the bottom of my heart, thank you. And on that clock, I have every confidence there's one heck of a lot of ticks left in that clock. So you enjoy your retirement, you wear life as a loose garment and you do it one day at a time you're going to be okay."

**Mr. Ware** said, "And I thank you."

**Mr. Russell** said, "Wow."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I pity the next person who has to follow Truman."

### **3. JERRY HARRISON, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER, COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE, WILL RETIRE JANUARY 1, 2003 AFTER 27 YEARS OF SERVICE.**

**Mr. Russell** said, "This guy's a deadbeat. He'll go quick. Jerry Harrison . . ."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Jerry who?"

**Mr. Russell** said, "Division of expulsions and clocks. Jerry Harrison, Jerry has been Assistant County Manager and served in virtually every imaginable role in the County. Jerry is another legend in Sedgwick County. He has been interim County Manager many, many times for many, many short and long periods. He's tortured a lot of us in many ways and we love him.

Jerry plans to spend more time with his wife Tracy, four children and two grandchildren. He can now devote more time to travel, reading, writing and volunteering. Jerry has worked in the following departments since his employment with the County but this is not all of his jobs. This is a short list: County Auditor, Central Motor Pool, Central Services, Department of Administration and

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County Manager.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “He can’t keep a job.”

**Mr. Russell** said, “He describes his employment with Sedgwick County as, and this is typical of Jerry because he’s so boring sometimes, ‘educational, interesting, successful and enjoyable’. Jerry, if I can give you yours without breaking it. Never thought I’d see this day.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Is that good or bad?”

**Mr. Russell** said, “It’s bad.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Well, you know I hadn’t thought about all the places Jerry had been, the different departments. As I said back here, this guy either can’t keep a job or he can stay in the organization but folks want him to move on.

We . . . I won’t tell the story that I did the other night at the roast, but we’ve had a good time with Jerry and at his expense in a lot of cases but we know that, I hope, he’ll spend his time doing now what he wants to do. Congratulations.”

**Mr. Jerry Harrison**, Assistant County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Gee, I just don’t know how to come to this podium and not make a presentation. I don’t need Elmo, I don’t need Powerpoint. Wanted to take a minute to say thank you to the Commission. Thank you for the opportunity to say thank you to this organization. I have been doing what I want to do for a lot of years here.

I guess before I talk about me, I probably need to introduce a person who has been pretty influential in my life, helped me be a success here and elsewhere in my life, a person who served as my financial consultant, my advisor, my counselor, sometimes therapist, budget manager and my advocate and that’s my wife Tracy. And I also need to acknowledge Linda Roush, who has performed some of those same duties for me here at Sedgwick County, particularly that sometimes therapist role.

I’ve had the privilege of serving the public for almost three decades here in Sedgwick County and most of that time I’ve been at the top or very near the top of this organization. I’ve been involved in virtually every major organizational change in the County in the last three decades and I believe

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those changes, though sometimes painful, have been to the benefit of the citizens of Sedgwick County.

I've kind of patched together a career here. As Commissioner Gwin noted, I can't hold a job, and I've worked with a lot of different people and it takes a lot of people to make us successful. In my case I don't know how many thousands it is, but it was a lot of people trying to help me be successful in this group. I've made a lot of friends over the years and established bonds that will last a lifetime and I will truly miss working here.

Now for the numbers, by my count, I've worked for 18 commissioners and four different managers. Each of the Commissioners and managers have in their own ways taught me things good and bad but they've also given me an opportunity to grow as an individual and develop my managerial skills as a professional and that process of learning has often been a challenge, to me and to them, and for that I thank you all.

I came here right out of college, as an Internal Auditor I and a couple a years I was going to leave and go to banking and a couple of years I got promoted to an Auditor II and shortly after that they eliminated the whole department."

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "I rest my case."

**Mr. Harrison** said, "We became the Department of Administration and I started through the management structure at Sedgwick County, with a few deviations and Doug's kind of eliminated those. I was three times, Doug, three times acting County Manager. It's been a fun and interesting career and I've been allowed to do lots of things I never dreamed I would have been allowed to do. I learned how to operate a skid loader when I was at the Motor Pool, develop a budget, finance a jail, deal with personnel issues, build buildings and do a hundred other things that I never would have got to do.

It has also given me an opportunity to develop professionally through a professional organization, conferences and workshops. And I had the opportunity, on one occasion in Philadelphia to visit Independence Hall and it was under renovation at the time and so the barrier that kind of keeps you from where the forefathers of our country did their work was down and we were invited to come into the room and walk around the very room where the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution was developed. And it just kind of gave me goose-bumps to walk in that room.

And Truman talked about service and that was service at its greatest and what I want to do is leave you with something that I found on our printer about a year ago. I'm real impressed with it. I've given it to my children and others and I want to leave it with the Commission. It's called 'Do Good Anyway'.

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People are unreasonable, illogical, self-centered.  
Love them anyway.

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.  
Do good anyway.

If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies.  
Succeed anyway.

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.  
Do good anyway.

Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable.  
Be honest and frank anyway.

The biggest person with the biggest idea can be shot down by the smallest person with the smallest mind.  
Think big anyway.

People favor underdogs, but only follow top dogs.  
Fight for some underdogs anyway.

What you spend years building can be destroyed overnight.  
Build anyway.

People need help but may attack you if you help them.  
Help them anyway.

Give the world the best you have and sometimes you'll get kicked in the teeth.  
Give the world your best anyway.

I have one of those for the Commission Office and thank you all."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "We have three advisory boards that we'd like to talk to you about maybe perhaps."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Would somebody get Irene Hart some more tissue."

**Mr. Russell** said, "Thanks, Commissioners."

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**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much. Let's wait a few seconds for our Vice Chair to find her way back to the Bench and then we'll go to the next item. Folks, don't leave. It gets real exciting in a minute here because we've got some really exciting things. Okay, go back to work and serve the public. Maybe the Vice Chair got lost. Here she comes. Let's call the next item please."

### CITIZEN INQUIRY

#### C. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING WICHITA GRAND OPERA.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Sir, for the record, if you would give your name and address and you have five minutes to speak to us."

**Mr. Parvan Bakardiev**, General Director, Wichita Grand Opera, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I want to thank all of you for the opportunity . . ."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Just for technical things, we do need your address too, please, for the record."

**Mr. Bakardiev** said, "My business address is 225 West Douglas Avenue, Wichita, Kansas, Century II, second floor next to the symphony and Music Theatre. My private address is 7077 East Central, Wichita, Kansas, apartment 36, 67206. I hope I didn't mistake my zip code.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, thank you County Commissioners for the opportunity to speak to you today. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all the citizens of Sedgwick County that have been very, very supportive in our endeavors in our first inaugural season which made our season very successful, in spite of the many difficulties.

I would like to take also the opportunity today to thank our wonderful board of directors, the City of Wichita, which provided us with the wonderful facilities at Century II and technical assistance. And not last or least the wonderful cooperation of the Kansas Coliseum and its Director, who I just saw here, John Nath, for cooperating in our inaugural events.

It takes sometimes village to make things happen and we are very gratified that we can give you the report card which we think is a very successful one, establishing the first professional opera company in the State of Kansas, one of the two states without such, has been a very exciting, very exhilarating and, quite frankly, very gratifying undertaking. I hope that we can sit five years from

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now here and look back and we can all take credit and celebrate an original opera company that can and will provide jobs for over 200 musicians, technicians, administrators, supportive staff. We'll provide tremendous publicity for the city, but also for the state, just like our humble beginning in our inaugural season, which got coverage in over 200 cities, from Florida to Seattle to Alaska and everywhere else in our very courageous endeavor. I hope in five years from now we can sit here and celebrate and give opportunity to a lot of the students that finish school in our wonderful universities, as well as faculty members, as well as being a recruitment tool for many of the great corporations that made the industry of this city and they can pride themselves on being a supporter of the Wichita Grand Opera.

I feel very inspired today and I hope that I can inspire you too but I also feel very responsible to brief you on what it will take to make it and hopefully we can partner on various levels for years to come. A professional opera company is very strong and very powerful and very exciting and obviously opera is one of the most popular art forms today in America, only if all elements are there and what are they. Unlike some other arts organizations, the federal government was aware that it will take some federal funding, along with private funding, earned income, foundation and some other support to make it happen. Our report card from the first inaugural year has been quite good in our private funding and corporate funding. We had over 300 supporters, small and medium and hopefully next year large too. Projected budget for next year is close to \$800,000, which was just approved by the board of directors comprised of citizens throughout the City and the County and hopefully will be extended throughout the State.

However, and I'm here hopefully to inspire you, give you food for thought. In order for us to receive federal funding, as well as some state funding, it's very important that we can demonstrate, regardless of how large or how private a corporate contribution, public funding because of the way the formula works and probably some of you read and I was very excited to see that the congress approved increase for the NEA and funding for the arts. Even though we are in difficult times, I am very proud of the present government and I'm sure many citizens, that they see the wisdom and importance of supporting organizations like ours."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Let me interrupt, just for a minute now. The five minutes are up. Do you have an idea how much more time you would need?"

**Mr. Bakardiev** said, "Probably 20 seconds."

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

**Mr. Bakardiev** said, "I thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation before you today. I

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hope that you will become partner in our activities and you will be part of our success for years to come. I thank you very much for your kind attention. Thank you.”

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

**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.”

**NEW BUSINESS**

**D. PRESENTATION OF REPORT ON FUNDER AND NONPROFIT INITIATIVE.**

**POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. Kevin Bomhoff**, Wichita State University Self-Help Network, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We wanted to give you an update on the activities that have followed the initial report that you received in November of 2000 from the Hugo Walls Center with Dr. Nancy McCarthy-Snyder offering that report called Enhancing the Delivery of Public Services by Non-Profit Agencies. Once that report was written, you asked a very profound question. You receive the report and you asked the question ‘So what?’ What will we do with this report, where will we go forward? How will we use this report to build the capacity of non-profits and, as we found down the road, funders to provide the best services possible. Well, we’ve done a lot in this last year and a half, two years and we’d like to share with you some of those benchmarks and then hear from some of the non-profits and funders here in our community who are currently working on the project and some of the newer developments that are going on.

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If you remember that report, and I think you do because it was very profound in some of its recommendations, you remember that you asked, along with the Kansas Health Foundation who funded the report as well, for a process of getting together with funders and non-profits to decide where exactly we will go and what they decided from the very beginning is that we need to develop and strengthen the relationships between funders and non-profits in our areas and we need to have that strengthening happen beyond just Sedgwick County as a funder and as a governmental entity. That we needed to bring more funders to the table. So, the Kansas Health Foundation was already at the table. United Way joined us. The Greater Wichita Community Foundation joined us, United Methodist Health Ministry Fund were joined to that process very early on. This also incentivizes the non-profits to get involved as well, because their entire funder community was gathering together and the City of Wichita joined us right off the bat as well. So all of these funders were there, coming together and all of these non-profits could see then that this was really a joint effort and not something specifically about just the delivery of Sedgwick County services.

And also was acknowledged very early on the need for an ongoing process. That this wasn't going to be something that could just happen in one workshop or one planning session. In May of 2001, we got together and we decided on what would be the initial work that we needed to work on and we decided that contract monitoring and development was a crucial area where everybody was pretty motivated to do some improvements in and to work at enhancing that area. And so the non-profits and the funders got together and they made charges and offers between each other. We ask you to do this, we'll offer to do that.

During the summer, some of the products that came out of that effort are still being used today and are very critical today to the process of the relationship building as well as the process of monitoring non-profit organizations. Early on, there began to be a discussion about a non-profit chamber of service and this was one of the first times this discussion came up and you'll hear more about that today.

We also found that the non-profits wanted to get the funders together and have the funders say, in a very clear way, what are the commonalities between our monitoring practices and so that was done and it was much more clearer to the non-profits about what they could expect from all of the various funders and how they could be more efficient in delivering that information because if I'm preparing this particular document for one funder, it's helpful to know it's going to be needed for

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two other funders. Let's be more efficient, let's work together in a more cooperative fashion and that document has been helpful to those non-profits as well as the funders, as they learned how they were doing monitoring between themselves. This is the first time for some of the funders to really share that information.

