

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

January 15, 2003

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, January 15, 2002 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Tim R. Norton; with the following present: Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Commissioner Ben Sciortino; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Deputy Sheriff Brenda Dietzman; Deputy Sheriff Wade Grabber; Deputy Sheriff Michael Littleton; Mr. Glen Wiltse, Director, Code Enforcement Department; Mr. Mark Masterson, Director, Department of Corrections; Mr. Ray Vail, Director of Finance, Department on Aging; Major Danny Bardezban, Sheriff's Department; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Mr. Dale Miller, Acting Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department; 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.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Mr. Pete Morris of Metro East Baptist Church, Wichita.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioners, before we start on the official agenda, I think maybe it would be appropriate to welcome our new colleague Dave Unruh. You come at a very challenging time, but I've known you in the past and you've never been one to shirk from a challenge and in a way it's an opportunity to maybe get some of your proven business executive principles interfaced with government you know. You can't run this like a business but we can certainly use some business disciplines to make it maybe perhaps run more efficiently. So I'd just like to officially welcome you to the Bench and think you're going to be a big asset to us. And I think we have some other commissioners that want to embarrass you publicly for the first time. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I'm just anxious to hear his ten-point curriculum for what he's going to do in the next year. Isn't that what he does for this period right here?"

Commissioner McGinn said, "Oh, we forgot to tell you."

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Commissioner Norton said, "Oh, yeah. Did you get that in your training?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "I didn't get it. Everyone has been kind until now."

Commissioner Norton said, "I really just want to welcome you Dave. It's an honor to have served with you and we're really looking forward to having your experience on the bench with us."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I would echo that too, Dave. Welcome, we're glad you're here. I think you've already hit the ground running and it's going to be a fast pace here for a while, so congratulations officially. I'm sorry I was not able to be at the swearing in Sunday. We were out of town this past weekend. But again, officially, congratulations."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you very much."

Commissioner McGinn said, "And I'll just say welcome and I know we all look forward to working with you."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, thank you. May I?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "Dave, you know the one thing you'll find out, nobody can stop you. Flip your light, please. Okay, yes Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to say that I've been very warmly welcomed and I very much appreciate that and I look forward to serving with you all. It's an honor and a privilege to be here and I am optimistic that we will find creative and positive solutions as we move forward. So thank you for the welcome."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, call the next item please."

AWARD

A. PRESENTATION OF THE 2002 CHAIRMAN'S AWARD.

Chairman Sciortino said, "I'd like to beg your indulgence. I'm going to step down to the podium to handle this item."

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Commissioners, first of all I want to let you all know that I've thoroughly enjoyed my time as the Chairman of the Sedgwick County Commission. This past year has been filled with many exciting and challenging items that have come before us and I think we've done a credible job in resolving those events.

However, I don't think there's anything better for a chairman than having the pleasure to identify the recipient of what has been called the Annual Chairman's Award. In 1988, we established this award as a way of recognizing groups or individuals that have made a difference through their service to Sedgwick County and to our community. Some of the past recipients have included the Sedgwick County Fair Association, the Physical and Mental Disability Advisory Board, Dick and Bill DeVore Foundation, the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Committee, Team Justice, the Sedgwick County Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board and last year the McAdams Neighborhood Economic Development Coalition.

As commissioners, we deal with numerous issues that affect the citizens of Sedgwick County, from public safety to health issues. I for one made it a point when I was elected to make the services that Sedgwick County provides more accessible to the citizens. I feel that this year we have made big steps in accomplishing this. Many groups throughout Sedgwick County have contributed to making this goal possible but one in particular has been dedicated to making our citizens safer, the services of Sedgwick County more accessible and has helped to educate the public on numerous issues.

Because of all their efforts in these areas, I am pleased to present the 2002 Chairman's Award to the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department's Community Policing Unit. I would now ask the following individuals to come forward: Sergeant Brenda Dietzman, Deputy Wade Graber. Now this next fellow I got a special interest in because of some information I find out about his family, but Deputy Michael Littleton and last but not least Deputy Marty 'Elvis' Morland. I have to say, I want to embarrass Deputy Morland publicly. He is a very talented Elvis imitator and if we ever have a show or an event, we need to recruit him to entertain us.

Among the number of services that Sergeant Brenda Dietzman and the Community Policing Unit provide there are a few services that they have provided to one area in particular that, in my mind, should be recognized and these are the efforts that this unit has made in the Oaklawn area.

Recently, the Community Policing Unit has been working on the development of the Oaklawn Community Resource Center. As a matter of fact, a few years ago they were actually the nucleus of getting this idea from conception and evolving it into completion. When completed, this center will provide recreational, health and educational opportunities for the citizens of this area. In addition, this unit has initiated the SCORE program in the Oaklawn area, which matches Sheriff's Department employees to children through Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

This group has also been very involved with the Oaklawn National Night Out Celebration, which

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generally draws around 300 people from the community. This celebration promotes positive contact between law enforcement and citizens.

One last service among the long list that I would like to mention is the involvement Community Policing has had with Operation Holiday this past season. Through their efforts, they were able to collect and deliver more than 100 bicycles, as well as food baskets to families in need. A number of these were given to families in the Oaklawn area.

Though I have only named a few of the services which the Community Policing has provided, I would like for all the citizens in Sedgwick County to know that this entire community is a better place to live because of the efforts of these four individuals. They are committed to a better, safer environment for all families and I want to tell each and every one of you how pleased I am with your efforts and dedication to making our community better and I'm very honored to present you with the 2002 County Chairman's Award. Congratulations."

Sergeant Brenda Dietzman, Sheriff's Department, said, "Wow, thank you. I guess I've always thought that how valuable an award is based on the level of competition and there's a lot of deserving people in the community, as well as just in Sedgwick County. There's a lot of good competition for this, I guess. So it's a very valuable award.

I guess, as long as I'm up here and I've got the microphone and nobody can stop me right now, I guess I'd like to kind of reflect some of this back on you as a Commission. I've had the privilege of working with most of you and I'm sure, Commissioner Unruh, time is short there with us as well. I'm sure we'll work together. We appreciate how well you work with us, how you communicate with us and most of all that you let us do our job and when we do it, you respect how we do our job and our opinions, which is incredible because we're closer to the bottom of the totem pole than we are the top and it's nice to have leaders, not only you, but our supervision as well, that respects what we do and how we do things. So I appreciate that. It's very valuable and it makes us want to work harder. So I appreciate that. Thank you very much."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I've never hugged a Sheriff's Deputy before. Gentlemen, would you like to receive the award and if you want to say something, feel free."

