MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

May 28, 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, May 28, 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; Mr. Doug Russell, Director, Division of Human Resources; Ms. Beverly Willems, Administrative Assistant, COMCARE; Dr. Doren Frederickson, Health Officer, Health Department; Mr. Andy Schlapp, Director, Community Relations; Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Division of Human Services; Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging; Ms. Chris Kautzer, Systems Integration Coordinator, Department of Corrections; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care (COMCARE); Ms. Jeannette Livingston, Contract Administrator, COMCARE; 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

Dr. Christen Skaer, Chair, Environmental Subcommittee.
Ms. Kathy Ditmer, Chairman, Advisory Board of Health.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Reverend Dr. Robert Erickson of Covenant Presbyterian Church, Wichita.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, May 14, 2003

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of May 14, 2003.

Chairman Norton said, “What is the will of the Board?”
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 14, 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, “Next item.”

AWARD

A. RECOGNITION OF JENNIFER MAGANA, ASSISTANT COUNTY COUNSELOR, THIS YEAR’S EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD WINNER.

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It’s my pleasure to formally introduce, although we’ve had the celebration, Jennifer Magana who has won the Excellence in Public Service award this year from Sedgwick County. The Excellence in Public Service award program honors up to three public service employees each year whose work performance and community activities transcend the ordinary. And when we think about Jennifer, it certainly is correct. It does transcend the ordinary.

She, in her work performance, has done a number of things, put some real outcome measures in the way we handle the County Court and in a fashion that we can measure success and failure. Besides that, she has reduced the language in our contracts so that there’s not as much legalese and so that you and I and people who are recipients of those contracts can understand the relationship that we have with the more than 600 agencies with whom we do business.

In the area of personal loss, she does many of the hearings and counsels us on how we treat
employees, which is not only from a legal point of view, but a very humanistic and helpful point of view. Jennifer’s involvement with the Kansas Bar Association Foundation, the Wichita Bar Association, the Wichita Women’s Attorney Association, KANSEL, Roots and Wings, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Capa Alpha Theta and Saint Thomas Aquinas Alder Society, squeezes all that work in between being a mom and working full time and she epitomizes what we think of about excellence in public service. Jennifer Magana.

Ms. Jennifer Magana, Assistant County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you. I guess I’m just extremely honored to receive this award and especially just feel fortunate that I have both the job I enjoy and people who are great to work with in my department and across the County and I am extremely honored to receive this award and thank you to all who participated in this process.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, I would be remiss if I didn’t remind us that the recipients are given an honor and the reception is sponsored by the DeVore Foundation. The DeVores have created this over the last sixteen years. It was modeled after a program out of New York City and Bill DeVore discovered it and has given this gift to the community and given this gift to public servants for the last sixteen years and we thank them greatly. Thank you, Commissioners.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well, I’d like to be able to improve on what Bill said, but I won’t try. Congratulations, Jennifer. We’re all very proud of you. Clerk, call the next item.”

RETIREMENT

B. PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT CLOCK TO BEVERLY WILLEMS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, COMCARE.

Mr. Doug Russell, Director, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Beverly Willems will be retiring after 13 years of service with what is now called COMCARE. Beverly plans to spend time with her husband, four children, 14 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Beverly now has time to work in her flower garden, doing a little traveling and this one left images here, I’ve got to understand this, and help her husband a little in his welding and machine shop. That doesn’t sound fun.”

Chairman Norton said, “Flower garden, welding/ machine shop.”

Mr. Russell said, “Yeah. She started as a ward clerk with the Evaluation Treatment Center and
when that closed, she transferred to work with Nick Ard, state reporting and master file with COMCARE. She then worked in patient billing and then with the AIMS program and state reporting programs. All of these jobs were with COMCARE. Beverly describes her employment with Sedgwick County as, ‘It was a very good experience, met a lot of new people and the work was challenging, I will miss all the people I worked with’. They told me, ‘do not embarrass Beverly’ so I said I won’t do that. Anyway, this is your certificate.”

