

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

April 2, 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, April 2, 2003 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Tim Norton; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Commissioner Ben Sciortino; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Ms. Nola Foulston, District Attorney; Mr. Jim Weber, P.E., Deputy Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. Joe Norton, Gilmore & Bell, P.C., Bond Counsel; Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Division of Community Development; Mr. Brad Snapp, Director, Housing Department; Mr. Darryl Fox, Director, Animal Control; Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging; Ms. Peggy Baker, Supervisor Communicable Disease Clinic, Health Department; Dr. Tim Rohrig, Director, Forensic Science Laboratories, Regional Forensic Science Center; Mr. Joe Brunk, Director, Noxious Weeds Department; Mr. Kolin Anglin, Supervisor, Bureau of Public Works; 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

Ms. Valerie Starr, President, Wichita Area Library Association.
Ms. Kathy White, Volunteer, Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center.
Mr. Lee H. Woodard, Attorney at Law and Chairman of the Sedgwick County Law Center, LLC
Mr. Tim Witsman, President, Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce.
Ms. Naomi Adam, The Mediation Center.

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.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, March 19, 2003

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2003.

Chairman Norton said, “What is the will of the Board? You have the Minutes before you.”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2003.

Commissioner Unruh 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, “Before we move into proclamations, I wanted to take just a minute to congratulate all the elected officials around the county that have gone through the process and were elected and to also give my appreciation to those that offered up their name and ran and fought the good fight but weren’t elected, but were in part of the process. Because I think that’s important, as we try to slog through these tough times that we do have people connected and are willing to put their names and reputations on the line to run for public service and I congratulate all of them and appreciate all those that did run.

Clerk, call the next item.”

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

PROCLAMATIONS

A. PROCLAMATIONS.

1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 6 – 12, 2003 AS “NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK.”

Chairman Norton said, “I’m going to use my glasses today, because I’ve got so many proclamations and by the time I get to the third one, I won’t be able to see them.

I’d like to read this proclamation into the record.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, our nation’s libraries are modern community centers for education, information and entertainment and play a vital role in providing millions of people with the resources they need to live, learn and work in the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, libraries are changing and dynamic places and librarians are the ultimate search engines, helping people of all ages find the information they need in print and online. In a world that’s information rich, librarians and information smart, and help ensure a society where everyone is information literate; and

WHEREAS, libraries are places of opportunity and are part of the American dream. They are a place for education, self-help and lifelong learning. And, because they offer free access to all, they bring opportunity to all; and

WHEREAS, libraries bring you the world. Libraries are unique. In person, Online. Where else can you have access to nearly anything on the Web or in print as well as personal service and assistance in finding it; and

WHEREAS, librarians are the ultimate search engine. They are trained experts at finding information in all formats for people of all ages and more individuals must be recruited to the profession of librarianship to maintain its vitality in today’s changing workplace.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 6-12, 2003 as

“NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK”

in Sedgwick County, and encourage all residents to take advantage of the wonderful library resources available and thank their librarians for making information available to all who walk through the library’s doors. Dated April 2nd, 2003.

And I would entertain a Motion.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Sciortino 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, “And Valerie Starr is here and she is the president of the Library Association, so Valerie.”

Ms. Valerie Starr, President, Wichita Area Library Association, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you very much, Mr. Norton and County Commissioners. Yes, I’m Valerie Starr and I’m the current president of WALA, the Wichita Area Library Association and I’m very honored to be here this morning to accept this proclamation from the County Commission.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

I'm joined by some of my wonderful colleagues here from, not just Wichita, but also Sedgwick County as well. Cindy Burner-Harris, who is Director of Libraries for Wichita Public Library. We also have Betty Cattrell, who is director of the Haysville Community Library, Judy Bennett, who is director of the Derby Public Library, Kendra Mork, who is director at the Goddard Public Library and we also . . . representing another side, outside of publics, we have Rita Seevert from Newman University and also Betty Batton and Max Burkson of Friends University. I am also at Friends University.

And National Library Week is starting this Sunday, April 6th through the 12th. We would encourage everybody to come out and see what's going on at your library. I know Betty Cattrell in Haysville has some really interesting activities going on, with people reading throughout the day. And I believe, Mr. Norton, you're going to be there yourself as well. You're always an avid supporter of that. And so, we encourage everyone to support your library, support your librarians, especially now when economic times are really tough and people have layoffs, the one place that everybody is welcome is the library to go to and when you can't afford the Internet access at your home, you can always get it at the library, to go there and that's where people can go and do job searching, help with resumes as well, help from librarians. You know, it's free of charge. It's open to everyone. So, it's really important that libraries remain a vital and supported part of our communities during this time, to provide support for everyone and I want to thank you again."

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Val. Don't run off. I think we all know that we've gone from an agrarian society to a manufacturing society to an industrial society to a technology society, now to an information society, and where better to build that capacity but in our libraries throughout the county and the nation. So, we're very pleased to put together this proclamation for you today.

And I will be reading at the Haysville Read-a-thon. I always read at midnight on Friday night and I always read *The Raven* by Edgar Allen Poe. It was one of my favorites as a kid and they've offered me that time slot, I'm not so sure because I like the time slot but because nobody else will take it. But I always read at midnight, because it's really a good time and I do have some fans that show up every year to hear me, so it's pretty gratifying. But thank you very much for being here today. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I just wanted to say thank you for all the other librarians and those associated with libraries for showing up at our meeting this morning. I mean, it says a bit about your commitment to the jobs that you do and, I mean, we're all very appreciative. When I first saw this proclamation, I really didn't think too much about it. But now that I've heard the proclamation and have seen the support of these folks that have come to our meeting, I certainly wish you all a great, successful week of promoting your libraries and best success in the future."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Do you think we all should go down and support our Chairman at

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

that midnight reading?’

Commissioner Winters said, “No, I don’t think so.”

Chairman Norton said, “But you know, there are other time slots available that I’m sure Betty would slot you in, if you decided you’d like to read.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I wasn’t going to go either, Tom. I just didn’t know if you thought it was a good idea.”

Chairman Norton said, “Ben, somebody’s already got *See Spot Run*. I guess there’s no place for humor at the Bench. Clerk, call the next item.”

2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 6 – 12, 2003 AS “KANSAS CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioners, I’d like to read this proclamation into the record.

PROCLAMATION

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, as a nation devoted to liberty and justice for all, America must increase its efforts to protect, restore and expand crime victims’ rights and services; and

WHEREAS, volunteers from all walks of life are joining forces with victim service programs,

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens throughout Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas and America to observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 6-12, 2003 as

“KANSAS CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK”

in Sedgwick County, and recognize Kathy White, a tireless volunteer for the Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center since 1998.

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to adopt the Proclamation 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 Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “And Nola Foulston is here to accept.”

Ms. Nola Foulston, District Attorney, greeted the Commissioners and said, “To accept this proclamation, I appear before the Board of County Commissioners and I thank you for the recognition by this proclamation for this week as Victims’ Rights Week. But I know this Commission has always considered every single day of the year as a day that looks after the rights of victims in our community. So that this is one special week where we pay a little bit more attention and try to get a little bit more out to the public about those individuals who have worked within the criminal justice system to assure that the constitutional rights that they have are noticed.

I want to tell you a little bit about Kathy White. And we have . . . when I started as a prosecutor,

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

back in 1977, we worked tirelessly to bring victims into the courthouse. And when you talk about over the last 20 years, we have come a very long way. We have a constitutional amendment in our state, which we didn't have when I started as a prosecutor and now we have, if the word is appropriate today, embedded within the office of the District Attorney, individuals who are victims' advocates and the commission has been so kind as to recognize their necessity here in our own courthouse to have a space to be placed in their own location, so that they can be accessible to individuals and that is a very important idea by the Commission and very important to all of the members of the judicial system who have access to our victims' advocates.