Deputy Wade Graber, Sheriff's Department, said, "I want to thank the Commission. It's quite an honor. Community Policing Unit is a wonderful experience that I've been able to enjoy. It's something that you don't have a lot of time, as a regular beat officer, to get down on the ground level with these folks in the community and get to know everyone on a personal basis and it's been a wonderful experience and thank you very much for this award."

Sheriff's Deputy Michael Littleton, Sheriff's Department, said, "I didn't expect this when I came up here so I just want to say thanks to everybody and Community Policing and our supervisors and

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thanks. We'll keep up the good work for you guys."

Sheriff's Deputy Marty Morland, Sheriff's Department, said, "Thank you. I want to kind of give the same sentiment. We sure appreciate everything. I'd also like to thank Deputy Hank Cocking. He did most of these things that were on here and he just kind of moved on to the K-9 Unit. I know you all know him. He went to the dogs. In fact, he traded me for that. And I appreciate Ben embarrassing me, at least over the Elvis. At least he didn't get me on the golf swing, because that's kind of embarrassing too.

But I'd also like to thank Sheriff Gary Steed because without his leadership and his help for this community we wouldn't be able to do this, so thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, Deputies, I just want you to know that your name, the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department Community Policing has been added to the plaque that we proudly show in our commission office, so that all the citizens will know that you've been the recipient of this year's award.

And just in closing, I want to say that these four individuals are a tremendous reflection of our Sheriff's Department because they are proving that police can be proactive, not just reactive and just one example. I embarrassed Deputy Morland. I'll embarrass Sergeant Dietzman. I'm driving back from Derby one day and we're coming up K-15 and I see a squad car is parked on the shoulder of the road and Sergeant Dietzman is up there picking up trash, envelopes and letters that . . . I pulled over and I stopped and I couldn't believe that she was just that concerned about the looks of our street that she would stop and pick up some trash. You're a tremendous reflection to the entire department. Congratulations."

Commissioner Winters said, "Mr. Chairman, we have a couple of comments up here. Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I just want to say thank you for all that you do. My district has a lot of neighborhood associations and they do work with community policing within the city limits of Wichita and I know that in Ben's district, Oaklawn has made great improvements because of this community policing and the dedication that you guys have had.

I've had the opportunity to work with Sergeant Dietzman on a couple of issues and we're onto a new area now, but we'll talk about that one later. But one, about a year ago, we started had to do with illegal dumping and she's the one that's kind of taken the lead on that and that's probably why

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she was sorting through trash because we're trying to find the people who are doing those kinds of things and we are actually out there catching those people and prosecuting them. So, I'm glad that we're making some progress in that area.

But anyway, mostly I just want to say thank you for your service, thank you for your dedication and thank you for caring, because I think community policing is so important to our communities because they're in touch with somebody that can make a difference. So, thank you for your service to Sedgwick County."

Commissioner Winters said, "And I would just add, I think the Chairman has done an excellent job in selecting you all to receive the chairman's award. I'm fully appreciative of that. It feels good to us to know that we can call someone in your department to help solve what seemingly are sometimes small problems but can escalate into real potential problems for neighbors; and I certainly appreciate all of the work that you've done in District 3. It's been very important to me. So, thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "So many times we think of police and fire and sheriff as serving us only at those really tough times that are critical, where somebody has been hurt or whatever. But you know, it's a real mark of people that can be in the trenches every day working with citizens where it's not flashy, where it's not cool, where there's not sirens flashing and sirens going, that you're making people safe and feel comfortable in their neighborhoods; and I think that's the mark of what you've done with Community Policing, because it's not all about the big things. A lot of times it's the little everyday kindnesses and connections that make our community better. Granted, you still have to do those other things, but it's those things down there that can be pretty boring and mundane and everyday that citizens really connect with and I appreciate that. Thank you."

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

Commissioner Unruh said, "I would just like to add my congratulations and appreciation for the work that you all do. You have made us proud of you and we respect what you do. So thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And you know, one other thing just in closing, this type of a unit that goes out into a community breaks down the barriers of fear and distrust. You get people to know that, number one, you're human beings, that you care, that you can have fun and in a time of crisis

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maybe those individual citizens will have less concern about approaching you, because without citizens participation, you can't do your job nearly as effectively. So, congratulations to all of you. Thank you.

Clerk, would you call the next item please.”

PUBLIC HEARINGS

B. CODE ENFORCEMENT.

1. PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, 2000 EDITION, AS AMENDED.

Mr. Glen Wiltse, Director, Code Enforcement, greeted the Commissioners and said, “What we have on this one is the adoption of the new international building code. In the past six to ten years, some of the major code groups have put together a code that is being used as a document throughout the United States. It's not exclusive to the State of Kansas or Sedgwick County. There's also another code that's being developed that we have not reviewed and it's called the National Fire Prevention Association; but maybe in the near future, in the next three to five years, it may be developed to where the State of Kansas accepts it.

But, this adoption mirrors almost exactly what the City of Wichita uses. There are some unique changes, because of requirements, that are not truly conducive to the county on some of the commercial buildings for maybe like fire sprinklers and that type stuff. But, the trade boards have approved what we've submitted to you today, which means the contractors are comfortable with it. There is an increase in the building permit fees. They have not been raised in approximately four years probably. There's also an increase in the contractor licensing fees. From what we've found, we can't find a record where they've ever been increased since the inception in the '80s some time. So, we're still same price or cheaper, basically, than what the City of Wichita and cheaper than quite a few of the surrounding communities also. So, we're recommending the adoption of the International Building Code.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “All right, thank you. Commissioners, any comments or questions? Well, I would now at this time open up the public hearing and accept public comment on this item. Is there anyone here in the audience that would like to speak to this item, either for or against or any

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comments whatsoever? I'll close the public hearing and leave the remainder of the remarks at the Bench. Commissioners, any comments? If there are none, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

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

2. PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2000 EDITION, AS AMENDED.

Mr. Wiltse said, "This is a code that is required to be adopted along with the International Building Code because in the past both codes were in the same what was called the Uniform Building Code. In this new set of rules and regulations they've pulled the residential sections out of the building code and placed it in a separate code by itself. So, it's just part of the International Building Code but it's a different set of documents. And once again, this has been approved by the trade boards and the Wichita Area Builders Association."

Chairman Sciortino said, "All right, thank you. We do have a question or a comment. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Glen, this is the 2000 edition. Has there been, since that's started, has there been any major changes or amendments in that?"

Mr. Wiltse said, "There will be a 2003 edition coming out. The reason why it's taken so long is it's taken a long comfort period for basically everybody to get comfortable with this code and probably, within a year, we'll probably start looking at the 2003 code. There probably will be some

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changes, but I don't think we've seen the document yet."