**Commissioner Winters** said, “Beverly, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners and the citizens of Sedgwick County, we want to present you with this clock as a token of our appreciation for your work. I see a number of COMCARE folks here and you know it’s always difficult to pick out one department and really kind of hold them up, but when there’s one special department here, we’ll take them up and hold them up. COMCARE is really one of those groups that are doing really wonderful things in our community and our commissioners are very proud of all of the work that happens in that organization.

Commissioner Sciortino continues to talk about cutting into fat and into bone. Well, you folks are the real bone. You are doing the real service work for many, many citizens in Sedgwick County. So, we appreciate your years of service and we appreciate the service of all the other employees who work in the COMCARE organization. It’s a great group of people.

We’re glad you’re going to hopefully have a great retirement and if you’d like to say just a couple of words, we’d be glad to have a couple of words.”

**Ms. Beverly Willems**, Administrative Assistant, COMCARE, said, “It’s been very interesting and rewarding experience to be a part of COMCARE. I’ve met a lot of nice people and I’m really going to miss them a lot.”

**Chairman Norton** said, “Don’t let Beverly run off. Commissioner McGinn.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “Thank you. Beverly, I just wanted to make a comment that in hearing that you’re a welder.”

**Ms. Willems** said, “I do the books.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “You do the books. Okay, all right. Then I guess it’s irrelevant.”

**Chairman Norton** said, “I’m glad you cleared that up though.”

**Commissioner McGinn** said, “I thought you were a welder. Okay.”
Ms. Willems said, “My husband thinks he’s going to teach me.”

Chairman Norton said, “He thinks wrong, right?”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I was just going to share, the only reason I learned how was one day I went out to the shop and I watched my husband, he was trying to weld an implement together and he was going like this and if anybody welds, you know you have to make the bead line and so I went down to the local welding shop and took a lesson so that I could do the welding. So, anyway, it’s enjoyable. You might try it.”

Chairman Norton said, “Congratulations.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Wait a minute. I want to get this straight now. Commissioner McGinn’s hobby is welding now?”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I didn’t say it was a hobby. Like I said, when you see your husband doing it totally incorrect, somebody has to step up.”

Chairman Norton said, “Let’s see, Mark’s not here to defend himself, so should we help him out?”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I’m sure my father-in-law is watching it and he’ll get the report, so I’ll be in trouble by the time I get home.”

Chairman Norton said, “Clerk, call the next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

C. PRESENTATION BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH.

Dr. Christen Skaer, Chair, Environmental Subcommittee, Sedgwick County Advisory Board of Health, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m not a welder either, but I’ll look up how to take classes. Thank you for the opportunity to update you on the activities of the Environmental Health Subcommittee.”
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

On March 4th we had a meeting that reviewed senate bill 124, which regarded the moving of responsibilities of food inspection from KDHE to the Department of Agriculture. You have already received the minutes I believe, so I don’t need to explain those to you. The senate bill is currently dead right now. They sent it to a coordinating council for an interim study.

Our group was concerned with how the transferring of responsibilities will affect the health of the citizens of Kansas. Restaurant inspectors undergo a very rigorous training, which would not be quickly gained by inspectors of the Department of Agriculture. We would like to encourage the Department of Agriculture to look at other states and how they inspect restaurants before they decide to transfer duties.

I do have a letter, which our board has written to the Department of Agriculture, if you guys would like to see a rough copy before we send it. I would like for your approval on that and I can get that to you. We will mail it, pending any changes or suggestions that you all have. It just basically states exactly what I told you, that we think that the responsibility should stay with KDHE and not be transferred to the Department of Agriculture.

On April 29th, we had a public education . . . we had a meeting discussing public education on West Nile Virus. You also have those minutes. The Advisory Board of Health feels that we can make the most difference in prevention of West Nile Virus by helping with public education. Backyard water sources tend to be the largest source of West Nile Virus, things such as old tires, tarps, swimming pools, ponds and trash cans can accumulate water and mosquitoes thrive in stagnant water. We would like to help educate people on ways to prevent standing water in their own neighborhoods and in their own backyards.