Also checklists, in the original report there was a warning list, or a kind of a checklist, a dashboard of warning signs when a non-profit would be having difficulty and that was developed a little bit further during the summer and it was developed into a technical assistance indicators checklist and then it took another evolution a little bit later that I'll talk about.

Also, very early on the non-profits wanted to understand how governmental entities could be both providing services and funding services and this created this opportunity to get together, created an opportunity for some very frank dialogue and that was the beginning of that and a white paper was created to describe how governmental entities have, in their role as local authorities, the authority and responsibility of providing specific services that they may or may not choose to contract out to control the size of government, to manage efficient delivery of services and to find those deliverers of services who are best, those niche deliverers of services that are best at doing the service. But that hasn't always been well understood out there in the community of non-profits. Why are you doing this work, not doing that work? How does that work? So that dialogue began and it became a very important one.

We also began to talk about national accreditation. Many of these organization non-profits are nationally accredited. They wanted to understand how did that get them anything. Did that give them any credit during the monitoring process? Was that useful at all? And then finally, we began just defining what is capacity building in general and specifically what does it mean for a community to capacity build.

In October, we decided some things we didn't want to do. The joint group got back together and decided they didn't want to create a local bureaucracy to accredit organizations. Now down the road there may be a need to do that but they didn't believe at this point it wasn't necessary to create at this point a local accreditation process. They decided to . . . They did not want to create a local

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depository of monitoring information where they would submit it and then all of the funders would come and get it. They thought that would be very difficult, because of the different funding cycles of the various agencies, updating that information. It would be yet another . . . Let's not make this thing more difficult to do. Let's make it easier, simpler. So one of their rules was keep it simple.

They did agree on the best practices for how to use accreditation so instead of having an accreditation body, if I am an accredited non-profit, how will the County, how will the City, how will others come and use that information when they evaluate. And as a former County person responsible for monitoring, I will say that some of that accreditation information was not used when I was doing monitoring and it was really exciting to see recommendations for how that accreditation information can actually empower a more effective monitoring of the non-profits.

The early warning signs turned into a checklist for strong non-profits. It became a positive thing. Here's what a strong non-profit looks like and it became a checklist that non-profits use with their board of directors and monitors use as they visits non-profits to say, 'Do you have these things in place?' If not, they are indicative of a strong non-profit. Why not? Let's work on this area, let's work on that area. Let's develop this.

Then twenty non-profits decided to get together and really pursue this idea of a non-profit chamber. And so in March we met again and this was kind of putting the pieces of the puzzle together sort of meeting and we acknowledged that this non-profit chamber, as they got together and began to discuss what's going on nationwide, was actually a great vehicle for doing many of the things that were in the original report and that in some ways, at the Self-Help Network, I view this as a self-help program for non-profits. They have so much capacity, they have so much knowledge. They are doing things well. How can they help each other and gather information together to strengthen themselves as deliverers of public services.

They also decided that there will be a joint meeting this fall and that that would be the focus and they would bring in experts from around the nation that would be focusing on how local non-profit organizations, not so much state non-profit organizations, but local non-profit organizations operate to strengthen the capacity of their community.

They also created a joint committee of funders and non-profits and that was formed to design ways to recruit and develop an expanded pool of non-profit board of directors. We're going to hear a short report just briefly about that. But many of the non-profits are saying they don't have access to qualified people who are up and coming, ready to serve on boards. That people who serve on boards serve on three or four boards. That there needs to be a development of volunteerism and leadership in this community. There's already vehicles to do that but how do we gather those people together, train them to be good board members and then get them attached to these non-profits so that they have a greater pool to select from.

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They also decided that non-profits need to cooperate more in their grant writing and W.S.U. Link agreed to gather some of them together and find some ways to do that and that's just now starting.

And then, importantly in March, there was closure on this issue of the dual role of funder and service providers and it went something like this. The funders said, 'Look, maybe non-profit funder initiate is inaccurate. Maybe it should be non-profit funder, governmental contractor'. They're not purely funders. They have a different kind of role and the non-profits said 'We understand that, we now see it'. We don't always like how decisions are made because they don't always fall in our direction but we understand why you're doing what you're doing. And they also said back though to the funders, 'Keep us informed, let us know how you make decisions'. Help us to understand the process and we can talk about this any time in the future, right? And they all said 'Yes' but we put that one behind us and we moved forward in our efforts.

So then the question that you asked to begin with 'So what?' here are some of the comments of what has been the value added by the process. I won't read them all but definitely people feel that we are being much more intentional about our contract monitoring and about being more . . . working more as colleagues. Attention is being paid to building stronger relationships and especially on that last point, during times when there's not a crisis. Now one of the things that's been appreciated is that the non-profits are talking together, along with the funders, during times when they're not being in a situation that is considered to be crisis or in the public eye. They're building relationships in a positive way, proactively.

One person got up and said three of their funders coordinated one site visit as a result of some of the discussions that have been going on with our group. The streamlining of the funding in the reporting process has been appreciated and so on. You can see improved tools. One of the things that I thought was a really great comment is a non-profit got up and said, 'The funders are now asking us for our opinions and we appreciate that'.

Other comments had to do with that there's now a forum and this has been very important. People feel as though if any issue comes up, there's now a place that they can take that issue where the funders and the non-profits will gather together. If there's a problem, we can talk. So that increased awareness of improved board governance is important and now we're just talking more, as well as the governmental agencies are talking more and the funders are meeting and talking more often.

So those are some of the outcomes and some of the benchmarks of what we're currently doing with this project. I'd like to introduce some people who will just give you a brief update on what's happening with some of these more specific projects but first I'd like to introduce Janet Valente-

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Pape of Catholic Charities. She's going to give us an update on the non-profit chamber of service. Instead of doing introductions each time, we'll then have Sarah Robinson of the Wichita Children's Home. She's going to talk about this board development pool and then finally, Jeff Usher was on our agenda today but Jeff suffered an accident in Colorado. He's returned now but he's still recuperating and so he won't be able to be with us today. So Deborah Donaldson, who is the Director of the Division of Human Services, will talk a little bit about the funders perspective on this project. Janet."

**Ms. Janet Valente-Pape**, Catholic Charities, greeted the Commissioners and said, "As usual, it's always nice to have a reason to come before you and I hope you have a sense that this initiative that you started several months ago has created quite a bit of energy and has mobilized many, many people to take your idea of basically how can the non-profits and the County and other governmental entities really work together more affectively and more creatively. I think we've taken it pretty far down the road and now we're at a point of really trying to refine some of the specific ideas that have come out of it.

One that we think is very exciting and I think has a lot of potential is the discussion around a non-profit chamber of service and we sort of came up with this name because we said, 'Well, if you think in the business community, you have the chamber of commerce' and what does that chamber do but provide a forum where business leaders can come together to talk about issues that are critical to their success in the community and to provide a certain level of support and services. And it really made sense that with the non-profit sector growing to the degree that it is today, that a similar kind of entity might work for us.

And when we came together, initially, I think we were looking at this capacity building question which essentially, for non-profits, involves the very critical issues of governance by their boards, the financial administration piece and accountability for that and overall good administration of a non-profit agency. And we've know that, I think, that one of the major deficiencies that non-profits have had is they usually have not had the resources to build and to develop the infrastructure that is needed to really then enable you to respond to the accountabilities than you. So, we took off from that rather basic exploration. A steering committee was formed. There are about ten or twelve people on this steering committee and I just want to share, briefly, some of the things we've learned and just tell you where we're at.

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I think you have a little flyer in your little packet of information. What we've learned so far has been pretty enlightening. I for one was very surprised to know that 50% of all the major cities in the United States have an entity like this, a local non-profit center of some sort. While their services vary, most centers provide at the very basic level it becomes a full time established forum, again comparable to a chamber of commerce, where members can network and learn from each other. Employee training is provided to members. Members are assisted in the recruitment of volunteers and particularly potential board members, which is very, very crucial for non-profits today. Available jobs are listed and sort of centralized. These organizations work to enhance the public image of non-profit organizations. They compile research that's pertinent to the non-profit sector and I think that it's fair to say we study the non-profit sector a lot less than we study the business sector so I think a little research on pertinent questions probably would not hurt us at this point in our history.

These centers also evaluate the effectiveness of the programs and the services of the members and provide an ongoing forum where you can look for those inter-relationships, how you might collaborate more, how you might share more and I think, ultimately, it can provide a forum where you may be able to come to terms with some hard questions, in terms of maybe if say our agency has developed an expertise in certain things and another agency is also doing it but there's an acknowledgement 'Well, we're doing it in a stronger fashion than you', maybe we can come to some agreement that maybe this is something that you don't have to do and we'll try to do it better.

I think we're coming to a point in our history where we are going to have to make some hard decisions about services and the more we can grow in trust of each other, understanding of what each other is doing and each others strengths and weaknesses, maybe we can be more able to make some of those hard decisions.

I think it becomes a forum to promote public policy advocacy. I think it can strengthen our ability to work more successfully with funders. These centers provide consultation and other professional resources to members and they implement cost savings often through group purchasing plans.

A proposed mission statement that this non-profit center would bring leaders of the non-profit sector together who are interested in enhancing the quality of community services and this will be accomplished by providing a strong collective voice for non-profits, giving us an ongoing forum to communicate with funders and government officials, sharing resources and education to build that internal capacity we struggle with so much and to be able to influence the public policy environment to help in that partnership to help us build community capacity.

Where we are now, we are presently talking to people all across the country with the idea of trying to bring in three or four leaders from different parts of the country who have put together models in their community and we want to bring in more than one person, because while you can extrapolate ideas, we're going to have to craft something that fits our community here. And I think the more broadly we think about this, the wiser that approach will be for us. So, we're looking to bring in

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three or four different individuals who have this experience who will explore with us for a day. We hope to have you as a part of our body and I think, after that point, we probably will be establishing a relationship with some sort of an ongoing consultant who can come back into the community and then begin to work with all of us in a much more specific and focused way and hopefully, at the end of that process, we will all agree that not only is the survival idea maybe an idea whose time has come, we will have figured out a way to fund this and how to support it and we will figure out a way to initiate it in the not too distant future.

So, stay tuned. Again, thank you for your leadership. I think that you've spawned a very fine idea when you decided to set out on this study with the Hugo Walls Center and to involve all of us and I think some very good things have happened, not the least of which is that you've gotten us all talking to each other a whole lot more. Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. I'm getting nervous. She thinks that we actually did something good."

**Ms. Sarah Robinson**, Wichita Children's Home, greeted the Commissioners and said, "And I certainly agree. I thank you for being so proactive. My name is Sarah Robinson and I'm the newly appointed Chair of our Leadership and Governance Development Task Force, which is the newest group or the newest child of this wonderful, wonderful project that you all started and I say thank you. I've been in not-for-profit management for 19 years and what I've seen are tremendous changes and folks who want to volunteer on your boards, who want to serve as well as the needs that we as staff have from those volunteers.

And this is exactly what many of us shared and learned from each other. That we need to develop more of our wonderful, wonderful folks in Wichita to serve in leadership positions in our organizations. We've got a tremendous, tremendous brain trust in this community. We just need to give folks more opportunities to connect with our organizations.

So we talked about how can we do this. We have many challenges as we see the corporate structures changing. A lot of trustees and volunteers often come from middle management. As middle management shrinks, we don't have that pool anymore. We realize many of us need to be more diverse in our boards, as the community changes its composition. So we figured we needed to put together a group task force that stemmed from this original work to work on developing new ways to attract, in non-traditional ways, other folks in the community to serve with agencies. Not necessarily at the trustee level. Initially, we thought 'Ooh, we need to get this trustee pool going' but as we talked more about it, we realized that we needed to open doors to committee work, to

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advisory boards and to the trustee levels positions.