Commissioner Norton said, "Is that something where we adopt the whole code or we can pick and choose things as the new things come on line to add to it? Is that protocol, or do we usually wait and adopt the whole . . .?"

Mr. Wiltse said, "If there's a particular issue that becomes a problem out in the field we can amend our code at any time to address those issues. We do not typically amend every time something new comes out. But, if there's something that really needs to be changed, we're always open to that and the boards are open and all that. And we attend monthly meetings with the Wichita Area Builders Association, so if there are issues, we're going to know about it real quick."

Commissioner Norton said, "Has the city already adopted these resolutions for these two codes?"

Mr. Wiltse said, "For these two, yes."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. What about the small cities? Do you know?"

Mr. Wiltse said, "Some have, some haven't. Now, the ones that we have contracts with basically will be using our codes and they've been notified of what we're doing quite some time back."

Commissioner Norton said, "Do you already have the code books in hand where you can actually start accessing and using the information?"

Mr. Wiltse said, "Yeah, we've had those for quite some time. We go through a lengthy process, actually, along with the City of Wichita during the reviews and there's approximately probably 30 to 40 people that sit in that process and it's contractors, engineers, probably architects, there may be developers and all that, so it's not just my staff that looks at all of these changes. It's looked at very extensively throughout the industry."

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. I don't see that there's any other comments to the presenter at this time, but this is another public hearing, so I'll open up the public hearing and accept any public comments on this item. Seeing none, I'll close the public hearing and reserve the remainder

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of the comments and action to the Board. Commissioners, what's the will of the Board on Item B-2 please?"

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

C. RESOLUTION AMENDING THE MANUFACTURED HOUSING CODE IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF SEDGWICK COUNTY.

Mr. Wiltse said, "This again is one of our codes that we use very extensively. We meet with the Sedgwick County Manufactured Housing Association group. Typically, they meet once a month and either myself or my staff almost always attend those meetings. We've . . . They review everything that we . . . they have reviewed everything that's being presented today, as far as changes. There's a fee increase on that, but the body of the code has relatively stayed the same and they're agreeable and have no problems with what's being presented today."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioners, any comments?"

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the Resolution.

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Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you very much, Glen. Next item Madam Clerk.”

D. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES.

1. GRANT APPLICATION TO KANSAS JUVENILE JUSTICE AUTHORITY FOR FUNDING OF THE “GOING HOME” PROGRAM, A SERIOUS AND VIOLENT OFFENDER REENTRY INITIATIVE.

Mr. Mark Masterson, Director, Department of Corrections, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Happy to be here this morning with some good funding news. We have an opportunity, through this grant application, to partner with the state and receive \$375,641 for a new Juvenile Justice project to be implemented over the next three years.

The project is federally funded by the Department of Justice and is titled the ‘Going Home’ program. Their purpose is to improve the success of the Juvenile Justice system by strengthening services to young offenders who are making the transition from correctional facilities back into the community. This is a federal initiative that is underway with young adults in all 50 states.

Our role in Sedgwick County is to partner with the state Juvenile Justice Authority in providing these services to approximately 75 juvenile offenders a year returning from correctional facilities to the 13th, 18th and 19th Judicial Districts from the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Facilities.

Three staff will be hired for the community transition phase, two communities reentry facilitators and one long-term support specialist. All of these staff are to improve the release planning coordination and transition to the communities and to bring about mustering and coordination of local resources to really facilitate the support of these folks to make a good transition back to the

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community.

If approved, the project will begin right away. It's been in the planning phases for quite some time and it's kind of been on hold, sitting to wait and see how the state situation resolved. Three grant positions that are currently vacant will be transferred to this project, so there will be no additions to the staffing table and recruitment will begin right away if you approve this.

We plan to have services up and running during March and no local cash match is required to accept these funds. At this point, I'll be happy to answer any questions."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I think we have some. I believe Commissioner McGinn was first."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Explain to me the staffing again. You'll move them from another area that's not used? I mean, are these people we currently have?"

Mr. Masterson said, "No. These are not people that we currently have."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, and so is this in any way going to be in jeopardy because of the state situations?"

Mr. Masterson said, "No, it is not."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, so it's secure."

Mr. Masterson said, "It's secure."

Commissioner McGinn said, "And the people will follow the grant."

Mr. Masterson said, "If you approve this, procedurally, you won't have to add any positions, any new positions to the staffing table to do this. Currently vacant, unfounded grant positions will be moved into my department to be able to recruit for this project."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Before we go, let me . . . I'm a little confused of that. We have unfounded grant positions in our budget right now?"

Mr. William Buchanan, County Manager, said, "If you will allow me."

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, let me finish with the question. You say there was no new positions, but that we would be moving personnel from somewhere to somewhere; but then I heard you say these people aren't on board yet and I'm a little confused. If you could clear that up for us."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Because of the new financial position that we're in, I've talked to various department heads and division directors about not creating any more positions, despite whether they're grant positions or not, let's try to determine a way in which we can use existing positions or existing people to fill in those situations. We have, throughout the organization, positions that have been not filled for a couple of weeks, for a couple of months, for eight or ten months. Some department heads are using those vacancies to accumulate money, to purchase equipment, purchase other things. So, what we're doing is saying we're not going to create any more. We're going to live with it, with what the existing staffing table says we have and we're going to use this as an enterprise system. We're going to take positions from here and put them over there and we're going to try to serve the public in a way that makes sense without growing the number of employees."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I got that. So let me just put it in kitchen English. There's an unfilled position that's waiting to be filled in Public Works for example, that position would be used to fill this. What about the money that's in the budget for that Public Works? Does that money then come back to our general fund?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "We're going to rake that too, rake that into the . . ."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, I understand. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Mark, is this new money or is this money that's going to be repackaged and is similar to what we had in other grants, but it's just repackaged as a new grant application?"

Mr. Masterson said, "This is new money. The federal initiative provided an opportunity for states to apply for \$2,000,000 each. In Kansas, it was decided at the state level that \$1,000,000 would be available to juvenile offenders and \$1,000,000 for adult offenders; and so, there are programs set up through both of those state agencies.

The adult offender piece, it was decided to do a project up in Shawnee County. On the juvenile offender piece, the \$1,000,000 is divided to do a project in south central Kansas and a project in northeastern Kansas; and so, that's our piece of it."

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Commissioner Norton said, "Is this flow through money from the feds through the state?"

Mr. Masterson said, "Yes it is."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Describe some of the lost funding and programs that you've had to change with the new reality and describe if this fills in any of the gaps that were created; or is this kind of new ground, it's a new place to spend money, but we're still left with some of the problems that were created by the new economic realities. Does that make sense?"