This may be accomplished by things such as adding goldfish to a pond, adding table salt to an old tire. Table salt will help kill the mosquito larvae or changing standing water at least every three days, those are just a few things that people can do to protect themselves.

The Advisory Board of Health plans on having an educational table set up at the Walk with Wildlife on June 14th, it’s a Saturday, from 11 to 4. It takes place at the Great Plains Nature Center. We will have brochures available to educate people in how to protect themselves from West Nile Virus. We plan to have a demonstration on what actual mosquito larvae look like so that people know what to look for and I think that should be a good way to get the message out to people.
The Advisory Board of Health also will send a letter to the Kansas Department of Transportation, with a copy to the Secretary of Health and Environment, recommending that all future bore heads be deeper in order to sustain fish and that counties, cities and municipalities will be urged to dig their current holes deeper or to fill them in. If they’re deeper, they can sustain fish. If they fill them in, obviously they won’t have standing water.

The Advisory Board of Health would also be happy to help with public education by speaking with neighborhood groups, Kiwanis clubs, Pond Society or any other group that may welcome information on how to protect themselves from West Nile Virus. So, those are just a few of the things that we’re working on. We would love for your input on these letters that we’re sending out or any other things that you’d like us to do.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well we do have a few Commissioners that would like to visit with you. So, Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Well first I just want to say thank you for taking the time to serve and the dedication that you have. And as you know, the Health Department Board, we just took over the Health Department a couple of years ago and so we’re trying to elevate that and we’re trying to look at how do we do business perhaps differently in the future. The Health Department has been great for the last 50 years, but perhaps we need to go through some kind of change in which to provide the services for our community in the future.

And I don’t mean to put you on the spot, but if you have any more comments, I know, you know you said the one thing you said is the transference of KDHE doing the inspections versus the Department of Agriculture. What other things, besides West Nile Virus, do you as a group see that’s important for the Health Department, as we look to the future?”

Dr. Skaer said, “We’ve had several things that we’ve thought about taking on. Water quality is certainly an important issue that we’ve thought about talking about. You know that we’ve talked about fluoridation, but it’s not currently an issue that we feel like discussing at this point. Those are just a few of the things. Really, we haven’t moved past these issues right now.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Have you guys had a chance to talk about the changes that a health department might want to go through or have you looked at other models out there across the United States?”

Dr. Skaer said, “No, not to my knowledge.”
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay. I guess I would just let you take that back and encourage you to perhaps have the board members look at what other communities are doing across the nation and then see if there is something that might be a better fit for us or you may find out that what we’re doing is already a good thing to have in place for our community.”

Dr. Skaer said, “I’d be happy to.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Again, thank you guys for being here today.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yeah, Doctor, you know those Purple Martins that people put up, is that a good, effective way for a homeowner to . . . I mean, do they eat a lot of . . .?”

Dr. Skaer said, “They do. I don’t know how much and I would be purely speculating, but I think . . . Doren, do you know? I don’t know. I’m not a Purple Martin expert, but I do think that they will help with mosquito control. I don’t think they’re going to be . . . if you have standing water in your backyard, I don’t think they’re going to be able to control it completely.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, I’ve got a big lake behind my house and I don’t know how I can put enough chlorine in there to kill them all, but it will probably kill the fish.”

Dr. Skaer said, “It’s going to go some way. I would definitely do it.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “The other question I had, you know these bug repellents and I’ve heard the word Neet [sic]. Is there any one type of repellent or any repellent with the type of component in it that we suggest to the public to help protect against . . .?”

Dr. Skaer said, “I’m going to have to defer that. Deet.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Deet, not the Neet.”

Dr. Doren Frederickson, Health Officer, Health Department, said, “The USDA circular describes all those products.”

Dr. Skaer said, “He said the USDA circular will describe all the different products and Deet tends to be the best.”


Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, I do agree with Commissioner McGinn and yourself, I can’t understand why KDHE isn’t continuing with those inspections and what the Agricultural Department is . . . To me it just seems like it’s a natural for the Health Department to do inspections to protect the health of the public but we’ll try to support you in any way we can and maybe get that changed around if it’s at all possible. But really appreciate all your hard work and if you see Gina, tell her hi for me.”

Dr. Skaer said, “I’ll see her tomorrow.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, great. Thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “I notice Kathy Ditmer is here too. Kathy, why don’t you come forward just a second. We’ll give you a snippet of time here too, since you chair . . .”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I don’t know. She’s pretty shy. I don’t know that she’ll say anything.”

Ms. Kathy Ditmer, Chairman, Advisory Board of Health, said, “Do you have any questions for me? We are just pleased that the Environmental Health Subcommittee has met on several occasions and has been functioning and trying to find ways we can be useful to all the citizens of the County and to make appropriate recommendations and suggestions to you.

The body as a whole has not had any specific instructions from you, but we do look forward to them and will take back the idea of studying regional health departments and how they are functioning well and look forward to working with you in the future.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well certainly I think, as we move forward, we’ve had a couple of workshop and have been delivered a lot of information. I think, before the year is out, we’ll try to come to some conclusions as a Board and give you some guidance to help you help us redefine what the Health Department is going to look like. I don’t think that we’ve gained enough information yet to be able to do that completely, but we’ve had some workshops. We’ve worked pretty close to Dr. Frederickson and I think we’ll get pretty close to giving you some real definitive guidance.”

Ms. Ditmer said, “And we are available to help with that discussion, as we do have many people involved in the health care in this community who could be of help to you, we are available.”

Chairman Norton said, “Dr. Skaer.”
Dr. Skaer said, “Apparently, I forgot to mention something. Horses do need vaccinations from West Nile Virus. You should contact a large animal veterinarian, because I am not one, or a Purple Martin veterinarian, but contact a large animal veterinarian.”

Chairman Norton said, “So what do you do?”

Dr. Skaer said, “Small animals, dogs and cats, which don’t need vaccinations for West Nile Virus. But horses do, they will need a booster vaccine, I do know that and contact a large animal veterinarian for that.”

Chairman Norton said, “Just a couple of last thoughts for me. As you try to spread the news about some of the things you’re doing, like Derby Days is coming up this weekend, great place maybe, several thousand people come through there. We’ll already have a booth, if you have somebody that would want to volunteer to talk about West Nile and to hand out brochures, that would be an appropriate place because several thousand people come through there and hit the booth and we talk about the zoo, we talk about EMS, we talk about a lot of different things and I think probably talking about West Nile on the front end of the summer, when we’re getting into the problem, might be a really good time to do that.”

Dr. Skaer said, “Those are exactly things that we’re looking for.”

Chairman Norton said, “So Derby Days would be one.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “You know, just to jump in on that, I think what the public . . . I think this is great that we’re . . . the public, if you could give them a list of five or six simple things they can do to be proactive in helping prevent, like gee, if you’ve got a tire with water in it, why don’t you get rid of the tire? Gee, why don’t you put some chlorine in your swimming pool, maybe a Purple Martin or whatever? Here’s some things you might consider, wear a long-sleeved shirt if it’s after 5:00 or spray a little . . . just so they don’t feel so in awe of the problem and that they can do something proactively.”

Dr. Skaer said, “That’s exactly what we plan to have, just a fact sheet with key points for people.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yeah, dynamite.”
Chairman Norton said, “My other thought was that I think it’s very appropriate that you mentioned water quality. I know Commissioner McGinn has worked really hard on trying to figure out what we’re going to do in Sedgwick County and even as a regional water quality. It only makes sense to me that the Health Department is very involved in that, when we talk about the quality of the water and everything. So, I think that’s very important. So, thanks for bringing that up today. Thank you very much for being here.