So we've had a big three meetings and we are moving along at pretty rapid speed but as far as Janet goes, her committee is much more ahead of us and has been working for more than a year now. So, we're just getting our feet wet. And we're continuing to work and looking forward to this conference in the fall, because we feel that some of the experts coming in for this conference will be able to help us understand how they've developed their leadership talent in their communities.

So far, the United Way volunteer center has stepped up and they're ready to go because they've already done a lot of board planning, as well as the Greater Wichita Community Foundation. They're willing to contribute to help us to find the staff support to this committee because the goal of this committee, as we said yesterday, was let's get a pilot project going by the spring. Let's get some recruitment, some training and some referral going by this coming spring of 2003.

So again, I say thank you very, very much. This idea is very new. We've just gotten started on it but I'm sure you can connect with this. As you serve in your positions you know how important it is to have the right folks as your volunteer leadership in serving your non-for-profits. So, I thank you very much for this opportunity."

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

**Ms. Deborah Donaldson**, Director, Division of Human Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm really sorry that Jeff Usher couldn't be here today. I mean, Jeff has done a really nice job helping coordinate the funders group. And the entities involved in that group were governmental entities, not only the County but the City of Wichita and SRS, State of Kansas and then of course the Kansas Health Foundation, the Wichita Community Foundation and the United Way have all been members and I think it's been a real pleasure for people to actually sit down and talk. I mean, when is the time this group talks. Well, that's when there's either a crisis or a big problem. And instead, the group is sitting down and talking and sharing information and processing requests from non-profits. And I think that it really is and the intent has been to understand and to be understood and I think it's really helped.

As Kevin outlined several things that have happened, you know having non-profit feeling like they've almost been battered because they've had three different groups in in a couple of weeks monitoring and trying to pull that together, trying to make that easier, helping us get the information, helping us deal with misinformation and helping people understand maybe limitations that are on grants and that's why they come out that way when they do the funding. And so I think it's been very beneficial. Plus, we want an entity or group that is together that the chamber of service can relate to and ask questions of so that we can continue that dialogue and I think really

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help build those relationships. Thank you and I think anybody would be willing to take questions if you have any.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you, Debbie. Any questions of the presenters? Commissioner McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “I had a question for Kevin. Kevin, how many of the non-profits . . . Are they all for human service type things or is there any attraction non-profits?”

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, “Right now we’ve had 170 non-profits involved and they have been primarily in the area of human services although the non-profit chamber is discussing the realities that many of the benefits and the strengthening of the non-profit sector really needs to be expanded, much of what they’re doing needs to be expanded beyond human services. So the Zoo, the various art groups and societies I think there’s a growing recognition that their inclusion could be beneficial in the non-profit chamber.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Okay. Well I know many of us in this room and on this Bench sit on many boards, human services but also with our attractions in this community. And I’m very excited about what I’m hearing today and that hopefully, as you guys get it all invented, that you can include some of them because some of the things I heard, the challenges and the struggles, are the same things that they deal with and I think it’s great that you all are still excited.

I remember I was the Chair at the time, newly elected, and we kicked this off and at the time we were going into an area that was very unknown to us and to me it’s very exciting a year and a half later that you have that commitment from those individuals that showed up that day and to see the progress that you’ve made and this chamber of services I think is just wonderful and to hear that people are talking and sharing ideas. It can only be very positive for our community. So I thank all of you that are here today to share the work that you’ve done with us about this a year and a half later and I’m excited about the energy that’s out there to continue forward and make this a very positive board for all of our community. Thank you.”

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

**Commissioner McGinn left at 10:12 a.m.**

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Kevin, who are some of the 20 members of the chamber to kick it off? Who are some of those?”

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**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "First of all, we have not officially said that they are members but they're on a steering group. They include . . . and I might even have a list with me but KETCH, Rainbows United, Via Christi, Mental Health Association. Now see what we're going to do is this is like starting to thank people."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I guess I'll ask you . . ."

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "Let's just say it's a great mix of some of the finest organizations in the community."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I'll trust that that's a good answer but I'd like to see that just so that I start to understand who those people are and maybe that's crossed our desk at some point but I don't remember seeing it."

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "Here it is. It's great. It's a list. You can hear it if you like."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I'd love to hear it."

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "Okay. Breakthrough Club, the Self-Help Network, Red Cross, Inter-Faith Ministries, Youth Development Services, Senior Services, KCSL, W.S.U. Link, Goodwill Industries, the Medical Services Bureau, the Mental Health Association, Via Christi, Catholic Charities, KETCH, Wichita Children's Home, Child Care Association, Arc, Gear Up Wichita, United Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation, the Wichita Child Guidance Center, Rainbows United and the other are already . . . They're duplicate members. So, that's the group."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, I think it's exciting to think that we're going to build that capacity. Having sat on boards since the first day I almost stepped foot in Wichita, I think it's important that we understand where non-profits go and with the economic realities we have, the more capacity you can build, the shared governances you can work on, the best practices and places where you can maybe save money by working together is going to be so critical to the vibrance of our non-profits and we certainly need that community to take care of so many of the under-served and this is one of the ways it's going to be done. So, I appreciate the hard work. Please keep us engaged in this because sometimes we get a little aloof. You guys are working below the water and we don't know all the things that you're doing. Please keep us engaged."

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "You will be invited for a fall conference that brings these folks in from around the nation. We'd love to have you there."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay, thanks."

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

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just real briefly, I want to say thanks for coming today to give us another update and thanks for the folks you brought with you today. We do appreciate hearing from you."

I would just kind of follow up on Commissioner McGinn when she said we started out on an unknown and it kind of was. One of the facts was there were some folks doing some things that were unknown to us what was going on and we were putting some significant money out there for non-profits. So I think you've taken what Manager Buchanan and the folks at W.S.U. really began to put together and are headed in a positive direction. I'm excited about this non-profit chamber concept for the educational learning, cooperation kinds of experiences that non-profits could participate in. So thanks for coming today to all of you. I think it's been informative and I think we're on just a very good track. So, thanks."

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

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I've got one last thing."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, I'll let you jump all over and let you go before Commissioner Gwin."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Oh, I'm sorry. Is there a number or a place that people can call that want to volunteer and be on the board. I think that's important. As I look around at boards, to me it's the same people that get invited to be on boards and it's kind of a community of board trustees. It would be nice to infuse some new blood and some young blood into there. So do you have a number?"

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "Right. This is in the developmental stages but if someone were interested right now we could involve them, certainly. And they should call our office at the Self-Help Network because we're facilitating this process right now. That's one place to call and that would be 978-3592. Another place though to call right now, if you want to get interested in the board and you're out there, call the United Way Volunteer Center. They have great training opportunities and they have opportunities they know already what's out there and they've done this work. What we're really trying to do is join forces and really expand the recruitment that goes on and bring more people into that training venue and then more people out into the community doing this work. I don't have that number. Many people know the United Way number. Does anyone have that

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number off the top of your head? 267-1321. What a resourceful group. I just facilitate.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “That’s all I had.”

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

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’m probably going to echo what you’ve heard before but I feel it needs to be stated. First of all, to those of you who operate and are working day to day in the not-for-profits to provide services for folks in the community who need them, thank you for that ongoing service. In most cases it’s invaluable and in most cases that would not be available to folks if you all weren’t there.

Secondly, I think that this program or this thought that we had not that long ago was kind of a simple thought. Let’s see how we can make . . . What we can do to make things better. You all have taken a very simple concept and made it into something much more important and from the looks of it, much more successful I think than I even thought it would be.

I do know, as all of us do from serving on boards, that in a great deal of instances the strength of the organization is based upon the strength of that board. And that boards do need to change and they do need to grow and that sometimes some contributors from the past might need to take their leave and let new ideas and new faces have a chance to succeed and to shine.

The instances that you gave us of being able to analyze and understand who provides what services, who is most effective, who is doing the best job of it and then maybe someone could step back then and concentrate on where they’re succeeding is very encouraging.

In the end, it’s about providing services and the way to get there is to use our collective strengths and knowledge and those kinds of experience that we have in the past to bring that forward. I thank all of you to this point. Encourage you for future success too. We look forward to updates and hearing more about it and certainly the conference later this fall. And to you personally, Kevin, thank you for answering my ‘So whats’. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Well, Kevin, you’ve got me real nervous because I listened to you and I listened to the presenters and it all started making sense to me and that’s scaring the heck out of me. But this idea of the chamber is a tremendous idea. The young lady from Catholic Charities that was talking about let’s just talk and instead of everybody trying to do a piece of something where we’re always a mile wide and an inch deep. Maybe this is your area of expertise, so why don’t you handle that nitch and I’ll go over here and focus on that nitch because the goal here . . . It’s the same thing like we were talking about EMS. The goal is the quality of patient care and how can we improve it and this idea of getting together.

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I'm glad that you were able to clarify some of the concerns that the non-profits had about us. You know, well you're a provider of service and then you're also farming out some of the service so you're getting into our area. And to be able . . . You know it's somewhat like what David does in his department, Rich does in his department. Certain things we can handle in-house, certain things there's better expertise out in the field and we're improving the efficiency of how we deliver this patient care. So I applaud all of you. I applaud you for taking that nucleus of an idea that we had and expanding it into what I think is going to be a tremendous document that eventually it will improve dramatically the service that we're all able to deliver to the citizens. So I thank you very much and we've got some more openings now, as you notice by the retirements, if you ever want to consider coming back."

**Mr. Bomhoff** said, "It's a wonderful team that I'm working with at the Self-Help Network, Greg Mies and Scott Wittick have been working on this project, as well along with this group as you can see. Look at the talent and the ability that we have right here in our community."

When we talk about bringing people in from outside, that's to incubate ideas within our own expertise and abilities and to implement those ideas with the strengths that we have in our community. Don't misunderstand. We acknowledge all the strength that we have in our community."

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

### 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	Absent
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

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

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**Commissioner McGinn returned at 10:15 a.m.**

**E. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE UPDATE.**

**POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. William P. Buchanan**, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I thought it would be important for us, from time to time, to have an update on the Sedgwick County EMS system in that that's been in the papers and is a topic of conversation in the community. And this morning was a good time to do that since we have some good news for you this morning.

First of all, Sedgwick County Emergency Medical Service, EMS is dedicated to providing quality health care and transportation for your well being. EMS serves all the citizens of the County, including the City of Wichita and the other surrounding cities. I just thought it might be helpful to talk about some of the EMS facts. First of all, EMS provides service 365 days a year, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. It responds to call for assistance, regardless of the reason or ability to pay. When you call and say you're ill, we show up. There are over 115 calls for medical assistance every day, 42,000 a year.

Some other EMS facts that should be of interest to you, there are 11 to 16 ambulances in service, depending upon demand hours. Demand hours are during the day. People come to town to work, come to the City of Wichita to work. We have more ambulances in service during the daytime period than at night. That's when most of the calls occur and that's when most of the ambulances are in service. Normally about 14 during the day and at night there's about 11.

When I was at the County Fair in Cheney, the ambulance crew was there and a family came up the ambulance crew and said, 'Tell me how it is being an ambulance driver' and the EMS worker at the site said 'Well, we're just more than drivers, we're paramedics and what we do is provide basic life support and then if necessary, a small percentage of calls, but when necessary advanced life support. We're all trained in that and every crew that we have have two paramedics who are trained in basic life support and advanced life support'.

Sedgwick County, for over 27 years, has provided stable, uninterrupted quality patient care for the citizens of Sedgwick County but we are seeing some trends that we've adjusted our system to take into account these trends. In 1992 there were 30,000, a little over 30,000 calls a year. Ten years later there were 42,000 calls. That's a thousand more a month.

You can see by the trend line what the calls have been at the bottom of the axis and you can see that the trend line continues to . . . was steady during the early mid '90s and then, from '99 to now has really increased. And that increase has been accounted for for a couple of reasons. One is that the

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population in Sedgwick County, Wichita area and Sedgwick County has grown. And number two is we're finding more and more people who are living at the margin of poverty are using the EMS system, Emergency Medical System and the emergency rooms as the primary care physicians because of health insurance or for other reasons. And so we're seeing a number of increased calls because of that.