But one special advocate that has been nominated this year is Kathy White. And Kathy works for the Wichita Sexual Assault Center. We work, daily, with members of the DUI Taskforce, with Parents of Murdered Children, with the YWCA, with Harbor House and other agencies within our community. But Kathy White is one of those people that you wish you could clone. And volunteerism has slipped off over the years and it's something that we need to continue to promote. But she's been with WSAC since 1998 and she has been committed to working with victims of violent crime in the sexual assault area. She has worked with individuals, with their families, and she's been consistently committed to that cause. We have always been able to count on Kathy and her willingness to help.

And these are individuals that are in our office, or come to the courthouse to help with our case coordinators to be an extra person there, to go to court with these people, and to assist our staff in making the transition through the court an easier or more helpful experience for victims who have suffered very, very traumatic situations.

Kathy has served WSAC for almost 1,400 hours and each one of those hours has been filled with a very special person, willing to come to the aid of a stranger. And Kathy Williams, who is the executive director of WSAC at this time is very proud to have her as a WSAC volunteer.

And I'd ask Kathy to come forward. She didn't think she was going to, but I'm bringing her up here. And I want to thank you, personally, for all the work that you've done. And you're a little nervous. She's not used to crowds, but I want you to meet her, commissioners, because she is an important person within the criminal justice system and this is a rare person, because . . . She's hyperventilating, but she's also a volunteer that spends time with people that need the help and she does it because she loves to help her community and those special people that need her help."

Ms. Kathy White, Volunteer, Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center, said, "I wanted to say thank you very much for the recognition. I also do want to say that I think it's very important for any

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

community to have active volunteers who are committed to different roles and that there's always a volunteer activity out there for you, if you go out and find one that you have an aptitude for or a liking for, there is a need in the community for that and it's important that we always do that. Thank you."

Ms. Foulston said, "I want to thank you, again, for the proclamation and also mention, as we have in the past, this Saturday at Towne East Square there's two things that are going to go on. One is the Easter Bunny, and Commissioner Sciortino, don't go that direction."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "What direction? I'm not doing anything. Why am I being picked on? I'm a victim."

Chairman Norton said, "Kathy, come up here. Ben's feeling victimized."

Ms. Foulston said, "Commissioner Sciortino comes out every year and Commissioner McGinn comes out every year, because we have a celebration at Towne East who is good enough to allow us to bring in many of these groups and organizations, Parents of Murdered Children, Harbor House and we have a Kid Care program, where we fingerprint the children for their parents, and we work with the Fraternal Order of Police. We got a small grant through LLBG so that we could, thank you Mr. Manager, because we got some money to be able to facilitate that program so that we can photograph children and make sure that they're fingerprinted, not in a bad way, but in a good way. So, we have all these things going on. At around 3:00 we will be unveiling the new poster, that you will love I can assure you, by our fabulous artist, Marianne Birch, and I want you to be there for that if you can and to meet your constituents that will be there and, Commissioner Unruh, since you've not been to this, I think it's a good opportunity if you have the time. And that day, I'll be running in the MS Walk in the morning and then we have our Victims' Celebration and then later on I have an arthritis thing, so my day is pretty packed.

But I'd like to see you out there to meet your constituents, if you can, and to shake their hands and be prepared to say a few words, because I always call on you and, if you get a few words in, I think it's real important and to meet some people and tell them . . . and let me tell them what our Commissioners do for our community and I'm very proud, because you've all been top notch in the way you support people, the community and the criminal justice system. So, anyone is invited. We offer your attendance and we have some little gifts for the kids, but if you want one, we can probably arrange it. They're little things to put on your wrist. They're little slap bracelets. You can have one, Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Nola, would you tell us the times again, that you're going to be out."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Ms. Foulston said, "It is at Towne East Square, and as I say, I'm not kidding, you know where we were, by the food court, well the Easter bunny is going to be there. So, I didn't want you to go there and see an Easter bunny and think you were in the wrong place. We're going to be right in front of Dillard's at Towne East and we'll be there from 1 to 4. At approximately 3:00 will be the unveiling of the poster and, as again, we will have those posters available. There's usually 250 printed, plus a number of postcards and we will make those posters available to you and if you have any schools or libraries that you wish to have them sent to, we will give you a number of them. They're pretty rare. We're looking right now, the artist is attempting to figure out where to donate the original to and I'm telling you, it's incredible. So, please be there and if you're not there, I'll deliver the posters to you here, but they go to high schools, they go to grade schools, they go to libraries, for our librarian that was here and they're just lovely and they were done without tax dollars, so I thought you might like to know that as well and they'll go to the victims' organizations. So, I would appreciate seeing you there and it is fun and the kids are all over the place with stickers all over them, and we'll all be out there."

Chairman Norton said, "Excellent. Thank you. And thank you, Kathy, for coming today too. We really appreciate it."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And get with me after the meeting, because I need some help here. These people are picking on me."

Chairman Norton said, "Clerk, call the next item."

3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 6 – 12, 2003 AS "NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioners, I'd like to read this proclamation into the record."

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1867, the county of Sedgwick was established, with the primary functions of judicial services, road maintenance and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, county officials keep citizens protected and our community thriving. And over the 133 years, Sedgwick County has grown to over 450,000 residents, five County Commissioners now represent the citizens, and the services Sedgwick County Government provides have increased

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

dramatically; and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County provides a wide range of services, including: emergency services, programs for the physically and mentally ill, recreational and cultural attractions, community development and environmental protection programs, services for the elderly, infrastructure through roads and technology, correctional programs for adults and youth, and many internal support functions; and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County leaders are committed to improving the communities where our citizens live, work, play and raise families and Sedgwick County builds partnerships to meet many of the most challenging needs and ensure a high quality of life for all; and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County continues to be the citizen's local government voice, providing solutions that bring communities together;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 6-12, 2003 as

“NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK”

in Sedgwick County, in recognition of the innovation and quality public service provided by the employees of Sedgwick County. Dated April 2nd, 2003.

And I'm going to ask Tom to receive this and make some comments for the County. But I would entertain a Motion first.”

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh Aye

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

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

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Mr. Chairman, I'd accept the proclamation, on behalf of all of the employees of Sedgwick County and county employees all over Kansas. We're members of two larger organizations, the National Association of Counties, which is a nationwide organization and the Kansas Association of Counties, which is members of almost all of the counties in the State of Kansas. And we're pleased that these organizations focus on a week in April to recognize all the work that counties do.

And part of the recognition, for the last couple of years, has even stemmed after the events of September the 11th and the horrendous events in New York City. It became very apparent, all across the country, that county employees are clearly on the front lines of security for our citizens. So, on behalf of all the employees of Sedgwick County and of other counties, we're proud to accept the proclamation and we look forward to the activities of the week of April 6 through 12. So, thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Any other comments? Okay. I have an Off Agenda item I'd like to take, before we get started. I see Lee Woodard is here to handle that."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Thomas Winters	Aye

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

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

OFF AGENDA ITEM

LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SEDGWICK COUNTY LAW CENTER, LLC AND ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE WITH BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SEDGWICK COUNTY LAW LIBRARY, INC.

Mr. Lee Woodard, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Sedgwick County Law Library, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you. We’re asking the County to enter into a lease with us. Premises that have been recently purchased and are owned by an LLC that we formed. And the reason for this, and I have to give you some context, is that the County has a statutory requirement of providing space for a law library, once it’s established, which it has been established. And the space can either be provided in the courthouse or someplace outside the courthouse, unless the trustees elect to release the county from that obligation, in which case the county then pays us, this may come as a surprise, \$5,000 a year. And it releases you from all obligation to supply employees and so on.