Mr. Masterson said, "This is really an area focus on strengthening a weak area, release planning and the transition to the community. We have folks in our juvenile field services that provide the supervision, the basic supervision, but we don't have folks that go out into the community and really coordinate the service providers, the resources, set up mentoring opportunities, those types of things to really work closely with the institutions to be sure there's a good plan in place while the offender is still at the correctional facility, that the hand off to the community is a smooth hand off with a plan, that its implemented, services are in place, mentors are in place, those sorts of things and then there's a long term plan to be sure that there's an appropriate level of follow up with that person to increase the chances for them to be successful."

Commissioner Norton said, "Have we not condensed and changed some of our juvenile programs though recently in this area?"

Mr. Masterson said, "Yes, we have."

Commissioner Norton said, "Does this kind of supplement that or help get back where we were a little bit?"

Mr. Masterson said, "It's not going to replace the community based services on the front end, which is where we've really taken our hits in losing the day reporting programs, which is an alternative to going into residential placements, a less costly type alternative. Those are gone and so this doesn't replace that, but it certainly addresses a need that's been needed to be addressed for a long time."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I just think it's important that the citizens know we've lost some programs and some abilities to take care of juveniles and keep them whole and this may not . . . it will help another area, but it's not going to make us whole on those other places, is that correct?"

Mr. Masterson said, "No it's not."

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, thank you. Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you. Mark, this looks just a little bit like what we're starting to do with the adults on the reentry with our reentry task force, as far as getting people back into the community, but more at the juvenile level."

Mr. Masterson said, "Exactly. These are resources to accomplish the same types of purposes, the release planning and mustering community resources. It's exactly what's going on, but these are actually the resources that are needed to carry it out."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Right, but I think that's going to be part of that whole discussion and I think what you were talking about a little bit in the other programs is trying to keep people from even being here and now we've got to make sure they're successful once they get back out."

Commissioner Norton said, "A little shift in emphasis."

Commissioner McGinn said, "It is, so I'll be real interested in hearing more about this. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Just one comment to kind of compliment the County Manager. I see his footprints in here, this creative way of filling the positions and actually augmenting the general fund and you're to be complimented on that, because if I just heard you right, if we get this grant we're going to be able to accommodate all the requirements of the grant and still save the citizens some money. There's a potential and I think that was very creative. So, thank you very much. I don't know that there's any other comments. I don't see any. So, what's the will of the Board on D-1 please?"

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to approve the Grant Application and authorize the Chairman to sign all necessary documents, including a grant award agreement containing substantially the same terms and conditions as this Application; and approve establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

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Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

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

2. AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING TO ADMINISTER AND PERFORM THE DUTIES OF A RESIDENT SERVICE COORDINATOR FOR WICHITA HOUSING AUTHORITY.

Mr. Ray Vail, Director of Finance, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here to present an agreement between the City of Wichita and the Sedgwick County Department on Aging to provide the resident service coordinator for the Greenway and McLean Manor Senior High Rises. The city receives the funding for this grant through HUD. The agreement has been approved by both the Legal and Finance Departments and I ask you to approve the agreement and authorize the Chair to sign; and I'll answer any questions that you have."

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

MOTION

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

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

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

E. AGREEMENT WITH PREFERRED MEDICAL ASSOCIATES, INC. TO PROVIDE MEDICAL SERVICES TO SEDGWICK COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY DETAINEES AND DETAINEES HOUSED IN OTHER COUNTIES.

Major Danny Bardez Bain, Sheriff's Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "As an aside, Commissioner Unruh, I'd like to extend my official welcome and am looking forward to working with you."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you."

Major Bardez Bain said, "Commissioners, I'm here to ask that you approve the renewal of a professional services agreement between Sedgwick County and Preferred Medical Associates. Preferred Medical Associates provides the medical services to the Sedgwick County Detention Facility and this agreement also has an addendum to cover inmates housed out of county. As you're aware, per statute, the Sheriff is required to provide medical services to the detainees in custody. This agreement is the renewal agreement and provides medical staff on-site, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for the detainees. The amount of the contract is \$1,866,165 as approved in the 2003 budget.

In addition, the addendum that is attached covers inmates housed in outside counties at the rate of \$1.15 per day per inmate. This addition covers PMAs' expense of screening and managing the inmates housed out of county which would fall under our responsibility and this addendum is not covered in the original contract. If you have any questions, I'll be glad to entertain them at this time."

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Chairman Sciortino said, "I see we do have a couple of questions. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. Major, I think it is important again for the public to realize we think about all the costs associated with detention and I think it's always amazing that here we're going to spend at least \$1,800,000 on the health needs and health care of people that are in our detention facility. Just one of those things that seems like is an incredible number, but is again one of those cost expenses that the county bears as we detain people in our detention facility.

The only thing I wanted to, again, clear. We really have a three-year agreement with these people that we renew each year and this is the second year of that renewal. Is that correct?"

Major Bardezbain said, "That is correct. This is the second year of a three-year contract."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, very good. Well, I'm going to be supportive of that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Now the impact actually is around one mill in tax dollars so it's a pretty substantial expense to us."

Major Bardezbain said, "Yes it is."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I guess one of my questions has to do with people that are housed out of county. When that proliferates and there's more of them, do they subcontract with local physicians to provide that care? What's the mechanism?"

Major Bardezbain said, "For the most part, they do. Most inmates we send out of county we try not to send out inmates that have some type of medical need, but because of the overcrowding we don't have that luxury. So, we do send out inmates with low-level medical needs and mainly they keep in touch with our facility, our medical providers to maintain the level of care, but there are times that emergencies arise or something. They will need to take them to their local providers but, for the most part, they are under our jurisdiction, our care, if I've answered your question."

Commissioner Norton said, "Yes. I guess the other one is maybe just a hypothetical, but people that come into the jail that already have medical insurance and maybe even a company plan, can that not be accessed and billed back or do we have to provide the coverage?"

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Major Bardezbain said, “No, by statute we have to provide it, but we are exploring that avenue where we can recover some of our costs in treating inmates.”

Commissioner Norton said, “It would just seem like that they don’t give up their citizenship and all their rights and everything. They’re just being detained. Many of them not even gone to trial yet and their medical access would still be . . . unless they have a clause in their medical insurance that says they can’t get care while they’re . . .”

Major Bardezbain said, “In particular, what you’re addressing is a preexisting condition and most of the times that is covered by their own personal insurance.”

Commissioner Norton said, “As we’re looking for cost savings, that just appears to me to be something that we would want to explore.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Because this is an expense that is pretty substantial to us.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Yes it is. That’s all, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Any other questions? I don’t see any, so what’s the will of the Board on this item please?”