Trends we're seeing, when calls increase the resources are strained and response times can increase. I would remind you, as the consultant indicated and as the medical society indicated, time is a factor. It is only one factor in measuring effectiveness of emergency medical systems or ambulance systems. Time only one factor when it comes to patient care. There are other factors that are involved in the quality of patient care besides that.

To maintain a high level of service we look at existing resources to meet the needs, peak call areas and times. We plan for providing additional resources. You can see that the average response time has been under six minutes and you can see at the bottom of the axis, in '95 and '96 and 2002 that have a little number symbol beside them is when we added additional crews. And in 2000 we adjusted schedules for peak demand during daytime. That's when we started a flexible schedule for flexible delivery of service at that point. So average times have been about less than six minutes.

2002, in the beginning . . . or 2001, these were where all the ambulances were stationed and you can see the little blue . . . I think they're ambulances, where they were stationed and I would ask you to compare that . . . In 2002, additional crews were added, 2002, January 1<sup>st</sup> additional crews were. We planned that early in 2001, for the 2002 budget. We provided for one additional ambulance in January, during the peak daytime hours. That's four employees for everyday coverage. Every day EMS is there and provides for one additional ambulance in July, July 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>, we put another ambulance in service during the daytime hours.

You can see and maybe not very well but in the western part of the town, the City of Wichita, another ambulance was added. That ambulance right there and that is not at a post. That's located at an intersection. We're using flexible deployment of equipment and it's been there since January and that has, for that end of town and for those areas, has significantly adjusted the response times in a downward fashion.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Where was the one, Bill, that was added in July? Where did that go?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "We're getting there. The one for July, which is this slide, is added there which allows us to cover in that area. And so that will significantly decrease response times in that area and allows us to deal with fringe growth, the area on the edge of the city where the growth area has occurred and adjust ambulances and response times in those areas.

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What does this mean to citizens? Well, there's more ambulances available, when and where people need them. It maintains a high level of patient care and citizens rely on this service when they need it. The additional cost . . . What's the cost for the additional crews? Well, in 2001 the cost per citizen was \$7.84 annually, that's \$7.84 for the cost to provide EMS services. In 2002 it went up to \$8.33 and that's because we did add those a year. \$8.33 a year is to high quality patient care and transportation wherever you live in Sedgwick County.

Summary, the call volume will be approximately 42,000 in 2002. We're seeing the trends that would indicate that that's true. We've added the addition crews to help us maintain the low response times, less than six minutes. Budgeted crews were added in January, 2002 and July of 2002.

What's next? What's next part is we'll continue to monitor the call volume and we will hopefully this time next year have a system in place that will be able to better monitor and more readily provide us the information that we need. We will monitor the peak locations and see where calls are occurring and how do we need to adjust to those calls. We will look at the peak call times and patient care and continue to deploy our ambulances and crews on a flexible basis and we will work closely with the medical physicians, the Sedgwick County Medical Society to assure that there's quality Emergency Medical Service care for all Sedgwick County citizens and residents. And that's the presentation for this morning.

The good news is that we've added crews this year and we're adjusting to some of the critical needs of response times and we continue to be less than six minutes on average."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. We have a lot of questions. One thing I'm just going to ask you to look at for me. I know that the call volume has gone up dramatically over the last ten years and I agree with you. I believe it's because of the reasons that you've indicated. But is there a way that you could show us how much of an increase in the trauma calls or that really necessitated trauma calls, if that's risen as dramatically or what have you? All right, Commissioners, I have to apologize. I did not watch how they came in, so I'll just go from my left and go down. So, Commissioner Norton, go ahead."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "I've got several questions. The first one is I don't know that citizens understand the difference between BLS and ALS. I mean, a lot of people probably think ALS is arterial lateral sclerosis. So we need to define that. Would you talk about that, what the difference are in protocols?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Commissioner, yes I would like to talk about that but I'd really prefer to talk about that perhaps next week when we can have some professionals here that can articulate, maybe

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even have a demonstration of what that might mean.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “If that’s around election day, you may be able to demonstrate on me or one of us that’s running.”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “We had some other procedures.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Would that be okay with you, Commissioner? To defer that?”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Absolutely to defer that but I think that’s something that the public . . . You know, it’s bantered back and forth and I don’t know that they understand the differences in the protocols. Would you comment a little bit on the study and the learnings that we gleaned from that?”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “Commissioner, there were two volumes of that study. There were many ideas and suggestions about how to adjust the system that we continue to examine. We have, for the last month or more, have been meeting on a routine basis looking at various aspects of that study. We’ve tasked Diane Gage to look at all the recommendations made from 9-1-1 and have begun to implement and even before the study was completed, had implemented a process for looking at some of those improvements. We have task the City of Wichita Fire Department, Sedgwick County Fire Department, EMS and physicians looking at protocols for a system-wide approach for quality assurance, quality control. So we have a number of folks looking at all of those, all the recommendations and I’ll be happy, again, to go over eight or ten pages of those kinds of things that we are routinely meeting about and have weekly project updates on those recommendations.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Certainly you don’t have to go over all of them today. I just want to be sure as we go along each time you update us you dig a little deeper into that study and answer some of the questions that came out of it. Medical Society engagement has been very important to this process and we, early on, engaged them. Speak to that a little bit.”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “Under Kansas law, the Medical Society as they pointed out really has involvement in ambulance systems and we need their approval for protocols when you are providing patient care, under the doctor’s order, as an ambulance EMS system. And so we are inextricably entwined with the Medical Society. They are the ones who set the protocols. They’re the one who, in fact, when we have problem cases and other cases they review our records and say, ‘Yes, you did it right, no you didn’t do it right. Here’s how we can tweek the system. Here’s the different methods we can use or you have a bad employee’. And we are engaged with them on a

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routine and regular basis. There's a committee of the Medical Society that meets with EMS folks, the City Fire folks, the County Fire folks on a regular and routine basis about protocols and methodology."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay. Infrastructure enhancements are critical to this. You talked 9-1-1. Touch on that a little bit and then data collection, our methods of that is important and there's some technologies that we're looking at there that will enhance all of this."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "In the proposed 2003 budget, we have about a half a million dollars of money requesting to be set aside for some technology improvements for the ambulance system. It will assist 9-1-1 and the people in the field and it will keep track of records and it will keep track of the system in a better way. Currently the infrastructure, we continue to work with cell phones and we continue to work with towers in identifying where people are. We are working towards tracking calls in a way and getting calls through our system faster and looking at whether we need to reorganize and redesign how we receive calls and who dispatches those. So Diane Gage, the Director of that department, is in the process of doing that."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay. My final things are just some challenges that I'd like to throw out. One of them is innovative delivery of service and that is that we don't always have to build structures. That EMS is portable because wherever the unit is is where they'll deliver services and that can add some density. So, I'd like to challenge us there. Continuous improvement is going to be important so the monitoring and pulling together of facts is critical in this process as we go forward."

We have identified that there may be some gaps and we need to challenge ourselves to continue to look at that and try to deliver the best patient care we can to every citizen throughout the County, wall to wall. And then finally, there is probably some empirical evidence that will show us that there are some gaps in ALS service, particularly in the unincorporated areas where it takes so long to deliver services and that we need to really look at that but not on a global, every place situation but where it makes sense. So that would be a challenge I would throw out. That's all I have, Mr. Chairman. Thanks."

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

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill, Commissioner Norton touched on it. When you showed the map of the ambulances. Explain to folks that those are not static. I mean, you know a better representation of that would have been if they would have instantly started buzzing around the map. It makes it appear as if they're always there or that they always return there. Talk to us a little bit about the dynamics of the way, without going into all the details, but the

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way the ambulances move around our community, if you know that.”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “I’m trying to figure out an analogy and if you’ve ever gotten a bucket of live crabs and put them on the floor before you cook them, it’s kind of like the ambulance system. Everything is in motion most of the time. If the ambulance from the center or the city is . . . If this ambulance is now going to a call and taking a patient to the hospital, then other ambulances are prepared to fill in or move closer so they’re centralized. When that ambulance takes the patient to the hospital and delivers the patient to the hospital and on the way back there’s a call, that ambulance may be the one who is sent. So it is a constantly fluid and dynamic system, depending upon the calls. And that’s why locating those two new ambulances without a post, they’re just parking them on the curb, makes some sense for those 12 hours a day or longer because they’re not going to be parked there very long.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Well, that was my point exactly. With the number of calls they get, they make the call, get to the hospital, transport that person to the hospital as quickly as possible, do what they need to do there, load up and they’re back out again. These are not folks that have very much idle time. They are busy. But it’s been a very interesting last several weeks, as this issue has come up in the news and the folks in our community have become aware.

As I’ve been going about the business of talking to folks, I get a lot of comments at their doors about this service, how valuable it’s been to them, their personal stories of the quick attention and the important care that they’ve received and they are greatly concerned about EMS’s long-term viability and don’t want to see anything done to harm it. I have assured them that that is certainly not the intention of anyone. That the intention here is to make sure that quality public service that they have remains and is improving every day if we can do that. So the folks out there are listening and watching to see what we do and how we do it and we’re aware of how important this service is to all of us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Bill, I know you like to make analogies and talking about the fluid thing, is this somewhat similar to the patrol officer on his beat. I mean he’s in the area and he may be having to go over here, which is another patrolman’s beat but if the call comes and he’s the closest one, he’s probably going to be the one dispatched to it. So it’s a fluid . . . And those in blue are the Wichita beat and they’re trying to get positioned wherever the potential for their services might be. Is that a descent analogy?”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “It’s a pretty good analogy except for ambulances, when they’re not going to a call, and when they’re not taking a patient to the hospital, then they go and park.”

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**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Sure, I understand that. And maybe policemen are at donut shops. No, no, that was just a bad pun. Commissioner McGinn."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Well, when you start on the left and move right."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I'm sorry, would you like to wait? I did it wrong. Commissioner Winters."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Manager, it's been a good report. Can you give us maybe the current status with the City of Wichita? We've received notification from them. We've responded with inventory lists. Can you tell us what the current status with the City is?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Yes, sir. The City of Wichita notified us their intent to cancel the contract. Part of the language in the contract requires us to, at that point, provide the City of Wichita an inventory of our ambulances and the contents therein within 30 days. We've done that. We did that early. We have sent that to them. They now have a certain amount of time to respond as to whether they wish to purchase . . . send a notice of intent to purchase those ambulances and equipment. If that notice is sent, then we would be required, jointly, to go out and hire appraisers to appraise the value of those ambulances and then after that appraisal is done, then the City would then have a chance again to say whether they would intend to purchase those or not.

That sounds like a long and drawn out process and it is. So, that's the current status. We are in the process of thinking through what may or may not happen if the notice to purchase is sent to us. Does that mean the City is dismantling the system? Does that mean that they're going to provide their own service for the City of Wichita residents only? What does that mean to residents outside the City of Wichita? So we are in the process of examining the budget and examining what options that we have, including creating a taxing district, a special ambulance-taxing district that may or may not include the City of Wichita and we're examining those sorts of alternatives."

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**Commissioner Winters** said, "So we have delivered them a list of all of the equipment and inventory that's used in the City of Wichita and we should know in a very short period of time if they intend to purchase those."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Yes. We would hope to know that because we both need to get on . . . If there's going to be a significant change in the system, a dismantling of the system as we know it then we need to start thinking through how we're going to provide service out in the County."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Okay. Thank you very much."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Gwin . . . McGinn. Well, it was so long . . . you're way over there . . . See, the thing that upsets me is you're to the right of me on any issue and that bothers me. Go ahead."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Well, I just had a quick question I guess since all the other questions have been answered. The one you put out west and east, the extra ambulance. Where are those sitting at? I guess I didn't understand that. Do we park in somebody's driveway?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "They go back to the area and sometimes they're sitting on one corner and sometimes they sit on another one."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Okay. So they really are just out there sitting in the field. Okay."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "We're not renting any space. We're using the public right-of-way to park the vehicles."