We have operated that way since 1920 and we, basically, want to continue to operate this way. But there has been a possible issue that has arisen with respect to sales tax, once we bought this building and we started to remodel it and the building we bought just recently is the Executive Center on the 200 block of North Market. We’ve never paid sales tax, ever. We consider ourselves a political subdivision and have never paid it. None of the other libraries, law libraries in this state pay sales tax, to the best of our knowledge. I, personally, talked with Judge Steven Lieben of the Johnson County Law Library and they don’t pay sales tax, but they’re all located in the courthouses and it’s pretty clear that they are exempt from sales tax.

We would like to enter into this lease with the County. We’ve purchased the premises. It’s owned by an LLC. The County would lease it and then assign the lease to us. This would help us, in the event any question later arises as to our liability for sales tax. We, in the lease, have a provision that we will fully protect the County, in the event there is any such liability later on down the line, or we’ll protect you against anything else whatsoever.

So, that’s it. Oh, we do pay real estate taxes. All we want to do is continue to operate as we have since 1920.”

Chairman Norton said, “Okay. I don’t see any questions.”

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Commissioner Sciortino said, "I have one. I think I have one of Rich Euson. Is that okay at this time?"

Chairman Norton said, "Sure."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Rich, are you comfortable with the protections that are in the agreement do indeed give us the protection in case anyone brings a lawsuit against us about maybe not payment of sales tax or anything, that we've got the protection we need here in the agreement?"

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, said, "Yes, I am. We've reviewed this agreements and made some changes to them and we're comfortable that they do indeed protect the County."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Lee, this doesn't require any further financial obligation on the County. Just maintains what we've been doing and it just establishes a framework, whereby the tax exempt status is maintained."

Mr. Woodard said, "That's correct. That's the whole purpose of it."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay. What is the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the lease agreement and the assignment of lease, subject to final approval of the County Counselor's Office; and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Commissioner Sciortino 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, Lee, for being here. Thanks, Trish, for handling all this for the County, appreciate it.

Clerk, call the next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

- B. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CREATION OF A ROAD IMPROVEMENT BENEFIT DISTRICT IN SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS AND AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS THEREIN (BENTLEY MEADOWS ADDITION).**

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. Joe L. Norton, Gilmore & Bell, P.C., Bond Counsel, greeted the Commissioners and said, “For your consideration today is a resolution which would establish the creation of a road benefit improvement district in a portion of the County known as Bentley Meadows Addition. That addition is depicted on the screen before you, on the map located south and east of the City of Bentley, at approximately 135th Street West and 109th Street North.

The County has received a petition, signed by the owners of 100% of the property of this proposed benefit district, requesting that the County create the benefit district and pave certain streets to rural standard bases and assess that property back for the cost of these improvements. On the screen before you now is a plat map depicting the layout of this particular addition. There are 37 lots. The petition requests that the assessment be made equally per lot for the cost of the street improvements

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

on the interior streets within this addition.

Public Works has prepared an estimate of costs of these improvements. The total project cost line is the important one. That's \$398,869 as their estimated cost of the project. When divided equally among those 37 lots, that would be a principal component of approximately \$10,780 per lot, or if paid over a 15 year period at an estimated 6% interest rate, about \$1,100 per year in special assessments.

We have reviewed the document, in conjunction with the County Counselor's Office, and recommend them for your approval in proper form today, as you desire, to create this district and authorize the improvements to proceed. Mr. Weber is here, I believe, and he or I could answer any questions you may have or Mr. Spears."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are these paved roads?"

Mr. Norton said, "At the current time, I do not believe so. These would be paved, suburban standard, under the petition request, open drainage."

Mr. David Spears, P.E., County Engineer/ Director, Bureau of Public Works, said, "This will pave the roads. Doing this, the roads will be paved and it will be paid for by special assessments within the benefit district. This does not include the road getting to the subdivision. It's just the ones inside the subdivision."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Have we ever done anything about the roads from the first paved road in these kind of subdivisions?"

Mr. Spears said, "Jim is working on a . . . Well, with Dale Miller. Jim, you may want to address that, please, and they have drafted something and have, in fact, have presented it to the planning commission and he can address that."

Mr. Jim Weber, P.E., Deputy Director, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, "At this point in time, there is not a policy that requires the pavement of roads to a subdivision like this one. Inside of the three-mile ring of the City of Wichita, there is a requirement for urban-scale plats that they pave the section-line roads out to that subdivision. We did draft an amendment to the subdivision regulations and that was presented to the subdivision committee two meetings back,

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

about three weeks ago, and they deferred action on that. They want to talk some issues over with that particular thing.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay. Well, I think too, I know that City of Wichita does that, but as we have these types of systems, particularly as they exist as a community system, as far as the sewage treatment and those kinds of things, I see that in the future that they may develop around other communities and I think we also, not just the planning commission and their staff, I think we also ought to talk to some of the small cities and see what their interest is, whether they would like to see a road paved to the first entrance to the development. I guess I’d hand that back to you that I think we do need to seek their input from the small communities as well, and not just the planning commission.”

Mr. Weber said, “And I appreciate that and would like to work with you and try to figure out how to best accomplish that.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “And I know that the builders, Wes Gaylon in particular, had some concerns and questions and I visited with him a little bit and asked him to come up with some solutions and ideas and I have not heard back. So, thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “This will not include curb and gutter, total urban standards. It will only be . . .”

Mr. Weber said, “This is a rural standard, which is 24 feet of six-inch asphalt pavement on six inches of stabilized sub-grade and open ditches. So there won’t be any curb and gutter. That standard is based on the lot sizes in the neighborhood. This one is not actually required to do pavement. They could do sand streets, but they have elected to go ahead and provide pavement inside the subdivision.”

Chairman Norton said, “Okay, good. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Just two quick comments. One, I’m glad to see that. I mean, that will certainly improve the quality, I think, of this development that I haven’t been really enthusiastic about. Second is just to Jim, if that discussion gets hung up in Metropolitan Planning Department I’d appreciate it if you’d bring that to our attention, if that’s going to languish and not move out of their subcommittee.”

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Mr. Weber said, "Okay."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. That's all I had."

Chairman Norton said, "I see no other questions. What is the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Unruh 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, Joe. Clerk, call the next item."

C. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

- 1. AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE BUSINESS RETENTION, EXPANSION AND ATTRACTION SERVICES.**

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Division of Community Development, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is the sixth annual agreement we’ve had to maintain a partnership with the Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce for economic development services. Those services include business expansion, retention and attraction. The Chamber staff are very often the first point of contact for business seeking to expand in or move to Sedgwick County.

The agreement provides specific performance measures, such as an estimated number of new jobs and an estimated number of retained job. In summary, I think that we can categorize the economic development services in two categories. One is hunters, who they’re out there trying to find businesses that are expanding or willing to relocate to the communities and gardeners, nurturing those that are within the community and helping them grow.

Today we have Tim Witsman, President and CEO of the Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce and Dave Wood, Economic Development Director. If you have questions, and Tim, I’m sure you have a few words to share.”

Mr. Tim Witsman, President and CEO, Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce, said, “No prepared remarks. I won’t say very much. Congratulations on County Government Week, as someone that’s worked in that, I certainly have an appreciation for the role the county plays and the important work that’s done.