MOTION

Commissioner 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.

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye

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

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

F. KANSAS COLISEUM MONTHLY REPORT.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Topic of today's report is of course the past month, December of 2002, but I want to visit a little bit on the past year, kind of like review the year a little bit. We had a pretty good year and there's reasons for that and we'll visit why and we'll talk a little bit on what a good year at the Coliseum means to our community."

The first week of December we got right into it. Martina McBride, who is a Kansas native, brought her Christmas show to the Coliseum, very well received. They were very happy. In fact, we're talking about bringing her back again for next year.

Went right into Arrowsmith the same week, one of the top ten touring bands in the country, great show. Had nearly 8,600 people in attendance. Of course that's not all we do with concerts. We do Worldwide Paint Horse Congress, which is one of our larger horse shows during the year."

Chairman Sciortino said, "That one on the upper left is a Paint too?"

Mr. Nath said, "They're all Paint. In fact, you could have a solid colored horse that would be considered a Paint. I learn something new every year."

Chairman Sciortino said, "A solid colored horse is considered a Paint?"

Mr. Nath said, "It can be considered a Paint."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Great."

Mr. Nath said, "Sports zone, of course we do a lot of sports with the Thunder and W.S.U. Six games in December and five games with the Shockers."

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Revenues, our revenues are split. As you can see, concessions accounts for the largest revenue piece of the pie, 37%. Select-a-Seat, 21%, people are now going more and more to the phones and the Internet and using the convenience of staying at home and buying their tickets. Nine percent through our advertising, which is becoming a larger portion as we get more and more commercial and corporate partners at the Coliseum.

But, it's been a good year. Attendance, 15% over 2001 increase. Operational revenue, now these are just event-driven related revenues, up 26% over 2001. Now the big question that comes up, why? Why do we have this big increase? Of course W.S.U. playing at the Coliseum has some affect on that, but it's not the big effect. The big effect is concerts. We had nineteen concerts in 2002. We may do on an average year ten, maybe twelve in a good year. We had nineteen. We had three of the top ten tours of 2002 and they have all been very high profile tours. Cher is number three. Now, of course, Cher has decided to come back and visit the Coliseum again. The second show is selling just as well as the first. We're very pleased with that. The Aerosmith tour in the country was number seven, in terms of gross number of shows, and of course, the Eagles at number ten.

It's interesting to note, 2002 the average ticket price was \$40.25 because we had some really high-profile shows. 2001 the average price was \$30, so we had a 33% increase in average ticket price, but look what you got. And Pavarotti is not figured into that.

In May, we did a report on Conventions and what visitors' impact have on our community and this is right from the Wichita Business Journal. We do three of the top ten conventions every year: Boat, Sport and Travel Show, which is coming up next month, the Equi-Fest and the State Wrestling Tournament. Using the same kind of figures that we used back in May, using the room nights equated with those top three conventions, those three of the top ten and looking at 20% of our yearly attendance being from outside of our market area, Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing says that a visitor spends \$45 a day in the community. We know that 140,000 people were outside the area because we survey and we monitor every parking lot and we look at the license plates and see where these folks are from. Using their calculations, estimated direct visitor impact six and a half million dollars just in direct spending. We have not factored in some of the other room nights, the other smaller horse shows that we use every year, so that figure is higher than that; but we can definitely verify and quantify these figures. So, that does have a definite impact on our community. If we have a good year the community has an impact from that.

Coming up, we have the U.S. Hotrod Thunder Nationals this weekend. Next weekend, the Wrangler Pro Rodeo, Sesame Street Live returns in February. Of course, the Sport Boat and Travel Show, we have the State High School Wrestling Tournament, and in between all those yearly

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recurring shows, we have plenty of basketball and Thunder hockey. So, if you're looking for something to do, we have quite a menu over the next month and a half. I'd be happy to answer any questions that you would have at this time."

Chairman Sciortino said, "John, what is conspicuously absent is the reason we did so well was because of the dynamic director that we have."

Mr. Nath said, "Of course I'd love to take all the credit. We were pretty lucky on some of the shows, but one of the things that really helps us is that when we signed the new concessions agreement we created a promotions fund and we can participate in the risk now without public dollars, that's important to note, with the promoters and they are more anxious and more willing to bring shows."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And we have noticed a substantial increase in advertising revenue too. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "You kind of set a new precedent for concerts. Where do you go this next year? Kind of give us a heads up."

Mr. Nath said, "I wish to say we could have a better year, but we don't control the inventory. We don't control who is going to go out on the road. We just try to capture them when they're out there touring. We're in there pitching for every tour. We are pitching for the Rolling Stones. We're pitching for McCartney. We've got Cher back again, so we've had some success. We've got some good relationships with Clear Channel and some of the other promoters out there. I hope we have a pretty good year. We'll see. If I had a crystal ball, I'd be in Vegas."

Commissioner Norton said, "It appears to me that Select-a-Seat will continue to be a revenue source and stream and maybe more capacity needs to be built into that. Where do we fit into that as Commissioners, in helping you take that to the next level? Because, I think there's some powerful things that can be done there."

Mr. Nath said, "Very interesting that you should mention that, Commissioner Norton. We are, as part of our technology budgetary planning processes, looking to upgrade our mainframes as it were with the Select-a-Seat system. We've got some old technology there that's really doing the job for

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us, but there are better ways that we can do that, certainly a lot more efficient ways; and we're going to be looking to that and that's going to require an investment in hardware, but we have the software. We have the system in place, we have the relationship with the outlets and the Internet is really, really starting to take off."

Commissioner Norton said, "Is your location and space at the Coliseum adequate for what you're going to try to do? It always appears to me that that's pretty small and they do great work out of a pretty limited area."

Mr. Nath said, "Well, it helps when everybody gets along when you're in that tight of a space. We would like to expand the front of the room, but we just don't have the room to do it right now. The mainframe is housed in the Old Courthouse in the computer room and they do a lot of the backups and things for us, but we really need to get some newer equipment."

Commissioner Norton said, "Is that something, as we have the dialogue of what to do with the Coliseum in general, that needs to be built into that dialogue or is that a separate issue?"

Mr. Nath said, "Well, I think the ticketing situation will be part of the upgrade to the Coliseum. We currently run two separate locations for box office and it really makes it a little cumbersome on event nights when people come to pick up their tickets. We could certainly have a better service plan to meet the customers when they come out to our building. That will be part of that dialogue."

Commissioner Norton said, "Awesome job. We're looking for bigger and better things next year."

Mr. Nath said, "Thanks, I think."

Commissioner Norton said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair."

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

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to receive and file.