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "Sure and they can move around as the voids are created. Okay, thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Commissioners, I don't see any other lights on so I think I need to give you all an update on what has been transpiring for my part here and also make some clarifications to the public. First of all, I have been meeting one on one with the Vice Mayor, Bob Martz and had a meeting with him just two days ago. And given the new information that we have received from the medical society, I have guarded optimism that the City might want to modify their position on ALS at every fire station, regardless of anything.

I have known Bob Martz for many years, before either one of us became elected officials. I consider him a personal friend and until I hear something differently, I am going to believe that his thinking and our thinking is the same as far as the only thing we want to do is what can we do to the

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system that will improve or enhance the quality of patient care and I hope to have another meeting with him shortly and we're going continue discussing this thing and like I say, right now I just feel that there's an excellent chance that we can get past any of this alleged controversy that might exist.

The second thing and I want to address this to each and every citizen that is watching us or might watch a tape-delayed version of this, Sedgwick County EMS, we will never ever voluntarily cease to provide the service that is needed in the field. Should something unforeseen or worse-case scenario, if Wichita would decide to separate from us and go on their own, we would have to be ordered to stop providing our service and to any other citizen that does not live in the City of Wichita, I want to assure you that ambulance service will continue to be provided to you at least at the same level it's being presently provided to you and it will be seamless and you will not know the difference of the separation of Wichita from our entire integrated system. And I think that's important. Plus it also is important that the City of Wichita did send us this official notice not to renew the agreement. The agreement is still until December 31<sup>st</sup> and that is just legalese and they've expressed that to me, that that was just a way of saying we want to renegotiate the agreement.

So, in the short term, if you need an ambulance service today, tomorrow, next week, next month your Sedgwick County EMS providers will be there in a very timely manner and take care of any needs that you have. And I think it's important that the public know that and I thank the Manager for his update and I'm glad that you're going to continually update us. There's been, I think, some good questions from this Bench. The public has been engaged in this because we did have a public meeting when we heard the consultant's report. We had a public meeting when we heard the medical society's report and we will continue to inform the public, as we proceed on here. But there's only one goal from this Commission's Bench that we look at and that is the quality of patient care. Thank you very much.

Is there anything else that you need to add, Mr. Manager?"

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

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much. What's the will of the Board on this report?"

### **MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

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**VOTE**

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

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

**F. PRESENTATION REGARDING PROPOSED ONLINE PUBLIC HEARING FOR BUDGETS.**

**POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Commissioners, this is the Kristi and Bill show at this point. I have an able assistant. I'm not allowed to play with the . . . I mean use the equipment. It's a great idea.

Last week, we presented to you the 2003 recommended budget. As part of that normal process you know that there are public hearings held regularly so that we can engage citizens in conversations about how we should spend their money. The public hearings are scheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup>. One of your expectations has been for staff to try to figure out ways to engage citizens differently to take government to the people, to make government more accessible. And so I've asked staff to put together an idea that . . . another arena for citizens to gain access and input in our governmental process and that's through the 2003 budget public hearings.

We are utilizing technology to provide that opportunity. There are a number of ways in which citizens can do business with Sedgwick County without having to come here and coming down to this building. It seems to me that if we can engage people in a democratic process without necessarily having to take time off work to come here but know that their thoughts, ideas, suggestions, criticisms will be understood and read and acknowledged, then this is I think one way to do it.

This is an on-line public hearing process. It's being piloted for this 2003 budget. Citizens can provide feedback without having to come here during the Commission meetings and they can do this at the convenience of their computer at their time. They can review the 2003 budget. They can see other people's comments and they can submit their own.

I'd like to walk you through, if you will, a demonstration of how this would work. You can find it,

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if you're at home, at [www.sedgwickcounty.org](http://www.sedgwickcounty.org)"

**Ms. Kristi Zukovich**, Director, Communications Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Once you get to the main page, Commissioners, you go to the Sedgwick County news and you see that there's an opportunity for folks to review the 2003 recommended budget and then also the on-line public hearing.

Once you get to the on-line public hearings, it gives you the topic of the 2003 recommended budget. It says 'Sedgwick County is currently accepting comments regarding the 2003 recommended budget. Residents are invited to provide feedback to the County Commissioners through this on-line public hearing process or through the regular public hearings' and so we're reminding them that this is an arena or they can come to the Commission meetings.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Kristi, are we on-line right now?"

**Ms. Zukovich** said, "Yes, we are live on-line right now.

The information that folks submit will be viewable for others to see. They can submit comments or they can just go on-line and look at other folks comments through this process. These are the current comments that are on-line that we have done this one as a test project and it says that what we've done is just take the current 'Sedgwick County is currently accepting' and that is the name would be test user or someone else's name that they would submit and then their comments that they would provide.

And if we choose to enter comments on this topic. Say we've viewed this person's comments and now we want to submit comments, we come to the new record field. And you'll note that it says you're required to enter your name and address. However, only the name and the comments, just as we saw, will be displayed for others to view. So their entire name and address will not be displayed on the screen. However, that will be information that is provided."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Now, if they don't put their name and address, then their comment won't go up? So where I was trying to get with is to stop the . . ."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "This is just exactly what happens at the regular public hearings. We ask for name and address. We assume people are telling us the truth. We don't check. We assume that and so this is the standard process. Please note, where it says 'Notice, comments which include inappropriate, profane or vile statements and/ or comments unrelated to this topic are subject to removal from display from this site'. We will monitor that a couple of times a day. We think . . ."

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and we will remove things that are not appropriate. The same things that you would not allow at the regular public hearing, profanities, things that are not relevant to the budget, campaign speeches, those sorts of items will be removed.

Now, we'll have a record for those in case people want to say, 'Well, you haven't listened to me' and we will be able to discuss that. Is there a risk involved? You bet there is but I think this is a risk worth . . . And that's why it's a pilot program, a risk worth taking."

**Ms. Zukovich** said, "The person that is wanting to submit their comments will type into the fields that are provided."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Kristi, we're really interested in what you think of our budget. Please let us know. Give Communications more money. I know she's going to say that. What does that mean, primary direction?"

**Ms. Zukovich** said, "The primary direction, it gives you the location. You put in north, south, east, west, which ever it is. If someone does not know the district, they can click to view the district map and get somewhat of an idea of where they might live. So, if they know kind of some of the main streets, they can pick that up as well. And then once they have submitted the comment, you submit. It allows you to please verify your information and comments to make sure is this really what you want to say and if so, you submit."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "So you submit twice before it goes."

**Ms. Zukovich** said, "Right. It gives you that one last time. If you'd like to print your comments, so that you can make sure that 'Yes, this is what I've submitted' it gives you this page. And there you see that that comment has been added in."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "We did have a user yesterday, Mr. Nathan Thurm somehow got on earlier but it got removed by our folks."

Commissioners, once we've had an opportunity to review how this on-line public hearing may work for the budget, we will determine how that could be used for other things. Perhaps it could be used for zoning. Perhaps it could be used for resolutions. And again, I hope it would provide you with one more tool to reach out to citizen's ideas and their concerns about issues that impact our community.

Before we're finished, there are a number of people that need to be thanked for this project. This is one of those wonderful projects that just kind of was a little seed of an idea that absolutely

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exploded. Kathy Sexton, in her calm, cool, collected way has led this team effort to get it done in a very short period of time. Richard Vogt, Judy Norris, Jim Jahansooz, Greg Faber and Jeff Piper in DIO really did the work. My understanding is that Judy has spent a great portion of her time making sure this worked and this is the kind of talent that's hiding under the bushel over in DIO that can produce this kind of interaction with citizens in a very short period of time. Rich Euson gave us all the legal advice we needed and more about the risks and rewards of this process. Chris Chronis and Kristi were just there with their ideas and view about how to do this.

I think one of the . . . and I've said this for lots of times and one of the themes that Jerry talked about, Independence Hall and democracy and those issues. One of the things local government does that no one else does any better is deliver democracy to people's doorsteps. Well, we're delivering it to their house. We're delivering it inside the house. You want to play in the democratic process at 2:00 in the morning, you want to do it on Saturday, you want to do it anytime that suits you, here's your opportunity. And so I don't know how much reaction we're going to get. I don't know. We're going to keep plugging and give citizens of this community an opportunity to play in the realm and be in the realm of the democratic process."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Well, we do have some questions. But as you know, I'm not quite up to speed on all this electronic stuff and what have you. But say an individual is sitting here with one of those wireless laptops or what have you. Does he have or does she . . . I mean, no matter where they're at, do they have the ability to access this?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "If they can get to the Internet, yes. Dion has a machine that's so old, it can't even spell Internet."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. But I mean, this concept of making government more accessible has always been something that I've really tried to push. There are cell phones that you can do on your Internet. So no matter where . . . Well, this is great. I just hope that you would . . . that people won't abuse it because I mean, the potential for you know wanting to be something inappropriate on there and I hope the people will take this and embrace it for what we're trying to accomplish. Commissioner Winters, you have some comments."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you. When does this go live or when are folks going to be able to . . .?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Last night."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Last night at midnight?"

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**Mr. Buchanan** said, "About 5:00. We had a demonstration in this room yesterday afternoon. There were some minor tweeks."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "But the budget has been on before previously. I again want to thank folks for putting this together. This is a great program. I received a call yesterday from a constituent who was looking at the budget on-line and they had commented about the newspaper article yesterday, were very supportive. I'm not sure they would have responded on-line yet but it prompted the call. The call came to me. They had some questions and we visited and they got it off the Internet and were very appreciative of it being there and I think the comment portion is good."

I think people need to remember that if they have questions about putting their name on there, all of us respond differently to anonymous notes and anonymous comments and I can say very seriously, we don't pay much attention to them because it is important to know that it's a legitimate response, a legitimate citizen has a question and those we certainly respond to.

I would like to know how the Commission is going to receive information that flows in through this system."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "Anytime you want, you can review the comments. We will be around to show you how you can sort by your district, so that if you want to look at all the comments, you can do that, if you want to just sort by your district. If there's lots of comments, there will be a way in which you can put a bookmark beside it so that you know that you've read the first twenty and tomorrow you're going to read the rest of them. And I've been assured that this is an easy process."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Designed by rocket scientists, but easy."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I just got updated on what bookmark meant. So I'll learn how to do that. Okay, thank you."

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "It's like putting a sticky note on it."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Yes, I understand. My aid here is helping me."

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

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

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, I think this is just awesome. I really believe in communication to the general public. The thing that scares me is that we're just going to find out if there's apathy and lethargy like there is at the voting booth, or we're going to find out that there's a lot of people that are engaged in technology and this will be an avenue to engage them. I hope it's the latter and not the former. But you know it's going to be a good news/ bad news thing. That we're going to have a lot of very smart people put something together that's very powerful if people use it and it's underused or people are going to get it as a way to engage in this process and really use it and then I think we're going to be scared to death to get that much feedback on the budget. So I hope that people will rally, log on and tune in and give us their feedback. What an easy way to do that, to really be part of the system. And I applaud DIO for moving us forward this way with this communication tool and I challenge the public to log on and use us. Give us the information. All those little complaints that you talk about over the dinner table or over coffee at work, now it's going to be easy to let us have it every day on-line and we admonish you to do that. Please do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

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

**Commissioner Gwin** said, "Thank you. And you're absolutely right. It is a way for the citizens who are the ultimate power, always have been in this community, to be in power to make sure that we hear. Over the years, we've heard from folks that say, 'Well, I can't get to your Commission meetings, they're at a bad time for me or I work outside the home and I just can't get there. I watch you on the replay but my time to talk to you is not available'. We can anticipate I think, as others have pointed out, that you'll have some folks like Mr. Thurm and others who choose not to participate in an appropriate manner, but I have a great deal of confidence that once folks understand that this is yet another tool for them to be able to communicate, I'm pretty optimistic that they're going to use it."