We’d just express our appreciation. It was six year’s ago that the county really proposed reinvigorating a partnership. Commissioner Winters was deeply involved with that. The only other thing I’d say is I greatly appreciate not only the entire Commission’s support, but the active involvement of you, Chairman Norton, and Commissioner Winters on the whole economic development steering council. I’m very optimistic about our possibilities for regional cooperation. I think it’s the best chance we’ve ever had. There’s some exciting things going on in workforce areas too, particularly with our new lieutenant governor and I think we’ve got a chance to improve things dramatically. So, I have nothing more to say, other than it’s been a very good relationship. The county has been superb to work with. We have no complaints. I have nothing to air. Just thank you and would hope we could continue together.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you. Well, Tim, you’re to be complimented, I think. I think your organization is giving us the outcome measurements that we really need to justify, especially in tough times, any taxpayers’ expenditure. And to come to the table and ask us for the amount of money that we’re, I think, about to grant to you and make a commitment that you’re going to provide 1,800 jobs, to do that or at least make an honest attempt at it, I think is something that you need to be applauded for. I mean, I think it’s a very aggressive goal that you’ve set for yourself.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

I'm just glad that we're forming a partnership that maybe will allow your organization the ability to really perform. And I, for one, am going to be very supportive of this.

And I think we're about to enter into a whole new era of cooperation with your organization, not only with us, but I think with the City of Wichita and the other cities, because we are one whole community and if Haysville or Derby can find a company, there's not going to be that, I think, friction about why didn't you locate in my city or your city, because the entire Sedgwick County will benefit, no matter where that company happened to be located within our community. So, I just applaud you for your efforts and wish you well in continuing to do the great job that you're doing."

Mr. Witsman said, "Thank you. I concur with your remarks."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Yeah, but that's in lieu of ever compensating you any more money."

Mr. Witsman said, "I would say those numbers are tough, because I questioned Lori about them at the time."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "But her job is on the line though, right."

Mr. Witsman said, "Well, I tend to judge it different. I tend to look at how are we doing on employment versus others, which I think is a better one. Because the pluses and minuses, you can have pluses while there are other things going out the door. You can be in a hot economy and gee, you can make numbers any day in those and you can be in a really tough economy and any number is difficult to make. But we understand the need to have the accountability."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, just a couple of quick comments. As a bit of background too, this commitment that we're making today for these services with the Chamber has been in place for a number of years and this is a continuation of what we've done in the past. But I think there are a couple of things that are happening now that are important to mention. And one is there is a group out there that is under the leadership of Steve Martins that's an interim group that's trying to really

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

analyze what it is we need to think about economic development in Sedgwick County. Commissioner Norton and I are working on that work group. The Manager Buchanan sits on that group, as do a number of other community leaders. And I think the plan has still not been finalized or formalized, but I think out of that we will really perhaps actually have some new directions and some, hopefully, new commitments from the private side of business that are willing to commit funds, just as we're doing today, to work on economic development.

The second issue that I think is important . . . So, I think this commitment does work with what's happening now and with this new initiative. But I also think it's important, as we've just witnessed this campaign for the Mayor of the City of Wichita, economic development, job creation, job retention was clearly a theme of that mayoral candidates' discussions, all through the community. So, I hope this then reemphasizes the fact that we're committed to working on economic development and growth and job creation and, as we now have a new mayor and several new council people, give them time to get their feet a bit wet and I hope we can just come up with really a program, finalize this development and this incubation that's been going on, under the leadership of Steve Martins, we can get it all put together and we'll be on the road.

So, Tim, I again thank you and Dave and Lori for all the work that you've done on economic development. I know that we wished it could have been 100 times more money invested, but I think you've done very good with the resources that you've been dealt."

Mr. Witsman said, "Thank you. I'll go back and say, it was very important to make the comment about the private side having to step up. It's going to be very tough, but we're going to start in late spring to early summer to raise money from the private side to supplement what you have steadfastly supported."

Chairman Norton said, "Well, and I have kind of one last comment. For me, it's about we as government cannot put all the money into economic development, but we can certainly be at the table and try to inspire the private side to be engaged and initiate those actions and put money into it. And we will certainly continue to do that. I know you've got my support and Tom's, as we move forward and I think the whole commission wants to be sure that we're actively engaged, because it's our community, it's our constituents and right now, in these tough economic times,

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

workforce development and job creation are on everybody's mind. And certainly, it has been on ours prior to the economic downturn, but even more now and you've got supporters in us, I can guarantee you."

Mr. Witsman said, "And I go back and make one more comment on something that Commissioner Sciortino said, and that is, the County has had a view which we think is the correct view and that is that these things should be done on the basis of performance. It's not a matter of trying to control or assign every item, to define everything. But it's more let's all sit down together, let's all put our resources together. Then we'll all, together, figure out what we ought to do. And that's much more effective and, I think, serves the public the best."

Chairman Norton said, "Well, all of us working in lock-step, parallel track is going to be much better than everybody kind of doing their own thing and having little silos of trying to do it. I think we'll all be better off in a strong partnership than we will be trying to do it individually. So, thank you for being here today, Tim."

Commissioner Winters said, "Mr. Chairman, if there are no other questions, are you ready for a Motion?"

Chairman Norton said, "I am prepared for a Motion."

MOTION

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

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Chairman Tim Norton

Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Tim, Dave, for being here today. Clerk, call the next item."

2. **AGREEMENT WITH THE MEDIATION CENTER TO PROVIDE MEDIATION SERVICES TO DISTRICT, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL COURTS IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.**

Ms. Hart said, "The Mediation Center trains and coordinates volunteers who provide mediation services to district, county and municipal courts in Sedgwick County. This program has been funded by Sedgwick County for a number of years and is successful and cost-effective in helping the people, courts and businesses of Sedgwick County. They estimate approximately 300 cases will receive mediation services this year. Naomi Adam and Dennis McHugh of the Mediation Center are here to answer any questions you may have and would recommend your approval of the contract."

Chairman Norton said, "I see no other questions."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, bring them forward. We need to ask them something."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Yeah, for \$9,000, we ought to get to ask one question."

Ms. Naomi Adam, Mediation Center, said, "On my way here this morning, I realized that I've been coming before this Commission, off and on, for nine years and the Mediation Center was established in 1987. So, we've had a long history with you. It's a pleasure. Our volunteer mediators enjoy what they do, or they wouldn't be there, because they don't get paid. It's been a little challenging of recent, with one of the district courts temporarily living in the Historical Court Room, but we'll make it through that and I understand that will rectify itself probably in June sometime. I'd be happy to answer any question that you have about the Mediation Center."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I'd just said, you know, this is again an organization that really doesn't get much publicity a lot of times, but it's just down in the trenches doing some good work for the community and we appreciate your efforts. And are you still, personally, comfortable and confident that you're making a difference?"

Ms. Adam said, "Oh, yeah, definitely. I think if you would visit with any of the three judges, you would find out that, from their perspective especially because they sit on that bench and they see all those people that don't have legal representation, that mediation gives them an opportunity to fix whatever is wrong."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

And Judge Masius, here of recent, has had an innovative idea that if one of the parties is from outside of Wichita, that he refers that case to the Mediation Center and we do telephone mediation. So, that's opening up a new avenue to resolve the issues and get them off the books and get people satisfied with whatever is going on."

Chairman Norton said, "Excellent. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you. Of the estimated 300 cases that you provide service for each year, are those 300 that there's a mediated outcome, where people agree to, or is that the total that you hear and then the actual percentage of successful resolution is less than that? Just explain that number to me, I guess."

Ms. Adam said, "Let me tell you, the first thing that a person that is going to be a mediator learns, the problem belongs to the parties and the resolution is theirs also. We don't keep track of win/loss, agree/imasse as far as setting a standard. If people can't resolve their issue, for some reason that can't be controlled in a mediated agreement, it goes back to the court. But we do know that, statistically, we take the place of one judge. You have three over there right now. If you had four, you wouldn't need mediators. But because you have three and we take about a third of the load off of the court, that's where we get the 300.