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Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

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

G. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS’ REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 9, 2003.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The Board of Bids and Contracts held a regular meeting on January 9th and that resulted in two items today for consideration.

**1) ADA RENOVATIONS AT MURDOCK TAG OFFICE- FACILITY PROJECTS
FUNDING: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT**

First item is ADA renovations at the Murdock Tag Office for Facility Projects. Recommend the low bid including the alternate from Descon Incorporated for a grand total of \$36,218.

**2) FIRE EQUIPMENT FINANCE LEASE PROGRAM- DIVISION OF FINANCE
FUNDING: FIRE DISTRICT**

And the second item today fire equipment finance lease program for the Division of Finance. Recommendation is the proposal from Koch Financial Corporation to execute an agreement for a fire equipment financing master lease program based on the proposed rate index.

Recommend approval of these items and would be happy to answer any questions.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Iris, I don’t see that there are any questions. So, Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board please?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

H. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Agreement with Susan Brewer, M.D. to provide psychiatric services to COMCARE consumers.**
- 2. Plats.**

Approved by Public Works. The County Treasurer has certified that taxes for the year 2002 and prior years have been paid for the following plats:

- a. Heritage Baptist Church Addition
 - b. Arnold's 1st Addition
 - c. Bentley Meadows Addition
- 3. Budget Adjustment Request.**
 - 4. Orders dated December 18, 2002 and January 8, 2003 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**

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5. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of January 8 – 14, 2003.

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Commissioner Winters, you have a comment on this.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Mr. Chairman, I’d like for us to take the Consent Agenda without one item.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item H-2c.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you very much. Now, Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Mr. Chairman, I do not mean to bring up the re-discussion or the re-debate of this item. When we had this zoning case in front of us, we had a good discussion, a good debate. The zoning change passed four to one. I was in the opposition. I just intended on voting no on this plat to be consistent with that. I do not intend to re-discuss this, so that’s the reason that I asked for that to be pulled. I intend to vote no on a motion to approve this, but again, I do not mean to reinstate the debate.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Commissioner McGinn, I believe your light was on next.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Well, I plan to discuss it a little bit more, just one area of this whole

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thing and that has to do with the road situation. Last August, when we discussed this, one of the concerns that constituents had had to do with the type of road that led to a development and I know, as we look at community systems, I think we've all decided that the systems out there are very good. They do help small communities grow. And talking about community systems, I guess to clarify I'm talking about the sewer systems part of that. But the other part that we talked about and was to me really not addressed to make me feel comfortable as we go move on in the future with these kinds of developments has to do with the type of road. And Dale Miller, I see that he's here and Dale, would you come up, because I want to talk about this issue just a little bit and get some clarification for some future developments. We may not be able to do anything about this particular one. But I know when I look at the Minutes back in August, what we I guess decided to do was to provide AB-3 cover with gravel on 135th Street to take care of some of the higher density that's occurring out there. And I guess I thought I had asked that . . . was there any time from the time we approved this to today approving the plat, would we have an opportunity to have input on the road and I guess we don't the way we currently have our subdivision regulations right now.

And I guess, Dale, the reason I want to ask you this question is what do we do in the future if it's the will of the Board to have the same requirements that Wichita has, that if you're going to do a development that's say a quarter mile, a half mile outside of a community we want the developer to build a road. And I believe Wichita has that standard, but the county does not."

Mr. Dale Miller, Acting Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department, said, "Correct. Currently, there's language in the subdivision regulations that require a higher level of paving than what this site would be required to have if they're located within three miles of the City of Wichita. The most equitable approach would be to have us look at the subdivision regulations and go through a process and amend those and change the standards so that they're uniform to whatever standard they need to be and everybody has advanced warning of what the requirements are."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I was looking at some subdivision regulations and they may be dated and so they might not even be current, but it says 25,000 square feet up to an acre for City of Wichita. Is that correct?"

Mr. Miller said, "That's correct."

Commissioner McGinn said, "And this plat, we're looking at one-acre lots and in the future we may even be looking at half-acre lots and so I would like to see us explore that as a County Commission because I know, like I said, I think we've taken care of the sanitary sewer part. I think we have some great systems out there but I don't believe we're properly addressing the higher density on the roads and the burdens that we're putting on the people that have to take care of those roads.

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So, I don't think I can do anything about this particular one but I would like that for future consideration. I guess the question I was going to ask is can we do anything about this particular one or are we too late?"

Mr. Miller said, "I'd defer to Legal, but it's my understanding that essentially what you're doing is approving or adopting, accepting the dedications and the standards themselves are described in the code and it's my understanding that that's not up for negotiations as part of the platting procedure. We'd need to open that up as an amendment to the subdivision regulations and go through the proper hearings and adoption procedures."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to have that discussion and it's something that I think we seriously need to take a look at for future development."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, thank you. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was not in on the discussions that were held last August and this issue seems to have some important aspects to it that, if I could make the request to defer it so that I might be brought up to speed before I need to make a vote on it. But I am reluctant to slow down the process. I'm the type of person that doesn't like government to take forever to make a decision but I'm not aware of the issues related to the roads and to waste water and to fresh water supplies, an important decision like this. If possible I would like to defer it for another week so that I would have the opportunity to do that investigation."

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to defer Item H-2c for one week.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion for discussion.

Chairman Sciortino said, "Go ahead, Commissioner. We have, really, with all due respect Dave, we have really wrestled with Bentley and massaged it and squeezed . . . I understand that you're on board and this is your first time, but we have really labored over this a lot and I, for one, would like to see us go forward. I really identify with Commissioner McGinn's concerns and that's a separate issue and I'd want to look at some of the things that you'd like to do on that because I think they're appropriate. I think staff could bring you up to date on this. If you felt uncomfortable on voting on

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it you could abstain, but to me we've really played with this Bentley Addition. I don't know what else could be said about it that we haven't already said. I wouldn't be supportive of deferring it but naturally I'll submit to whatever the will of the Board is. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "The only comment I would have, Commissioner Unruh, is we did have a good thorough discussion. If it had been a two-three kind of deal and maybe there was some issues to re-debate I would think a deferral may be appropriate. It was clearly a four to one vote. I mean I was clearly the only one that was saying no. So it wasn't like it was a nip and tuck vote. I lost. So the only thing I was going to say is if you would really like to defer it, I would be willing to do that. But again, I don't think it's going to change the outcome. I think the outcome is there, so I think moving ahead today is not a problem with me either."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "And I guess to help Commissioner Unruh, there really were two focal issues and that had to do with roads and sanitary sewers and Tom, I think, would even share that he was comfortable with the packaged sewage systems that we were putting in. I think, and I don't mean to speak for you, but I think Commissioner Winters, part of his issue too had to do with density and we haven't had that discussion yet and that debate and I think roads as well.