We are on-line. I get e-mails from folks on a regular basis. But on specific topics, and specific resolutions or zoning cases or those kinds of things to have it focused at one point I think should be very helpful to all of us, as well as to the folks out there that want to make sure that we hear them. So, I'm very excited about it. Thank you all for making, as Tom said, a process that we know from the creation standpoint is very complicated but from the utilization standpoint looks very friendly and very easy. So, thank you all."

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

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**Commissioner Norton** said, "Just one other comment. Not everybody is wired with the Internet but I can tell you the senior center in Haysville, the library in Haysville has ten stations that are open to the public. There are many places to access the Internet that is very powerful and I would challenge people to find those in your community, because many senior citizen and recreation centers and libraries and other public facilities have computers sitting there waiting for somebody to log on and use it. So, there is easy access if you don't have one in your own home."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, I'll just echo my applause too. I mean I've already told you that I'm coming, kicking and scratching, into this computer communication age but I'm learning a lot. I think all we can do is to try to make ourselves more accessible. One of the biggest complaints that I've had, myself personally, I think you all have shared it with me too, is the lack of input from . . . You know, we sit here and people will stay here until their issue and then they leave and sometimes we're just talking to an empty room with the exception of a couple of staff members. What we do here at this Bench does impact the citizens. It impacts them either in a positive or a negative way and to have your input and to let us know what you think we should do is invaluable. We're getting ready to set the 2003 budget. Embodied in that are some major areas that would be impactful to all of the lives of the citizens. Let us know what you think. And I share with you, I hope they do."

And I don't know if right at the dinner table all of the sudden somebody realizes something that we've done wrong and at that moment . . . I would like them to sit down and let that wave of emotion past and then start typing, but whatever. Let us know what you think and congratulations to all of you that have spent the hours that it took to make this a reality. Thank you. What's the will of the Board on this?"

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Norton 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

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Chairman Ben Sciortino                      Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. And Kristi, don’t worry. I’ve misspelled or mispronounced Sciortino all my life. So don’t worry about that. Next item please.”

**G. AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY (WSU), ON BEHALF OF THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS SCHOOL OF NURSING, FOR THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE A CLINICAL ROTATION SITE FOR WSU NURSING STUDENTS.**

**Ms. Phyllis Gearing-Anderson**, Director of Preventive Health, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I have one agenda item today and this is a wonderful opportunity for the Health Department to introduce baccalaureate nursing students and enhance the knowledge of graduate nursing students to public health. We also have the opportunity to perhaps cultivate an interest among these students in becoming public health staff members in our Health Department. We are requesting your approval of this agreement with Wichita State University College of Health Professions School of Nursing to provide a practice site for nursing students and we’re requesting your authorization for the Chairman to sign this agreement.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Any questions or comments?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you very much. Clerk, call the next item please.”

**Chairman Sciortino left at 11:01 a.m.**

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**H. RESIDENT OPPORTUNITY AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY/RESIDENT SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL GRANT-FUNDED AGREEMENTS.**

- 1. AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF NEWTON HOUSING AUTHORITY, CITY OF AUGUSTA HOUSING AUTHORITY, CITY OF NORTH NEWTON HOUSING AUTHORITY AND CITY OF BURRTON HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR PROVISION OF RESIDENT SERVICES FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED TENANTS.**
- 2. AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF NEWTON HOUSING AUTHORITY, HARVEY COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING AND BUTLER COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING FOR PROVISION OF CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION SERVICES.**
- 3. AGREEMENT WITH BUTLER COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING, HARVEY COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING AND ALICE GOERING FOR PROVISION OF PROGRAM COORDINATOR SERVICES.**

**Mr. Brad Snapp**, Housing Director, Housing Office, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This morning you have before you three agreements for the Central Plains ROSS program. It’s the Resident Opportunities Self-Sufficiency program. It’s a \$200,000 program that will be paid out over three years to serve residents living in public and Section 8 assisted housing in the three counties of Sedgwick, Butler and Harvey Counties. In this grant, the five housing agencies or housing authorities . . . actually six, are working together. The Newton Housing Authority is the lead entity on this program.

Because all three of these agreements are really tied together, I’d like to just present them to you and let you choose to take them all at once or one at a time. The first agreement is a cooperative agreement for the six housing authorities working together for the program. It tells what our duties and expectations are. The second agreement establishes the Sedgwick, Butler and Harvey County Departments on Aging as the contract administrator. And then the third document is an agreement with Alice Goering as a Program Services Coordinator. If there’s any questions, I can try to answer those for you.”

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, “Okay. Are there any questions of Brad? If not, I appreciate your

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presentation. I think we should take them separately though. What's the will of Board on H-1?"

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, "We have Item H-2. What's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters 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

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Commissioner Carolyn McGinn     Aye  
Chairman Ben Sciortino           Absent

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, “And on H-3 please?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, “There is discussion on this Motion. Commissioner Norton.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Is it \$200,000, have we done this before? Have we done this before? Is this just a renewal or is this . . .?”

**Mr. Snapp** said, “First time.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “First time money and how long will it last?”

**Mr. Snapp** said, “Well, actually we’re about a year and a half into this program and the reason we’ve had some difficulty bringing some new ideas to HUD that we should put it into this form and they’ve approved the documents, but we just wanted to condense a three-page manual into some forms that would spell it out pretty clearly. So we do plan to apply for a renewal in about a year and a half, actually almost a year and nine months or something.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well, I was thinking it was an renewal because I thought we were already doing this. So it has been ongoing but we’re just now dealing with the paperwork. That’s all I had.”

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, “Any other questions or discussion? If not, Clerk call the vote.”

**VOTE**

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

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Chairman Ben Sciortino

Aye

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

**I. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES.**

**1. GRANT AWARD FROM KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2003 COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT AWARDS, AND MODIFICATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND BUDGET DOCUMENTS.**

**Ms. Deborah Donaldson**, Director, Division of Human Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is the grant award on Community Corrections but it is also a plan modification, which is necessary so that you will meet the allocation.

Unfortunately, Community Corrections who has received level funding for years has just typically operated on a shoestring and this year that shoestring I guess broke. We actually experienced an actual cut in dollars. We had an increased cost of doing business and we experienced cuts in some other grants also.

So, what does that mean? Basically what that means is that we will be losing four staff positions in the Adult Intensive Supervision program, two surveillance officers and those are the individuals who go out, kind of above and beyond in terms of providing increased supervision for those who are at greatest risk of recidivism and have committed the most egregious kinds of crimes and to intensive supervision officers. It would also result in the elimination of employment services and the electronic monitoring services and we have already notified the courts of that.

On the Adult Intermediate Service and Sanction Center it appeared we were going to have to eliminate six positions. And when we will, because of the loss of another grant, which is the substance abuse counselor, we appreciated that throughout the County with some flexibility and

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we're hoping with some creative thinking we will be able to maintain the other five positions and not have to eliminate the census, which would mean individuals returning to jail. And so, very much appreciate that kind of collaboration within the County and we're believing we can make that work.

And we're also having to eliminate most of the mental health evaluation consultation services. So that's kind of where we are today and we would recommend that you accept the grant award and approve the comprehensive plan modifications and authorize the Chairman to sign. I'd be glad to answer any questions and Cecile Gough is with me today, who knows all those numbers."

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, "Are there questions for Ms. Donaldson? Seeing none . . . Were you thinking about it?"

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Well, I guess I'm thinking about it. This is Community Corrections, funds come from Kansas Department of Corrections. So it's a state program that we administer here and it could easily become one of those programs, cut the funds here, spend more later. Spend more eventually because this is the kind of program that's keeping people out of detention yet under supervision of some kind that is much less expensive than being in jail, being in the state prison. And we're going to cut off the bottom leg of this to save some money today that's probably going to cost us all in the community tomorrow. And so I'm certainly going to vote to accept these funds but this one is going to have some ramifications in the community, no doubt about it."

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, "That's true. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, I agree with Tom. I mean, it's a penny wise and a pound foolish. I mean it creates more problems downstream than it solves upstream by cutting what minimal cuts are. I'll be supportive of the grant but it's just another indication of how what has happened at another level of government has really effected the services and the kinds of programs that we can provide here locally that have been sustaining and have been good programs and had great outcomes for many years and now they're diminished or just going away and that saddens me because we've made such great progress. I know Tom has been so connected to this Juvenile Justice and all the Department of Corrections and it's just not good information to hear today but I'll be supportive. Thank you."

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, "Any other comments or questions?"

**Commissioner McGinn** said, "I do. Well I too am disappointed and I agree with all of your comments, Commissioner Winters. We're on the verge of forming this task force to talk about integrating people back into our community and when I attended the Wichita Assembly a great deal of that had to do with providing . . . Well, what we heard was that there were programs missing here

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and there to help these folks be successful getting back into the community. And I know the state is in a financial crisis right now. I'm glad to know that we are pretty healthy here in Sedgwick County. I don't know that we can take too many years of blows like this but I hope that this comes up for discussion and I hope we have . . . which I know we're inviting some state representatives and state agencies to be a part of this process but I think, as Commissioner Winters said, you know we're kind of cutting off the leg and may end up having to cost our community more dollars later. And so I hope this certainly comes to the forefront very soon and I look forward to us getting involved in those discussions. Thank you."

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, "Well, I think as you've all pointed out that we know when the state has problems a lot of those are shifted to us and at this level. Then we're expected to try to figure out how to deal with that. I think each of us too can acknowledge that the kinds of decisions we're having to make based on that are going to effect us and our community for several years. So the challenges are great and we just have to hang in and continue to do the best we can do to provide the services that I believe are so vitally important to the community. You're points are well taken. I'm sure we all understand the gravity of this situation. So, any other comments? If not, what's the will of the Board?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to accept the Grant Award; and approve the comprehensive plan and budget documents 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	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Absent

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

**2. AREA PLAN ON AGING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003.**

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**Ms. Annette Graham**, Director, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Each year, the Area Agency on Aging is required to complete an area plan and submit that to the Kansas Department on Aging. The area plan outlines and details how the Area Agency on Aging will spend the federal dollars and for us, that is for the tri-county area of Sedgwick, Butler and Harvey County. And this is for the fiscal year that begins October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002 through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003. And this plan must be submitted to KDOA by August 1<sup>st</sup>. The plan has already been approved by the Central Plains Aging Advisory Council and it has been approved and recommended by both the Butler and Harvey County Commissions.

The federal dollars go to a variety of services and I'll just kind of give you the breakdown real quick for that. Under 3B, we provide access services for information and assistance to individuals, case management services, in-home services which include respite, homemaker, attendant care. And then we have community services and out of that we fund newspaper through the active aging, repairs, maintenance, renovation through the minor home repair, legal assistance, supervision which is also a program through the Kansas Legal Services program, counseling services. We fund congregate meals through the Good Neighbor Nutrition program and the home delivered meals. Under 3D, we do disease prevention and health promotion, which includes physical fitness, health screenings, home injury screenings and education and medication management. And under the 3E, which is the caregiver services, we provide services through information, caregiver training, counseling, respite services, transportation and support groups.

So if you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer those."

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, "Are there questions for Annette? If not, what's the will of the Board?"

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Area Plan and authorize the Chairman to sign an Application and other related documents necessary to complete the grant process, including the notification of grant award.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

### **VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye

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Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Absent

**Chair Pro Tem Gwin** said, “Thanks, Annette. Commissioner Norton, you had a comment?”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Annette, before you leave, I just wanted you to update us on the rural transportation issue that was before us. I know you sent a message around but I’d like that to be on public record kind of what the resolution of that was.”

**Ms. Graham** said, “We had heard that the Federal Transportation Authority had redefined the urbanized area and that would result in eight or nine of our smaller communities no longer being able to receive rural transportation. Letters were sent by County Commissioners and by some from Butler County and some other folks sent some letters. We received a report back from FTA that that ruling does not go into effect until June of 2003, so that we will be able to use our rural funding for services for those communities at least through June 30<sup>th</sup> of next year, which was good news because originally we were told that was going to end September 30<sup>th</sup>. After that we couldn’t do that.