There is over 2,000, sometimes close to 3,000 cases filed in Small Claims Court every year. If you stop to think about, a mediator helping these people resolve an issue and come to an agreement that the court signs off of in 45 minutes or less, they're very talented people."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay, thank you."

Ms. Adam said, "Now, I'm not sure if I answered your question."

Commissioner Unruh said, "No, you did. Very good, thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "I have a question for Irene. Irene, this is a regularly budgeted item, correct? It's in our budget for 2003? We went through the budget analysis process last year and it's in our budget?"

Ms. Hart said, "Yes, sir."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. That's the only other question I had."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay. I see no other questions. What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

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

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks, Irene. Next item."

3. RESOLUTION ADJUSTING INCOME LIMITS FOR FAMILIES RECEIVING CERTAIN FEDERAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

Mr. Brad Snapp, Director, Housing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Every year, HUD issues income limits for all their programs and the Housing Authorities have to adopt a new resolution every year. This last year, the Wichita MSA, which is the Sedgwick, Butler and Harvey County the immediate income dropped from \$59,000 to 54.6. HUD elected, in those areas that the income, the medium dropped to keep the income limits the same. So our income limits will not change from what they were last year. If you have any questions, I could try to answer those."

Chairman Norton said, "I see no questions for Brad. What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to adopt the Resolution.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Commissioner Winters 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, "Quick and easy, Brad. Thanks."

4. AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS FOR THE PROVISION OF ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES.

Mr. Darryl Fox, Director, Animal Control, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This morning, you have before you a contract agreement between the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County Animal Control. It's contract on shelter services for Sedgwick County.

The services in that contract have been increased from \$16 per animal to \$25 per animal and the Wichita Animal Shelter is the only shelter in close proximity, which watches for the welfare of animals in Sedgwick County and Wichita. So, therefore, we're asking that you would adopt it and authorize the Chairman to sign."

Chairman Norton said, "We do have some questions. Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Darryl, did they give reasons here for raising the fees?"

Mr. Fox said, "No, they've been really talking about raising fees for the last nine months and I knew it was coming. I talked with the small cities for the last six months, letting them know that the price was going to be raised to \$25 to us and \$29 to the small cities. The price is not going up since 1996. So it was a flat rate, up until then, and then it went up to \$16 per animal in 1996, so

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

they figure 7 years, it's been a long time is the reason why they wanted to raise it to \$25. And I don't really know where they got the \$25, but it's probably what they need for their budget."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay. And this is the only place really in the County that we can take animals."

Mr. Fox said, "Yes. The next closest place would be El Dorado and they don't have a shelter large enough, because they will not even keep any animals for some of the small cities in Butler County."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I guess what I would like some information on in the future is how many animals does the City of Wichita bring in, just from within their city limits, and how many animals we bring in from the unincorporated and small cities. I'd like to know those numbers, as far as for future use and maybe other ways of doing things, perhaps the County or through a private entity or something like that. So, if you can find me those numbers, I'd appreciate it."

Mr. Fox said, "Okay, I will."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Thanks. Well, maybe Commissioner McGinn, looking at the backup here, they're estimating their costs to be somewhere between six to nine thousand, so that means somewhere between 250 and 350, as far as animals. Is that a good way of doing that?"

Mr. Fox said, "Yes."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "I was going to ask the same thing about the fees did go up 56%, which is a pretty dramatic increase in fees, even though it hasn't been raised for seven years. Just to encourage you that if there are other areas to look for alternatives, that would be a good way to save a few dollars for the County. But the totality of the dollars isn't that much and it is a service that they provide and I can see where the convenience factor necessitates us using it. So, I don't have a problem with it but it was a rather dramatic increase, percentage-wise anyway. And the citizens always wind up paying for it, because we're not a source of revenue."

Chairman Norton said, "Absolutely."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Darryl, I just needed clarification. The County's financial exposure here is limited to those animals that are picked up in unincorporated areas that are not claimed. Is that correct?"

Mr. Fox said, "Right. That's right."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Animals picked up in the city, we're reimbursed by the city. Is that correct?"

Mr. Fox said, "Animals that are picked up in the city are picked up by the City Animal Control Office only. We don't pick up animals within the city limits of Wichita. We do it in the unincorporated area of Sedgwick County."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, we'll also pick up in some of the cities that we have agreements with too."

Mr. Fox said, "Oh, now in the small cities, we have contracts with some small cities that when we go and pick up animals from them and take them to their shelter, they pay for those services."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay."

Mr. Fox said, "We pass that additional expense to them."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay. Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Well, I also noticed, in the backup it says that the estimate of our alternatives, one of the estimated costs of building a county shelter ranged from 3.2 to 6.5 million. I guess I'd like to see what those numbers are based on."

Mr. Fox said, "Yeah, those numbers are based on from the year of 2000, a shelter that would hold 100 dogs and 50 cats would be like 3.2 million. That would just be the building of the shelter. That would not talk about putting people in that shelter and having them operate it. And then, a shelter that would hold 200 dogs and about 100 cats would be 6.-something million."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Commissioner McGinn said, “Well, so I guess what I’m saying, it looks like somebody has run some numbers here and I’d like to see the details about that sometime. Okay?”

Mr. Fox said, “All right.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “All right, thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no other lights flashing, so what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Sciortino 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, “And Darryl, you had a couple of other things that you wanted to address.”

Mr. Fox said, “Yes. Before I sit down, I would like to make a statement on last Wednesday I was asked a question and I don’t believe you received the correct answer, the answer you were looking for. Cats are required to have rabies shots, but we do not require cats in Sedgwick County to have animal licenses. There’s never been a resolution passed by the Commission that cats are required to have animal licenses.”

Chairman Norton said, “But they should have rabies, through their veterinarian.”

Mr. Fox said, “Yes, you do get rabies shots through their veterinarians, but they’re not required to have animal licenses. But that is a controversial matter and if you would like for me to take it to my advisory council, I will. There are several states that have already passed that.”

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "I think I would appreciate you talking to the advisory council, just to see their thoughts on it, as to the logic behind if you have a dog, you have to get a license. What's the logic behind not having a license if you have a cat? Just to see what their thoughts are, not necessarily that we're pushing for that. But in this day and age, where we're trying to find out . . . I think the first thing is to find out why we require a license for a dog. What's the justification for the fee? And why that justification wouldn't be the same for a cat."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I think it's because by the time you put the FiFi tag on and the rabies tag and the county tag, their heads . . ."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay, that's logical."

Chairman Norton said, "I think that calls for a study."

Mr. Fox said, "And also, I believe that Mr. Sciortino asked me about why are dangerous dog licenses \$100. Is that what you asked me?"

Commissioner Sciortino said, "I did. I asked you some question, but I think Irene e-mailed me and gave me the answer."

Mr. Fox said, "Okay, that fee is set by Legal Department and it's only after a dog hearing that that is set. If the dog is considered dangerous, after the hearing, by the Director of Animal Control and that dog is considered dangerous. It's really used for a deterrent. You know, \$100 fine. If you want to keep that dog because he's liable to do the same thing, it's going to be \$100 in license fees."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay. I had thought that maybe it was because, potentially, your department may be called out more often on a dangerous dog case than just little Fido doing something. Okay, all right, thanks."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I'm not an expert, but I have been involved in dangerous dog hearings, and this panel has heard cases of, in neighborhoods where there are extremely dangerous dogs, and there was not much else to do except declare the dog a dangerous animal. I think, maybe,

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

we've changed that resolution that the Animal Control Board can serve as the hearing officer. But I know, when I was first elected, we had a couple of cases of neighborhoods that had a bad dog and the people would not do anything with the dog and so, by declaring it a dangerous dog, then they're required to have insurance coverage, which is very difficult to get. So, there is a whole process of why you declare a dog a dangerous animal and move it into that other class."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "So, that isn't just a particular breed, it's just the personality of a particular dog."

