

Regular Meeting, Fire District #1, August 27, 2003

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Next item."

NEW BUSINESS

A. AGREEMENT WITH GIBBS MACHINE AND TOOL, LLC PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT OF SERVICE CHARGES IN LIEU OF TAXES.

Mr. Sherdeill Breathett, Sr., Economic Developer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Gibbs Machine and Tool desires to continue receiving fire protection from Service District #1 and they will make payments, in lieu of the tax exemption that they've just received and we would ask that the Chairman be approved to sign that."

MOTION

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

Chairman Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks. Next item."

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B. AGREEMENT WITH TIM HENDRICKS FOR LEASE OF SPACE AT 137 PIRNER, HAYSVILLE TO BE USED AS A TEMPORARY MINI-STATION.

Chief Gary Curmode, Fire District #1, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We’ve been waiting for a long time for the railroad issue to kind of make full turn circle, and starting in September, they will be building that overpass in Haysville. This lease will allow us to have a temporary fire station on the east side of the tracks for approximately 12 months and allow us to make 158 calls that otherwise would have increased response time any where from four to six minutes on that side, to go around the railroad track area. I would recommend you approve the lease and authorize the Chairman to sign. I’m available for questions.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no questions. I have been by the new remodel and it looks like it’s going to be very sufficient. It’s in a good location to gain access to the east side and it will serve parts of the county and particularly parts of the county towards Derby because that’s a pretty open area. It would take them a long time to get there, had we not had it on the other side of the tracks. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Chief, do you have sufficient equipment, apparatus to put in the facility?”

Chief Curmode said, “Yes we do, Commissioner. As I mentioned, we’re going to operate that station with a squad and two firefighters, a lieutenant and a firefighter and that is approximately three to three and a half miles east of Station 34 at 71st and West, so we’ll be able to respond south to our fire district to the county line, east as Commissioner Norton said, in the fire district outside of Derby and also backup our station at 63rd and Rock and also go west. So we’re in a very good location at this point.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, good. Thank you.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

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VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters, did you have some other comments?"

C. OTHER

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, under 'Other' business, Mr. Chairman and maybe you were going to do this later, but I thought with the Chief here, maybe you could just briefly tell us about your trip to Dallas and the accreditation awards, how that went."

Chairman Norton said, "Well first of all, we think it's hot here, but it was stinking hot in Dallas that day, but it was a wonderful event. I've got to tell you, I was amazed at, number one, the kinds of things they have to do to get the accreditation and how few people around the country actually get that accreditation. So our fire district was recognized as being one of 92 . . . I think, is it 92? Fire organizations in the country to receive this certification and accreditation. It's a pretty extensive system you have to go through to get this accreditation and I applaud them.

I was there as we received it and we had many other representatives of the Fire District and I was quite honored to be able to be there and meet some folks from around the country that are great servants in this area. And Chief, you may have some more information on that."

Chief Curmode said, "Well, thank you Commissioner. And again, I'd like to thank you and my boss, the director of public safety representing the Manager's Office to be there. It is quite an honor and it's not only just national, it's international, it's the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

And it is, this year, there was actually 23 departments, in addition to the previous number that was already accredited. We're the second ones in Kansas and I guess I just want to . . . I'm so proud of the men and women of our department, because again, we got here because of them. Now the work starts now, because it's a five-year accreditation, from 2003 to 2008. It will also . . . we have to turn in annual reports to show that we're continuing to increase in the areas that they recommended in strategic recommendations and also specific recommendations.

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But what it is is basically a snapshot in time that shows how you rank among the peers of your industry. And we had five chiefs come in from all over the nation and sometimes you're lucky enough to get city managers or county managers to sit on that panel.

And I want to give some credit at this time, Jerry Harrison now retired, our assistant county manager, encouraged me in this about four to five years ago and we got into it two years nine months ago and it took that long to get it. But again, the people that we set up, we had a captain that was the accreditation manager, Larry Tangney and then we had two lieutenants that assisted him as co-chairs and then a division chief and then we had ten category leaders, ranging from firefighter to lieutenants, so we had the meat and potatoes, if you will, of our organization that were able to spearhead this and I just gave them the support, they did the work.

And again, it was a tremendous honor and again, it's kind of exciting. We're the second ones in Kansas to get it. Lenexa fire department is the only other one and I shared with my boss, basically, that Lenexa sent us a congratulatory card this week, joining their ranks and we'll be able to network with them now, as they go through the reaccreditation in five year, or four years from now and we'll go through in five years. So again, I want to thank the commission for allowing us to do it, the county manager and Bob Lamkey for their support and again, Jerry Harrison for again encouraging us to do it."

Chairman Norton said, "Well, also you can get individual accreditations also and we have some individuals in our fire district that have done that and some that are working on it right now."

Chief Curmode said, "That's correct. We have three chief fire officers. That's a chief fire officer designation program that similar to CPAs for accountants and others for other occupations. And this was a way that we could go through this and I have two division chiefs, Terry Muldan and Mike Simmons that have it and also myself and I have two to three other division chiefs that have just applied for it that are also going to go through the program. And that will take them anywhere from four to eight months to get through."

Chairman Norton said, "Good. Well, we're very proud of the organization. Just keep up the good work. And this gives us kind of a blueprint for some of the workshop discussions that we're going to have in the future. Anything else to come before us? Okay, at this point I will adjourn the Fire District meeting."

D. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10: 34 a.m.

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

TIM NORTON, Chairman
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Chair Pro Tem
Third District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner
First District

CAROLYN McGINN, Commissioner
Fourth District

BEN SCIORTINO, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2003