I am willing to move forward with this today as well. I just, knowing that Tom was going to bring this up, I wanted to also bring up and go back and check the record that I wanted to enter into the record that we have this discussion and debate about paving to the first entrance of future developments. And we may not be able to do anything. It sounds like I can't do anything about this one today and so I'm comfortable with moving forward with this item."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, if . . . It's obvious the will of the Board is to move forward and I will . . . I can withdraw my motion, if the second withdraws and we don't need to go through that protocol. If it's obvious that we're ready to move ahead, I'll defer to the wisdom of the Board."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. So you're withdrawing your motion."

Commissioner Norton said, "I'll withdraw my second."

Chairman Sciortino said, "You're withdrawing your second. Okay, did you have another comment, Commissioner Norton?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Just that even though I seconded the Motion, I think I'm really in

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support of moving forward on it if we've had adequate discussion at least at this point, for Commissioner Unruh, I think we could move forward and I'll vote for it. I think, as I've described before, some of these issues we're dealing with, this one and some others in that area, are going to profoundly change how we look at roads, density, comprehensive plan and we do need to be very smart about how we talk about it and what the vision is going to look like for the future; and hopefully, Dave will get plenty of new information that will help on the next discussions that we have on this. It is important. I feel comfortable we can move ahead on this one, because we've had good dialogue; but, I think there's going to be two or three other issues coming before us real soon that are going to have some implications much like this and I know Carolyn is working on those already."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, I appreciate Commissioner Unruh, you withdrawing your motion. Mr. Manager, I'd request that Mr. Unruh be given all the backup data on this as quickly as possible so he can get up to speed on it.

I'd like to now take . . . I'll try a motion."

MOTION

Chairman Sciortino moved to approve the Consent Agenda Item H-2c.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, "Is your light on again? Yes, ma'am."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I just want to have on record, and I think I've made it clear, but I'd like to direct the Manager and Dale Miller, if that's appropriate, that they get with us right away and we can talk about the change in the subdivision regulations."

Chairman Sciortino said, "All right. I concur with that too. So, thank you. All right, Clerk call the roll on this item please."

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Tim Norton	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	No
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye

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Chairman Ben Sciortino

Aye

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

Commissioner Winters said, "Mr. Chairman, before you start the next item, which will be your last item of your official work . . ."

Chairman Sciortino said, "You don't have to relish that."

Commissioner Winters said, "We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your work as chairman this past year. You know, there's several things that kind of, I think, come to mind when we think about your leadership this past year and one of the things you did mention earlier in the meeting today is the attempt to make services more accessible to all the citizens. We've clearly heard you talk about that many times. You've certainly been a very strong advocate for your district. We all know exactly where Derby, Oaklawn and Mulvane are; and you've also worked hard for the citizens in Wichita, also, that are in your district.

We appreciate your leadership as we had the discussions with the City of Wichita on Emergency Medical Services. Your delving into that, I think, was very helpful. We've appreciated your input on the budget adjustments that we're in the process of implementing and we've heard your commitment to make sure we do not reduce essential services. We've all heard you talk about that in our discussions.

Today, I think you've finished off with an excellent Chairman's Award to Community Policing. I think we all would say we don't believe you could have picked a better group to give that award to. On the lighter side, we remember watching you struggle to renew your car tag on-line and we about all died up here waiting for you to get that accomplished, which was . . ."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I don't surf the net very well."

Commissioner Winters said, "Which was an interesting event. In hindsight, it wasn't too funny the day one of the friends of one of your campaign opponents wore his tee-shirt through the meeting room. That was not very fun, but hindsight, we can have perhaps a bit of a lighter view of that. We've all heard too much about tomatoes and we're not going to be sorry that we have to quiz every new employee if they want to play softball with us. So we're not going to miss those, but we do appreciate your leadership and so, on behalf of the Commissioners, I would like to present you with this plaque and say thanks for your leadership."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, thank you very much Tom. Well, I have really thoroughly

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enjoyed my time here as the chairman of the board and we've had a lot of challenges in 2002 and I'm extremely confident that we'll have a lot of challenges in 2003 and the one thing that I've really appreciated working with all of you is that we look at a challenge as an opportunity to prove our worth to the people that elected us and we've never shirked a responsibility that I can tell, we don't hide from controversy, we try to resolve it as best we can, in hopes that the citizens will appreciate our efforts. And I look forward . . . I think we're going to have a lot of opportunity to prove ourselves this next year, but I really do appreciate the kind words that you said, Commissioner Winters, and the one thing that I will not miss is all the additional pieces of paper that you have to sign and, as many of you know, in November I had some shoulder surgery which made it quite difficult for me to sign papers and Betsy Gwin, who has left the bench now, became known as Betsy Gwinfor because she was Vice-Chair and she would sign it 'Betsy Gwin for the Chairman' and she did all my signing for two months.

I'm really scared to do this, but Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Well, I agree with all of Tom's comments and I couldn't have said it any better."

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

Commissioner McGinn said, "But I also personally want to thank you because every day you remind me to take my blood pressure medicine and it's because . . ."

Commissioner Norton said, "He causes most of the blood pressure, doesn't he."

Commissioner McGinn said, "No, it's because of the passion that you have on issues and you have not avoided issues and you jump right in and you do a very good job, Ben and we appreciate it. I mean, EMS is a perfect example. You stayed the course and it was not just because it was a challenge. It was because you felt very passionate about we provide top quality EMS in this county and we've done a good job and we continue to do a good job and we have good people and we appreciate the work that you've done on that.

There's been other situations. There's never a dull moment and a lot of times a surprise. I always share that Ben reminds me of a person that always turns over a rock and says 'What's this?' and because of that we learn things and we challenge ourselves and think about how we do government around here and so, I sincerely want to thank you for all your time and your energy that you've done this last year. You've worked very hard and diligently, so thank you."

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you, Carolyn. It was very much appreciated. Commissioner Norton, higher road, right?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, you've vowed . . . that's one of the things I was going to talk about and that's listening. I have some different ideas about government and how we approach it and we've had some strong conversations about that and I appreciate that you've listened to an opposing view, a different idea about how we do things. I don't know that mine were right, but they were certainly different and I appreciate you being so open and honest to listen to some differing viewpoints. I think that's important, as we collaborate to slog around in what we call delivering good government, because it's not always easy. There are differences of opinion and you've really brought that to a very high level for me and I really appreciate it.

I am kind of struck though that you started your comments for the first time since I've been on the Bench without saying the words 'BS'. Generally, you always start your conversations about 'I'm a little Italian guy with initials BS' so, it would surprise me that you didn't start your conversation . . ."