Commissioner Winters said, "That's correct. So, I mean, there is more to the story. Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Now you've prompted another question. When they're a dangerous dog, is it just by their behavior, or have they bitten somebody?"

Mr. Fox said, "They've bitten somebody several times."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, so on that type of thing, do we have like a three strikes you're out policy?"

Mr. Fox said, "We do, but then it also depends on the severity of the bite. Sometimes, they'll call in a bite, and the dog has bitten the owner but they'll call it in anyway. And you find out why the dog bit the owner is because the child was maybe pulling the dog's tail or doing something like that. So that's not considered a dangerous dog at that time. It's considered dangerous if . . . remember we had the mail carrier situation. If the postman is delivering mail and he gets attacked by the dog, he does nothing, but gets attacked by the dog, that can be considered dangerous."

Commissioner McGinn said, "But I'm just saying after, like let's say there's three reporting of this same dog, I mean is there ever a point in time where it's time to put the dog to sleep?"

Mr. Fox said, "Yes."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "I see no other questions. Thanks, Darryl. I think you've cleared it up. Appreciate it. Next item."

Commissioner Sciortino left at 10:10 a.m.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

D. PROPOSED BYLAWS OF THE AREA WIDE COUNCIL OF THE CENTRAL PLAINS AREA AGENCY ON AGING.

Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The Older Americans Act of 1965 requires that the Area Agency on Aging must establish an advisory council consisting of older individuals, including minorities. Individuals who are participants are eligible to be participants in the programs under this act. Representatives of older individuals, local elected officials, providers of veterans' health care and the general public to advise continuously the area agency on matters relating to the development of the area plan, administration of the plan and operations conducted under the plan.

The Central Plans Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council is currently made up of individuals that serve on the Butler, Harvey and Sedgwick County Advisory Councils on Aging and it also includes a representative from the Veterans' Administration, a service representative from a provider organization, and a member appointed by the council.

What we bring before you today is changes in our bi-laws and the Council recognized that there was a need to make some changes in the bylaws to amend those bylaws to reflect some of the changes in the current needs of our community and of the Advisory Council. So the primary changes we've made that the Advisory Council made in the bylaws included adding a mission statement, making some changes in the membership requirements, the definition of a quorum and the addition of a conflict of interest statement.

So, we would request that you approve the bylaws and authorize the Chair to sign. And if you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer those."

Chairman Norton said, "I see none, but I applaud you for taking those steps to kind of clean up your own governance. I think that's what that really comes down to, and the more that you can fit in with how boards are governed around the county and around the nation, the better off this will be through your bylaws. So I appreciate that. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "I guess, just a question for Rich. These bylaws have been reviewed by the County Counselor's Office and appear to be all right to you?"

Mr. Euson said, "Yes, sir. We have approved them."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, thank you. That's all I had."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Well, I was just going to ask, this was prompted by the board, wasn't it?"

Ms. Graham said, "Yes, it was."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I was thinking that they kind of did it on their own to get it started. So, thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Any other discussion? What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to approve the Bylaws 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 Thomas Winters	Aye
Commissioner Carolyn McGinn	Aye
Commissioner Ben Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Tim Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks. Next item."

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

E. AGREEMENT WITH UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE – WICHITA MEDICAL PRACTICE ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

WITH IDENTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS.

Ms. Peggy Baker, Supervisor, Communicable Disease Clinic, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We'd like for you to approve the agreement with the K.U. School of Medicine, Wichita Medical Practice Association, which provides medical direction for the TB Clinic that the County and the Health Department manage for the constituents. This has been an ongoing agreement for many years and it's been very satisfactory with the school."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay. I see no questions."

Commissioner Sciortino returned at 10:11 a.m.

MOTION

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

Commissioner Unruh 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, Peggy. Clerk, call the next item."

F. GRANT AWARD THROUGH UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL'S "NO SUSPECT" DNA TESTING GRANT.

Dr. Tim Rohrig, Director, Forensic Science Laboratories, Regional Forensic Science Center,

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

greeted the Commissioners and said, "Before you today is a grant from the National Institute of Justice for a modest grant to offset the costs of DNA testing in our 'no suspect' cases. A no suspect case is a crime scene where biological evidence is left, collected by law enforcement but, at that time, law enforcement has not developed a suspect in a particular crime. This will allow us to do some testing on this biological material and enter the DNA profile into the DNA Data Base, the CODIS data base and allow us, potentially, develop a suspect by a DNA match. So, I'd like to recommend that you accept this grant award today."

Chairman Norton said, "I see no questions. Around how many incidents would you have in the course of a year that would kind of fit this scenario?"

Dr. Rohrig said, "Well, it varies and the reason it varies is the National Institute of Justice has changed their definition of 'no suspect'. This grant was written in conjunction with the State of Kansas a couple of years ago and we finally received the funding for it. At that time, we were under the old guidelines, we were able to identify about a half a dozen or so no suspect cases that were submitted to the laboratory. In many cases, if a suspect hadn't been developed, the evidence was not submitted to the laboratory at that time. The guidelines have now been changed and given more liberal definition of a no suspect case and we're also asking law enforcement to go ahead and submit these cases to us.

Now these are usually low priority cases, so they get put back in the cube and, as time allows, and dollars allow, we do get testing and enter these profiles into the DNA database."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay, good. Commissioner Winters, did you have a question?"

Commissioner Winters said, "No, I just wanted to make a comment that, again, I think this is one place where Sedgwick County is on the forefront, hopefully, of modern technology and what they do at the Forensic Science Center. I mean, building data bases with DNA and participating on national levels, I think we're really very happy with what Tim and his folks are able to do and all the people that work over there. And I think this is one place, hopefully, where we can stay on the cutting edge of what kinds of things are out there to help with public safety issues, and this is clearly something that, hopefully will help crime prevention and help law enforcement. So, we appreciate the work you do."

Dr. Rohrig said, "Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Commissioner Unruh moved to accept the grant award.

Commissioner Winters 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, Doc. Next item."

G. PUBLIC WORKS.

1. AGREEMENT WITH UNIVERSAL LUBRICANTS, INC. TO PROVIDE COLLECTION OF, AND PAYMENT FOR, USED OIL FROM THE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY.

Mr. Joe Brunk, Director, Noxious Weeds Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This agenda item today concerns the used oil that we collect at our new Household Hazardous Waste Facility. In our current contract, the oil is picked up from us at no charge to us. This agreement today with Universal Lubricants, if you approve it, will enable the County to receive twenty cents per gallon for each gallon of oil that we collect.

We're estimating that we will receive twenty thousand gallons of used oil this year, which would result in an additional \$4,000 dollars of revenue. I would be glad to answer any questions."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Joe, how about just a couple, about sixty seconds worth of update on . . . how long have we been open now, nine months, six months? Just a quick update about how you feel things are going and how the operation is going down there."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Mr. Brunk said, “Well, we’ve been open six months and it’s going great. The warmer it is, the better it is. Our participation is exceeding what we projected. We’re up more than 20% and that’s not only number of participants, but the amount of stuff that they’re bringing us.