Also, they will be coordinating meetings with the various stakeholders and involved parties, the County, the City, the Wichita Metropolitan Transit Authority and then we’ll go from there and with KDOT to kind of decide and plan on how will those services be provided then if not through rural transportation, how can we work together to insure transportation to those citizens in those smaller communities.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Good news for the short term, still up in the air for the long-term. Please make us aware of what’s going on and will it be engaged anyway we can help. I think all the Commissioners are lock-step on that. Thanks.”

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

**3. CONTRACT WITH ARROWHEAD WEST, INC. TO PROVIDE RESIDENTIAL AND ADULT DAY SERVICES.**

**Ms Marilyn Cook**, Director, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, “A little over six years ago, individuals who were residing in developmental disabilities residential facilities throughout the state were kind of reassessed, much like what we’re doing this past year with folks

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who have a severe and persistent mental illness are being reassess. And at that time it was ascertained that there were several individuals in this community who did not have a developmental disability but who were residing very successfully in the apartments at Arrowhead West. At that time, and I think it was in 1996 although I'm not sure of that date, Kevin Bomhoff who was then the director of the CDDO for COMCARE, negotiated with the state for those residents to stay at Arrowhead West since they were doing well and we didn't want to disrupt the progress that they were making and the state agreed to that.

So this contract allows mental health funding to go to Arrowhead West for those individuals. There are nine of them. They will be in those facilities as long as they need to be in those facilities. They can at any time choose to live elsewhere in the community and the money will follow them, when and if that happened as well. And in addition to that, COMCARE does have a case manager that checks on them, helps them with shopping and helps them negotiate the community when they need it.

So we are asking that you approve this contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

**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.

**VOTE**

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

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

**Chairman Sciortino returned at 11:18 a.m.**

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### 4. **AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH REX LEAR, M.D. TO PROVIDE SERVICES AS MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR COMCARE.**

**Ms. Cook** said, “The role of a medical director in any community mental health facility is a very complicated one and a busy one and a comprehensive one. And COMCARE is no exception to that, since we are such a large system of care. The medical director is responsible for the oversight of all the medical care that is provided in something that we consider a medical setting. The medical director is responsible for ensuring that there is coverage for all patients throughout our system of care. They’re also responsible for administration leadership of the entire medical team, comprised of advanced nurse practitioners, other psychiatrists, residents and nurses. And the medical director is also a very important part of our management team at COMCARE.

Our previous medical director, Dr. Beber, was with us for three years. He’d been in the community for a while. He came to Wichita a number of years ago. He promised his wife at that point he would stay for a year, through his residency and twenty years later they made a decision they were going to move back to California, where they both had family.

So Dr. Beber . . .”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Twenty years after his commitment to his wife.”

**Ms. Cook** said, “Yes. So he owed her big time on this. So, he left July 15<sup>th</sup> and we miss him very much but we were also very, very fortunate to have on our staff currently the Assistant Medical Director who was willing to step up to the plate and become our medical director and that is Dr. Lear.

This agreement allows for the compensation package to follow his becoming our medical director. Dr. Lear is very well prepared for this task. He has been a psychiatrist for 13 years, trained at K.U. School of Medicine in Wichita and he was in private practice for a number of years. He was in practice with Dr. Beber for a number of years, so he’s missing Dr. Beber as a personal friend as well with that move. But he came to us two years ago. He’s starting his third year with COMCARE and he has a lot of support. When he asked the medical staff, when he was considering applying for this, if they would be in support they applauded and I don’t think you get more support than that.

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About 50% of Dr. Lear's time will be involved, as it was with our previous directors, with clinical practice and the other 50% in administration both within COMCARE and with the community. I asked Dr. Lear to come today. He rearranged his patient schedule to be able to make that happen, learned a lot about County government in the process, sitting here this last hour but I'd like him to come up and for you to see his face and to make just a couple of comments."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And it's our hope that after you've viewed County government, you still want to do this."

**Dr. Rex Lear**, Medical Director, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Definitely. I've been the Assistant Medical Director, as Marilyn said, for the past three years and I'd just like to thank you for this opportunity to step up and take on the leadership role for the medical staff. My goal is to provide the highest quality of patient care for all citizens of Sedgwick County for their mental health needs."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much, Doctor and welcome for your involvement. Is that the end of this particular item?"

**Ms. Cook** said, "It is."

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

### **MOTION**

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

Commissioner Gwin 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	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

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

**5. AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY CONSULTATION SERVICE, INC. TO PROVIDE EVALUATION AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES; INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY AND GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICES; MEDICATION SERVICES; AND MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION SERVICES.**

**Ms. Cook** said, "Commissioners, this is our affiliation agreement with Family Consultation Services. The agreement makes it possible for our Family Consultation Services to bill Medicaid for mental health services that they provide. They provide a wide range of services for children and families in this community, diagnostic services, they do medication management, play therapy, individual and group therapy and do some in-home family therapy for us as well.

In addition to that, the agreement provides for some coordination of services between COMCARE and Family Consultation and spells out outcomes for those services and provides state aid and certified match for the federal portion of the Medicaid funding that we get. We are asking that you approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign."

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

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

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**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, Marilyn. Next item please."

**J. DIVISION OF CULTURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION.**

**1. AGREEMENT WITH BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. FOR ADVERTISING RIGHTS AT KANSAS COLISEUM.**

**Mr. John Nath**, Director, Kansas Coliseum, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is our standard agreement form. What we're doing with Business Systems is we're doing a trade. We getting the use of a copier for the office and a color laser printer for the marketing office. In return, Business Systems is receiving valuable advertising rights and a set number of tickets per year and it's dollar for dollar value on the trade. We recommend approval."

**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**

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, "Thank you, John. Next item please."

**2. WAIVER OF POLICY TO HIRE A ZOOKEEPER AT STEP 4.**

**Mr. Mark Reed**, Director, Sedgwick County Zoo, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm asking for a waiver of policy to hire a zookeeper. The particular zookeeper, Andrew Haag, had been a keeper for five years, had to leave for a year for family reasons. He's an exceptional keeper. I'd like to bring him back at step four, which would put him equal to what he was when he left. He is . . . It has not been our policy on rehires. This man was an exceptional keeper and interacted not only well with the animals but with the visiting public and is a real asset for our organization."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "So we're actually re-hiring this individual. Is that correct?"

**Mr. Reed** said, "Yes."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Any questions or comments?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the policy waiver.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

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**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Just one comment. Bill, on . . . from now until . . . we’re looking at our budget. I’m assuming that whenever we come for a request for an additional employee or step changes or what have you, you’re factoring in where we’re at on this budgeting process so that the public doesn’t get the idea that we’re just business as usual, hire, hire, hire. Especially in light if we even have to start seriously thinking about adjusting the mill levy or something, that the public knows that what we’re doing is as fiscally responsible as possible.”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “Commissioner, we’ve always taken hires and waiver of policies and creating new positions very seriously. Since January, when it was real evident that we were in a whole new fiscal reality, we have been even more careful in scrutinizing those and reviewing those from not only a service delivery point of view but this year’s money and next two or three years’ budget. So we are paying attention to those details.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I wasn’t indicating . . . I didn’t want to indicate that you weren’t but I just thought it was very important that the public understands what we’re doing here. Thank you very much. Next item please.”

### **K. APPLICATION TO KANSAS STATE FIRE MARSHAL’S OFFICE FOR PARTICIPATION AS A REGIONAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TEAM.**

#### **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. Randall Duncan**, Director, Emergency Management, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Randy Duncan and Gary Curmode here as your Emergency Manager and Fire Chief to talk with you about regional hazardous materials response. If I can direct your attention up to the map displayed on the powerpoint display, you can see the proposal that the state fire marshal has out regarding dividing the state up into regions to be served by various hazardous materials response teams.

The concept is the state fire marshal’s office would provide us additional equipment, would purchase us additional equipment to allow that expanded area of service, plus they would reimburse us for our cost of operation outside our normal jurisdictional area. So in essence that would allow the folks of Sedgwick County to extend our good will to the counties illustrated in blue there on the chart, which would be 17 counties basically in south central Kansas.

The concept is if one of those areas would have a hazardous materials problem, there would be a

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24/ 7/ 365 number that they could call at the state fire marshal's office, explain what the problem is and then assistance could be dispatched. The reason that both Chief Curmode and myself are up here to talk to you about this today is that we want to show you the cooperative nature of the project between at least two of your departments, that is Sedgwick County Fire District #1 and Emergency Management. We'll work this issue together. You may recall, Commissioners, when you review the budget issues that our office takes care of the financial matters for the hazardous materials team.

That is we pay for the training and provide the equipment and the Sedgwick County portion of the manning for that team is provided by the Sedgwick County Fire District. So it's a cooperative project. We would both be working together on that and we think it's a good opportunity to extend our good will without incurring additional costs on the Sedgwick County taxpayer to do this.

This will be a two-part process. The first part of the process is submitting the application that we're going to ask your permission to submit today. The second part of the process will be the execution of an actual contract, which is in the process of being worked out with the Legal Department, that would cover the specific issues of how will the financial reimbursement occur and things of that nature. I know that the Chief and myself would be happy to answer any questions that you might have regarding this proposal."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, we do have one at least. Commissioner Winters."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you. Randy, is the state fire marshal's office going to ask other counties within just this blue section to participate and will they put additional resources in other counties or are we the only county that's . . ."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "The first that you have stated, Commissioner Winters, is correct. There will basically be two levels of participation. We're sending in an application to participate as a hazardous materials response team. There will be another level of participation called a chemical assessment team, or a CAT team for short. The CAT team would consist of a smaller number of people that would go out and do an initial assessment to determine if the full hazardous materials team is necessary and in that respect, yes sir, we anticipate that Cowley and Sumner County are putting together a joint chemical assessment team and there may be some others. We don't know for sure. At this point in time, the one application that has been submitted is in the red area here in southwest Kansas illustrated on the powerpoint slide, Liberal and Garden City and Dodge City basically are going together to put that initiative together. They've actually got I think their contract executed at this point in time."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Well I think this sounds like a good plan. Would we be accepted then if we accepted this money and this additional equipment then to respond to a hazardous incident any place in this blue district?"

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**Mr. Duncan** said, "Our primary response district would be within the area that you see illustrated in blue. In addition, if there were a particularly large incident that would require one district backing up another, it's possible that we might be required to do that type of response as well. For example, the blue district may have to back up the red district or whatever the case might be. There is an allowance for that in the rules of operation of the program. We think however that that's probably going to be a fairly unlikely occurrence."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "My question was more headed towards a line, say a serious train derailment in Chase County and they request us. Do we have sufficient manpower to send a team to Chase County for three or four days?"

**Mr. Gary Curmode**, Chief, Fire District #1, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yes we do, Commissioner. Basically now we have over 30 hazardous material technicians and how this would work is we would utilize off-duty people so we would not take any of our on line people that would leave Sedgwick County vacant. So, that's a key there. Secondly, if it came up to where this is a long duration of one or two days or more, we have in our operational procedures how they would be rotated out to come back and get necessary rest before they would go back on line to protect Sedgwick County. So we have looked at that. We have taken appropriate precautions and measures to make sure that no one is overworked. The nice thing about this is that it extends, again, what the Commissioners have supported in giving a lot of our talents of all our departments in the County to share with the citizens and now this is another way to share with the Kansas citizens, if you will.

We anticipate backing up, again, like northwest Kansas, that's another back up because, for instance, their Hays agreement has been approved but when you take those people away from Hays, who is going to protect the City of Hays for a long duration. So we would make sure it would be done off duty. We have a response time that we would be in route within 45 minutes to a 60 minute window and also, what is nice there's a reimbursement. Once the expenses are made, we are not out one dime and those expenses, once they're issued to the state and they're accurate, they will pay within 24 hours up to \$25,000 for those expenses. So we're not out mileage, motel, food, cost of the response. Any salaries, including . . . for instance, if I made it as a CAT team member, which did some size up because I'm also on the list, say it was a weekend and I responded, where I'm an exempt employee here in the County, the state would reimburse my salary back to the County. So we would not . . . We'd actually be paid, any exempt employees that would respond also."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Would there be a time then when we might also be the recipient of additional assistance from either someplace else, other departments in the blue area, or others?"