Commissioner McGinn said, "So is that like a thank you."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I think that is a thank you that maybe you're changing your spots as you transition. And finally, I'm looking forward to the next year and I hope that you keep your candy dish full, because that has become a mark of your office, as you were chairman this last year, that the candy dish was never empty and it always had good candy in it."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And we now have air-popped popcorn too. Well, I want to thank you, Commissioner Norton, because with you I have learned a lot. I've learned what the heck empirical data means, curmudgeon and I can't remember all those other multi-syllable words that you come up with, and you've brought a real meaning to item 'other' from our bench and actually you have. I mean, and that's just something that I've learned and we all learn from each other and I've learned a lot and thank you for those kind words. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, Mr. Chairman, Ben, I have had the opportunity to observe your leadership from a little different perspective, as a citizen. A little bit more of a long distance view and I would tell you that from our observation, as not being one of your colleagues until just recently, . . ."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And half your family, I found out, lives in my district. So anything you

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want, pal.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, I just want to second the comments that have been made and tell you that I’ve appreciated observing how you’ve led the board and I appreciate the help you’ve given me in the short time that I’ve been officing down the hall and appreciate it. Look forward to working with you for the rest of my term anyway.”

SELECTIONS

I. SELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SERVE AS CHAIR DURING 2003.

Chairman Sciortino said, “Great, thank you. Well, I think it’s time to end this love fest and move on to the next item, but thank you all very much. We’re at the point in our meeting here where it’s time to select one new member of our board to serve as the chairman for 2003 and I would like to perhaps make a Motion that we vote in Tim Norton as our next chairman for 2003. Tim brought to us a wealth of knowledge and experience from his time as Mayor of Haysville. He is a settling influence on me. He has always taught me and has tutored me on taking the higher ground and on patience and sometimes I’m being reminded of two buzzards sitting on a tree and I turn around and said, ‘Patience heck, I want to kill something’ but he has taught me a lot and I think he would make an excellent commissioner and I would like to present his name in nomination.”

MOTION

Chairman Sciortino moved to nominate Commissioner Tim Norton as Chairman for 2003.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Congratulations, Tim. This is just a temporary one. There will be a better one coming up, but I found this in my drawer some place so I wanted to hand that to you."

Commissioner Norton said, "Now, is this smaller than your gavel or is it larger?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "Tom said he wants a felt thing put on here so that the taps would be real wimpy, as opposed to mine. Congratulations."

Commissioner Norton said, "Thank you very much."

J. SELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SERVE AS CHAIR PRO TEM DURING 2003.

Chairman Sciortino said, "And the second part of business is that we have to select another member of our board to serve as the chair pro tem for 2003. So, I'll open the nominations."

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to nominate Commissioner Thomas Winters as Chair Pro Tem for 2003.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, "I have a Motion and a Second. I want to take another time to say something about Tim [sic]. When I first came on the Board, I looked to the leadership, you know, being the freshman on the thing and Tom was able to really kind of give me some direction, because sometimes you can go off on a tangent and he's been one that can kind of pull you into the center, very quietly. He doesn't get angry. I've only seen him turn red twice. Most of the times he accepts things and just calmly gets us sometimes in the proper direction and I think he would be an excellent choice."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Well, I agree with your comments. I think the fact that when you go down the hall Tom is in the middle there is very appropriate."

Chairman Sciortino said, "That's right, he's right in the center. All right, if there are no other comments, Clerk we have a motion and a second, Clerk call the roll."

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Congratulations.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Is there anything else to come before this board at this particular time? Commissioner McGinn.”

K. OTHER

Commissioner McGinn said, “Are we on ‘other’. Well, I would just like to share for our audience here today and those viewing at home, we have a big weekend coming up; and Monday is a holiday, but it’s not a day off, it’s a day on and it’s Martin Luther King celebration. Saturday is the Martin Luther King parade. It starts at 12:00 at McAdams Park and we’ll probably go down 17th Street to W.S.U. At 4:00 on Sunday at the Orpheum is the Kansas African American Museum’s event for Martin Luther King celebration and the director, Eric Key, generally always has a good program and an excellent speaker and that starts, if I haven’t said it, at 4:00 and is usually a couple of hours.

Then on Monday is the Ministerial League Martin Luther King celebration and that is out at the Metroplex and I’m not sure of the time on that. It generally starts around 11:00 on that too. So, we’re getting to where that facility is just about full and would like to see it full. They have an excellent speaker coming to that as well. So, if you’ve never gone to one, I encourage you to go and see what it’s all about. Generally, it’s been great music, it’s been great speakers and lots of things to think about. So, it may be a three-day weekend for some, but it’s also a three-day weekend that’s full of activities and a great thing for our community. Thank you.”

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

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I would echo what Commissioner McGinn has said. It is a wonderful celebration and if you haven’t gone out to the Metroplex, just for the music alone, it’s incredible. I mean, the powerful voices of that community rising up to tell a message is just wonderful to participate in. And there’s many other events, but I’ve been to that one and it is pretty powerful music and pretty powerful day.

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I did want to just comment that I was in Topeka this weekend. I went to the inauguration ceremonies. I'm excited with the prospects that we've had to work in collaboration with the new government in Topeka and it was a wonderful celebration. It was done on the cheap. I ate the buffalo meatloaf and believe me, it was done on the cheap."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I'd hate to be the chief for that."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Naw, you put ketchup on it, it's a cuisine."

Commissioner Norton said, "But it was a wonderful experience and I'm energized for the possibilities that we have and I know that it's going to take strong leadership from Sedgwick County to help the state solve their problems, because we are the largest county with the largest city and we've got to be engaged in delivering solutions to the state and not leave it just on their plate to do, because we all . . . I think Ben makes the analogy that it's real easy to laugh at the guy at the front of the boat dipping water until you realize you're in the boat too and we've got to realize that. That we need to take the strong leadership role to help Sedgwick County, the City of Wichita and the REAP Organization for South Central Kansas, help the state get through the next year and a half, two years. That's all I've got."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Anything else to come before this board at this time? Before we close, I just want to let everyone know we are going to have a reception over at the Manager's boardroom to honor our newest member on the bench. So please . . .and the new Chairman and the new Vice Chairman, and naturally honor the outgoing Chairman. But then there's a lot of cake and I don't know what all we have over there, but please come over. It will be a nice event.

If there is nothing else, this is my last time to be able to do this, and I love it, this meeting is adjourned."

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

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

Regular Meeting, January 15, 2003

TIM NORTON, Chairman
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Chair Pro Tem
Third District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner
First District

CAROLYN McGUINN, Commissioner
Fourth District

BEN SCIORTINO, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2003