We get mostly paint and used motor oil. That’s two-thirds of the stuff that we get and the rest of it then is other stuff, poisons and things like that. I might say that we recycle or reuse 90% of the product that is brought to us, 90% of it is reused in some manner or another. Only 10%, and that would be mostly the poisons, pesticides, products that are no longer available or on the market or are illegal. So, we’re really proud of that fact.”

Commissioner Winters said, “All right. I see you’ve got your manager. Would you bring him up and introduce him again to the Commission so we can get familiar with him again, tell us how he’s doing.”

Mr. Brunk said, “You bet. Well, this is Kolin Anglin. He’s the operations supervisor. He’s doing a great job there. He knows a lot more about this operation than I do and if you’ve got more questions, he’s got those numbers right in front of him.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Kolin, you’ve just been with the County now since the opening of the facility. Is that right?”

Mr. Kolin Anglin, Operations Supervisor, Household Hazardous Waste Facility, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Well, no. Actually I started . . . I was kind of hired by the County to work with the City, before the transfer over from the City program to the County. So, about a year and a half now, I’ve been with the program.”

Commissioner Winters said, “And so, you’re satisfied with how your first six months has taken shape?”

Mr. Anglin said, “We have exceeded everything we really thought we would accomplish in this first year so far. Like Joe said, our numbers of participation are way up. Our costs are down, per pound. In fact, I’m on the national planning committee for the National Conference for Household Hazardous Waste, which is going to be in Kansas City this October, and according to the numbers,

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

we are actually in the running for the national facility of the year award, based on our cost per pound. We won't hear the results of that for several months yet, but we are actually in the running for that, because we have been able to reduce our costs, but our participation is up at the same time."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well I think the Commissioners would be very interested in keeping us advised. I mean, if you are successful in that, we'd certainly like to know about that and probably like to maybe perhaps know more about the conference you'll be attending in October."

Mr. Anglin said, "Sure, I'll be happy to get any information to you."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "You're not done yet. We always hit the new guy harder. Talk to us a little bit about how is swap and shop doing."

Mr. Anglin said, "Oh, the swap and shop is going great. We just . . . I just finished my monthly report the other day and the month of March was phenomenal for the swap and shop. We saved, in disposal costs, almost \$2,500. Basically, the amount of material that went out through the swap and shop saved us \$2,500, because we wouldn't have to pay for the disposal. We've estimated that, year to date from January thru the end of March, we've saved our customers nearly \$20,000 in material. Instead of having to go buy new product, they've been able to get the product free from us.

In the next month or so, as soon as we get all the equipment in, we're going to start processing the latex paint and reblending it and making five colors available. And at that point, we'll charge two to three dollars a gallon for it, to cover our cost on the machinery and operation of the equipment. But it's a fraction of the cost that you would pay for anything at any of the other stores and it will be just about as good as anything you would be able to buy."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, the most notable percentage is that we're taking household hazardous waste that, for the most part, was just put into the regular solid waste stream, and we're recycling 90% of it."

Mr. Anglin said, "Right. We either recycle or reuse over 90%."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Mr. Manager, I would ask that if you could get together with Kristi Zukovich in our Communications Department and let's write up a story about this. I mean, this is

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

the kind of news that I think the public needs to know what we're doing. That actually government can work and I know there's a lot of people out there that are very interested in recycling, reusing, reducing and here's one project that, from what I'm seeing here, is highly successful and I'd love to read about it in the newspaper or have a television station do something on it. So, great. That's all I have. Thanks."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think about . . . It seems like it was about three years ago, and I don't know, did you go, Joe, to Fort Collins, and Commissioner Winters and I went, and at that time it was just a dream that we would love to have something like this and what it sounds like and what I've seen, it seems like we've got something even better. And I think . . . I agree with you, Commissioner Sciortino. We need to share the good news. You know, much of the news in the paper has been about 'Do you want a landfill or a transfer station' and what has been overshadowed are some of these other great successes that have occurred along the way. And I know, all along, whether it was landfill or transfer station, it seems like everybody that sat on this bench has felt strongly about this household hazardous waste and how can we recycle it.

As we were out at Fort Collins, we witnessed first hand people coming in and buying the paint, buying the fertilizers, buying some of those other kinds of things. I used it, I think, last fall or sometime I went through there. It's slick. I mean, you just drive in, sign a piece of paper, they unload it and you're out of there. It's so quick and I need to go back again here before long. But I commend you and Joe Brunk and people in Environmental Resources that have worked so hard on this.

The other thing I think that is really great is the location that we finally picked. It's centralized. It's easy for people to get to. You don't have to hear people say, 'You've got to go clear to Oklahoma'. I guess I shouldn't have used that state as a reference. But I mean, you don't have to go way south in the county to go there, and it's open more hours, it's convenient. So, I share your desire, Commissioner Sciortino, as is I'm sure the rest of the Commission, that we need to share some of this good news and when you have a facility that's recycling 90% of things that, generally, have been throw away in the past, I think that's great news for our community. Thank you.

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And saving the citizens \$20,000 in material that they would have had to purchase. Now, I don't know if the merchants in Wichita will like that, but it's a win/win."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Purchase and, in some cases, pay to get rid of."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Correct, that's right."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to join the others in celebrating the success of this facility and what a good job that you all have done. And it is, just to underscore, it's a great advantage for this community to get so much of that hazardous material out of the waste stream and it answers a real sticking point for those, when we talk about solid waste disposal. And I would second Commissioner Sciortino's request that we get the word out."

On the issue at hand though, I would just want to make the comment that it wasn't very long ago that small quantity generators of used waste oil used to have to pay to have that stuff taken off. So now, we are not paying for it, but we're actually receiving revenue for it and I know it's a year contract, but it's great to have that benefit and I congratulate you on negotiating that contract."

Mr. Anglin said, "Thank you. We're continually trying to find ways to either save money or bring in some revenue and we've got some other ideas down the road that we're going to continue to work on and, hopefully, save a little money and bring a little money in at the same time."

Chairman Norton said, "Well, I have one last comment. I believe springtime is when people clean out their garages and finding all the things that don't work too good or they don't need anymore, they need to clean out and throw away. And I think the time is right now to get the message out that the Hazardous Waste Facility will take any and all things that come out of garages and out of storage sheds, and this will be the first spring you've gone through that in the new facility, and I think we'll build capacity really big. And I would urge our partners in the media and The Eagle, our superstar from Gridiron here, to really help us shout that we've got this great facility and that we urge people to come and use it, because it is a shining star of that area over there."

Mr. Anglin said, "We would really appreciate it."

Commissioner McGinn said, "One other quick question. I noticed, it seemed like last time you reported Joe, you had three colors of paint and now I'm hearing five. So, you want share your colors."

Mr. Anglin said, "We're planning on having a white, beige, red, blue and kind of everything else, which turns into variations of gray."

Commissioner McGinn said, "So, it's the color of the day, the fifth one."

Mr. Anglin said, "Basically, right."

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Chairman Norton said, "So, I'd like a can of that every other color paint. Is that what you ask for?"

Mr. Anglin said, "Yep."

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you very much, Kolin. I appreciate it."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, I just wonder, when they come to swap, there's no charge is there? They come and just get it for free, isn't it?"

Mr. Anglin said, "Right now, it's free for everything. And again, when we start processing the latex paint, there will be a charge at that point for latex paint that we process and it will be in five gallon buckets at two to three dollars a gallon."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "But that's stuff that we're manufacturing."

Mr. Anglin said, "Right, but everything else is free."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Yeah, great."

Chairman Norton said, "Awesome. What is the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters 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

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

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

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

2. AGREEMENT WITH MCCONNELL TOP 3 / 22 LRS FOR THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADOPT A HIGHWAY PROGRAM ON ROCK ROAD FROM OAK KNOLL TO 47TH STREET SOUTH. DISTRICT #5.