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**Chief Curmode** said, "Yes, that's very clearly written. Since it's brand new, there's some things that we haven't worked out yet but for instance right now we have about 150 alarms in hazardous materials in Sedgwick County a year. Now the real complex ones there's not probably over five or ten of those at the maximum, and those we will be allowed to bill for to the state where we haven't before. So now we'll have some reimbursement coming back to the Fire District that we never had before."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Okay. Sounds like a good project to me."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, I think this is just another example that we're all one family and it doesn't pay us to go off on our own and just try to figure that we're just by ourselves and everybody else are stepchildren. We're all one family and we want to be prepared that if one can help the other, it works out that way and I'm glad that it seems like the state fire marshal's office has really thought about, I think where Commissioner Winters was going, you know we want to be a good neighbor but then are we exposed to our own people here and it looks like you've responded to that. The cost issue seems to . . . It seems to me to be a very well thought out plan to protect the entire family, which is the State of Kansas. So, I like the concept. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, I like the concept too. It seems to me that the white area and maybe the green area are going to be places at risk because they just could not have the density of people or resources of people trained. The population bases are shrinking. As I talked to many of those county commissioners, they're having trouble delivering the most basic of services so haz mat training and materials training is probably low on their radar screen and this will give them a chance to have some pretty good expertise out there to help them if needed."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, and I think that's the responsibility of the more denser areas. You have to help your neighbors that are maybe in less denser areas and again, we're all in this in one boat and it doesn't make any sense for somebody sitting on one end of the canoe laughing because somebody in Thomas County has got a hole in their end of the boat. We are one family. We have more density here. We have an obligation to help neighbors that are less dense in population. That's what families are all about. Great, good work guys."

**Mr. Duncan** said, "Thank you and if it meets with the pleasure of the Commission, what we would ask you to do at this point is to basically approve the application. There's not a requirement for a signature but if you would approve the application and allow us to go ahead and submit it, if it meets with your pleasure."

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**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Application and authorize submission.

Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “We have a Motion and a Second. And let me just hazard a guess, no pun intended, I think it’s going to pass but we won’t know until we call the vote. Call the vote 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, “Well, you squeaked through on that one didn’t you. Next.”

**L. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND CLASSIFYING A CERTAIN ROAD TO THE MINNEHA TOWNSHIP SYSTEM. DISTRICT #1.**

**Mr. David Spears**, Director/County Engineer, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The homeowners association, in a portion of Crestview Country Club Estates Southcrest Addition, have requested that their private street be accepted for maintenance by Minneha Township. The street, known as Turnberry Circle, was constructed in 1985.

We had several meetings with representatives of the homeowners’ association to discuss the procedure for acceptance of the road by the public. It was determined that the road had been constructed to a public road standard. However, the adjacent owners would need to provide easements for a public street right-of-way and the Minneha Township Board would need to consent to the addition of the street to their system.

We did receive a letter from the Minneha Township Board in which they agreed to take over maintenance of the road. A copy of that letter is in your backup. Our staff prepared the necessary right-of-way deeds and easements. The homeowners’ association, as well as the adjacent owners, have signed the documents providing the required public road right-of-way and those documents are on your Consent Agenda for approval today.

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We request your adoption of a resolution accepting the road for the public and assigning maintenance responsibility to Minneha Township.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you, David. Any comments? We have a question from Commissioner Gwin, or just a comment.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “Just a comment. To reinforce what David said, this item comes to us as a request of those folks along that area. It’s not something that we forced on them. They wanted to be able to have Minneha Township maintain them.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “And then they’re going to agree to pay township dues and fees and what have you. Okay, that’s fine.”

**Commissioner Gwin** said, “They were already paying them anyway but they wanted this roadway to be a township road.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved to adopt the Resolution.

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	Aye
Chairman Ben Sciortino	Aye

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

**M. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS’ REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 18, 2002.**

**Ms. Iris Baker**, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The following items presented today for consideration are a result of the regular meeting of the Board of

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Bids and Contracts July 18<sup>th</sup>.

- 1) **PAPER STOCK- DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS/ VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS**  
**FUNDING: DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS/ VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS**

The first item today, paper stock for the Division of Information and Operations and various departments throughout the County. Recommendation is the low bid from Southwest Paper to execute a one-year contract with two one-year options to renew for an estimated annual cost of \$168,616.34.

- 2) **FLU VACCINE- HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**FUNDING- HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Item two, flu vaccines for the Health Department. Recommend the quote from Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, a value of \$29,502.

- 3) **DEFIBRILLATORS- FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**FUNDING: FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Item three, defibrillators for the Fire Department. Recommend the quote from Medtronic Physio-Control for \$34,000.

- 4) **DDBG ADMINSTRATIVE SERVICES- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
**FUNDING: GRANT FUNDED (CDBG GRANT)**

And item four, the Community Development Block Grant administrative services for Economic Development. Recommendation is to accept the proposal from Southwest Central Economic Development District in the amount of \$15,000.

Would be happy to answer any questions and recommend approval of these items.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I have to ask you the question on number four. Just explain to me, because I know that the other bidder looks about like half. I know you say it doesn’t include legal fees, acquisition fees, publication fees. Are they saying that you have to pay those but we’re not going to tell you what they are?”

**Ms. Baker** said, “No. The grant administrator usually handles those fees and this proposal did not

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provide costing information on that. By the time those fees are paid, his proposal would have been at least \$15,000 if not more.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “And does he acknowledge that he did not include those fees in this bid?”

**Ms. Baker** said, “Yes, he is aware of that.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “He’s aware that . . .”

**Ms. Baker** said, “We had the discuss . . . yes.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay. So he was going to charge us extra for these other items?”

**Ms. Baker** said, “Right.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay. Commissioner Norton.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “On number three, Iris, these defibrillators, are they replacing old ones, are they upgraded, where are they going to be stationed and used? Do you know that?”

**Ms. Baker** said, “No, I don’t know that detail. I can provide it to you.”

**Mr. Buchanan** said, “Commissioner Norton, if you will recall several months ago you approved an anonymous donation for this amount for this function. These defibrillators were purchased from the EMS contract. These are the kinds of defibrillators that are used on the ambulances. We purchased these to have our firefighters be familiarized with them, get trained on them and we are in the process of contemplating putting these kinds of defibrillators in all the fire units, including the City of Wichita and others. But this is a grant to get . . . We were given a grant to our Fire Department, for us to do training with these and to see how they would work and whether that would make sense for us to pursue. That’s the point of this.”

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**Commissioner Norton** said, "As I understand, these are the 12 hook up monitors, as opposed to the six or eight."

**Ms. Baker** said, "Yes. It's the same product as what EMS uses."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "But that's more complicated, with more hook ups than the average defibrillator. Is that correct?"

**Ms. Baker** said, "Yes."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay. Just wanted to be sure and we know we're going to . . . We're going to use these for training right now. Will they be located out in the field somewhere after that?"

**Mr. Buchanan** said, "They're going to be using them for training now and when we deploy them, we will let you know, okay, if and when we deploy."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "That's all I had."

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

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

### **VOTE**

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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, Iris. Next item please.”

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**N. CONSENT AGENDA.**

- 1. One Temporary Construction Easement and one Floodway Reserve Easement for Sedgwick County Project – Greenhaven Drainage Project. CIP# D-2. District #5.**
- 2. Twenty Easements for Right-of-Way and one Dedication Deed for Sedgwick County Project – Easements for Turnberry Circle, Crestview Country Club Estates – Southcrest Addition. District #1.**
- 3. Establishment of change funds in the amount of \$100.00 each at two Appraiser’s substations and one Health Department location.**
- 4. Contract with Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services to extend the Fiscal Year 2002 Developmental Disability Contract through July 31, 2002.**
- 5. Payroll Check Registers of July 19 and July 31, 2002.**
- 6. Order dated July 17, 2002 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 7. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of July 17 – 23, 2002.**

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

**MOTION**

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Commissioner Gwin moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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. Is there anything else to come before this Board at this time?”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “I don’t have anything.”

### **O. OTHER**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I’ll be very brief. We had occasion . . . I cooked a lot of spaghetti Friday for 192 people and they all enjoyed it very much. Thank you.

I do have to share a story. It will be as brief as I can. Those of you . . . You’re getting to know my personality. I like to have a little fun, I’m gregarious and I say things sometimes not knowing the consequence of what I say. I’m down at the senior center in Derby. One of the little ladies there . . . and I’m a member now because I qualify but one of the little ladies asked me if I was still growing my tomatoes and if I had some extra ones she’d like them because she can no longer grow tomatoes on her own. So here I am, ‘Oh, sure you can, no problem. I’ll bring some in. I’ll tell what I’ll do you one better. One of these days Mary and I will come in and we’ll just cook spaghetti dinners using my old recipe and my sauce and one of these days we’ll do that. Okay, dear?’ ‘Yes, fine, thank you.’ I go back to my desk. It was like let’s have lunch someday. There was no commitment on my part and I totally forgot I even said anything to the lady.

I’m sitting at the desk. The director comes over about ten, fifteen minutes later. ‘Commissioner, will July 19<sup>th</sup> be okay for you’. I say, ‘For what?’ he says, ‘Well, for the spaghetti dinner’. I said,

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‘What spaghetti dinner?’ I had totally forgotten I had said that. So when she finally told me that the people thought I did, I called my wife and I said here’s what I did again. And she said, ‘Okay, that’s all right. How many?’ So I said, ‘How many?’ She said ‘Oh, normally about 35’. I said, ‘About 35’. She said ‘Okay’. I hang up. Then the lady asked me, I get deeper in this, she says ‘How much do you want to charge, we normally charge between two and three dollars’ and I’m . . . magnanimous me, ‘Oh, no, no, no. I won’t charge anything. It’s free’. He said, ‘Okay, then you better figure on 150’. Called Mary again and she’s not quite as receptive as the first call.

The fix of it is we served 192 dinners. Commissioner Norton came and helped. Bill Meek came and helped. We had some really great volunteers, Wanda and Larry Gould, Greta and Jim Parsons from down there and it turned out really great. So much so that Mary and I are thinking of doing it every year. But anyway, it turned out neat. That’s it, brief as I could be, Commissioner. Commissioner McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Thank you. This Sunday is the concert in the park in Riverside starting at . . . I believe dinner is at six and the concert is at seven. And don’t ask me for any details because we have fliers but you could call our office if you’re interested in the details and I will get them. So, anyway, that’s one of the things. Riverside has been very good about having those kinds of activities in their park to keep people coming out and showing that neighborly atmosphere. Thank you.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Great, thank you. Anything else to come before the Board?”

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Gwin moved that the Board of County Commissioners recess into Executive Session for 10 minutes to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney client relationship relating to legal advice and that the Board of County Commissioners return from Executive Session no sooner than 12:00 p.m.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

### **VOTE**

Commissioner Betsy Gwin                      Aye

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

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. We are now recessed into Executive Session.”

**The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into Executive Session at 11:50 a.m. and returned at 12:00 p.m.**

There was no binding action taken in Executive Session. Mr. Euson brought before the Commission a workman’s compensation settlement agreement with Mr. Frederick Simon. Commissioner Norton made a Motion to approve this settlement of the claim, leaving the medical open, in the amount of \$25040.54, which represents a 16% permanent partial general bodily disability. Commissioner Gwin seconded the Motion. The vote was called and was unanimous.

No further business came before the Board and the Meeting was adjourned.

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

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

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**BEN SCIORTINO**, Chairman  
Fifth District

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

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

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

**CAROLYN MC GINN**, Commissioner  
Fourth District

ATTEST:

**Don Brace**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

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