Mr. Spears said, "Item G-2 is an agreement with the McConnell Top 3/22 LRS, Logistics Readiness Squadron, for the Sedgwick County Adopt-a-Highway program. They will be responsible for Rock Road, between Oak Knoll to 47th Street South. I recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. And they plan to pick up on April the 11th. "

MOTION

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

Commissioner Unruh 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, "Thank you, Dave. Next item."

H. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2003.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The referenced meeting resulted in four items for consideration today.

1) 2nd FLOOR SHERIFF’S REMODEL- FACILITY PROJECTS
FUNDING: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Item one, the 2nd floor Sheriff’s remodel for Facility Projects, recommend the low bid from Robl Construction in the amount of \$367,300.

2) CS-2 CRUSHED STONE- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: AGGREGATE MATERIALS

Item two, CS-2 crushed stone for Public Works, recommend the low bid meeting specifications from Central Paving in the amount of \$62,250.

3) WEED CHEMICALS- NOXIOUS WEEDS
FUNDING: NOXIOUS WEEDS

Item three, weed chemicals for Noxious Weeds, recommend the low bid on items one and six from Alenza for a total of \$10,106, the low bid on item two from Vegetation Management in the amount of \$6,372, the low bid on items three, four, five, seven nine from Red River Specialties for a total of \$53,859.30, the low bid on item eight from Carso, Incorporated for \$8,704, and the low bid on items ten and eleven from Van Diest Supply Company in the amount of \$4,910.40, for a total expenditure of \$83,951.70.

4) SAP MAINTENANCE & SUPPORT- ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING
FUNDING: ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING

And the last item, item four, SAP maintenance and support for Enterprise Resource Planning. Recommend the expenditure with SAP Public Sector Incorporated for an amount not to exceed \$243,000.

I’d be happy to answer any questions and recommend approval of these items.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Just real quickly, I met with Kathy and Chris Chronis on the last item, and the one thing that they impressed me upon, you know we’re spending money on this SAP

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

program, but we're getting where we can't maybe put a dollar return on it, but what we're getting is a much more accurate system, that gives us baselines. It protects us, like if we've double paid for an item, we have a way of really picking it up real quickly, where we can correct the error. It gives us better audit controls on the controllers, when they're in there trying to analyze what a department is doing, so that money doesn't inadvertently slip through the cracks.

And where I've been very, very . . . I'm not going to use the word critical, but concerned, because I didn't understand or grasp exactly what we were doing. It seemed like we were just pouring money and pouring money into it. They've got me convinced now that this is going to allow us to be much more efficient in the way that we spend taxpayer dollars. So, I'm very pleased with what we're doing here and I really thank them for coming to me and taking the time to explain it to me ahead of time. So, congratulations, you sold me. That's all I have."

Chairman Norton said, "Any other questions, comments?"

Mr. Spears said, "I have a comment."

Chairman Norton said, "Okay. Yes, David."

Mr. Spears said, "I just wanted to elaborated a little bit on what Iris said. On item three, the weed chemicals, I just wanted to let you know that by going with the generic brands on some of the items, we saved approximately \$22,600. I just wanted to point that out."

Chairman Norton said, "Excellent."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And that was below budget, I mean below what we had budgeted?"

Mr. Spears said, "It's below what the brand name chemicals would have cost."

Chairman Norton said, "I see no other questions. So, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

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

Commissioner Sciortino 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, "Thank you, Iris. Next item."

CONSENT AGENDA

I. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Right-of-Way Easements.

- a. Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project 821-J, K; bridge on Broadway over BNSF Railroad at 45th Street North. CIP #B-310. District #4.
- b. Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project 634-28 and 29; 63rd Street South between Hydraulic and K-15. CIP #R-247. Districts #2 and #5.

2. Plat.

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

Chris Spruill Addition

3. Order dated March 26, 2003 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

4. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of March 26 – April 1, 2003.

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

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Sciortino 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, “Is here any other items to come before us today? Commissioner Sciortino.”

J. OTHER

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yes, Mr. Chairman, thank you. You know, yesterday was the culmination of many months of campaigning. I was actively involved in a few of the campaigns because, being a citizen, I just wanted to get involved and support the candidates that I believed in. And what really made me feel good was how many people will take the effort, no matter who you were choosing for a candidate, but you know these campaigns get hundreds of volunteers that go out. They don’t get paid anything. They’re putting up signs, they’re going door to door with literature drops, manning phones and that’s our democratic process. And I would like to encourage anybody that has never done it before. It’s a heck of a learning experience and you really grow in the process and you sort of take a little ownership in government, if you take the time to get involved.

Most importantly, vote. I mean, I think that’s one of the best freedoms that we have and there are a lot of people now in harms way in Iraq defending that freedom. So, I found it to be . . . it was tiring,

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

but it was very gratifying and I would hope that more people would take the time and effort to get involved in the democratic process that we have here in this country. So, that's all I have. Thanks."

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to mention a few opportunities I had to represent the County since our last meeting. Had the opportunity to speak at the downtown Lion's Club and talk about some of the issues that we're dealing with right now. And then, Saturday morning, my wife and I went out to the multi-cultural day at the Sedgwick County Zoo. And those youngsters from Jefferson Elementary deserve a gold medal for braving that wind and cool to be in costume with their cultural dances and so forth. They're brave young people.

And Saturday afternoon, my wife and I also helped out with the Bowlmania from the Big Brothers and Big Sisters. It's a major fund-raising event for that organization. We're big supporters of Big Brothers/ Big Sisters and they do a real positive work in our community.

And then I think we ought not to let pass an opportunity to mention that our Chairman sang solo at gridiron and did us all proud. Great job."

Chairman Norton said, "I don't know if I did proud. I kind of had it here as 'I'm not quitting my day job to go into theater'."

Commissioner Unruh said, "That's probably a good decision."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you. Sunday, I had an opportunity to go to the Kansas African American Museum. One of their programs dealt with the Tuskegee Airmen and thinking about heroes of the past and heroes that we have right now that are fighting overseas. These individuals were Black aviators in World War II is when they kind of got their claim to fame. And I learned a few things and one was Eleanor Roosevelt was out there at one of the airports and she said that she was going to go up with one of the pilots. And I guess the Secret Service and everybody got pretty nervous about that, so they called the President and the President said, 'Just go let her do whatever she wants, she's going to do it anyway'. And so, anyway, in witnessing all this, found out they were pretty good pilots. They had some great successes that helped us in World War II.

The other thing, had found out that we had a couple of Tuskegee airmen right here in our

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

community. One doesn't live here right now, but the other one was Dr. Val Jackson. And so, anyway was a great event, as far as sharing history throughout our nation, but also bringing it closer to home is some of the individuals that are here. And then what they also did, they had contests for the young kids and they painted some of these model airplanes and all received a certificate and some prizes as well. So, great event."

Chairman Norton said, "Only unit in World War II not to lose a plane. Pretty amazing story."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "That's what I was going to say. They provided fighter escort for the bombers and there wasn't one bomber lost on any flight that the Tuskegee Airmen were escorting."

Commissioner McGinn said, "And what's kind of branched off of this is the Civil Air Patrol. So, I learned a little something about that too and they're very instrumental. When things happen, these individuals get to go up, you know, maybe it's a lost aircraft or whatever, but they also said that during the time 9-11, when no one could fly, when there were special things, these were the only people that could go up."

Chairman Norton said, "Good. I see nothing else before us today, so, we are adjourned."

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:37

Regular Meeting, April 2, 2003

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