Dr. Frederickson, anything from you? You’re sitting there very pensive.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Mr. Chairman, it might be helpful to remind you or to let you know that next week Dr. Frederickson will be here to do a presentation on West Nile. So we will have . . . it doesn’t hurt to repeat and repeat it.”

Chairman Norton said, “What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to receive and file.

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 very much. Next item.”
D. RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR REVISION OF THE SEDGWICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Mr. Andy Schlapp, Director, Community Relations, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Today you have before you an agenda item that’s kind of the end of the process that we’ve been on. Back on March 19th we started the process by choosing some language that we thought would be appropriate to amend the solid waste plan. At that time, we took that language to the MAPC and they reviewed their comprehensive plan to see that that language was consistent to the comprehensive plan and they determined that it was. It was then taken to the Solid Waste Committee for their review and comment on the 21st of March and you have received their information and their opinions on that. And then, on May 19th, we held public comment out at the Kansas Coliseum. We had 232 people come and express their opinions on the proposed change to the solid waste plan.

And so, at this time, it would be appropriate for you to decide whether it’s the time to change the Solid Waste Plan or not and if we change the Solid Waste Plan, then we would send that on to KDHE for their review and comment on the proposed language.

And just for the record, and for your help, I brought the language with me today and I’m going to read that into the record:

The establishment of a solid waste disposal area in Sedgwick County upon the issuance by the County of a Request for Proposal, an RFP, subject to the terms of the RFP, and to County regulatory and contractual authority to the maximum extent legally possible [sic], as an alternative to, or supplement for, the use of transfer stations in the management of solid waste.”

Chairman Norton said, “Okay. Well, we’ve been through an extensive review. It’s gone through the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission. It’s gone through the Solid Waste Management Committee and we had a public hearing on May 19th and I think all of us have gotten the complete dialogue of that day and all the addendums that were added to it from the public. It was pretty interesting reading to go back and see what people had to say and also see all the things they pull off of the Internet that talked about new technologies and everything.

At this point, I would be interested to hear what the Commission would like to do and entertain a Motion one way or the other. Commissioner Sciortino.”
Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yeah, this is just my feeling on it. I’ve made no bones about my position five years ago, that I supported the concept of a local landfill and I’m not going to regurgitate all the reasons I believe that way. Basically it boils down to I think it would be more economical and less expensive for the taxpayers if we were to figure out a way to take care of our trash locally.

This has been a very contentious position. There have been people polarized on both sides of it. Whatever we do today, I can venture to say there will be great numbers of people dissatisfied with what our decision is. And we labored over the wording, and I think it’s important at least to let the public know that this wording is designed specifically to allow this board total flexibility. It doesn’t mandate that we have to do anything. It allows us to discuss and debate in public the pros and cons of the feasibility of a landfill as a concept.

If we ever decide to engage in that conversation, we don’t have to just because this is in here, we don’t have to engage in that. Personally, I hope we do, but if we were to decide that the concept was meritorious, economically feasible, then we could start the debate over the pros and cons of whether a landfill should be publicly owned, privately owned, etcetera.

Once we were to get past that, then we would start discussing a site-specific area. Now a lot of the people that have talked to us and May 19th I was not there. I had a conflict of interest and couldn’t figure out how to be at two places at one time, but I’ve been very engaged in this and have heard public comment on this for the last . . . even before I became a commissioner, when there was a transition between the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County, they held many numerous public hearings about this.

The biggest concern is don’t put it in my backyard area and there were a lot of people that were under the idea that it’s definitely going to go in one particular area of Sedgwick County and that hasn’t even been discussed at this Bench yet.

So I would ask the public to just be part of this discussion. I think it’s very beneficial that the public find out and the only way they can find out is if we start talking about it in public, what is the economic reality of a local landfill, what type of impact will it have on the residents and the community.

I’ve heard that perhaps my only interest is money. Well, that’s true. I believe this Board is a
steward of the taxpayers’ money and it’s incumbent upon us to try to figure out how we can best use their money to provide the best service that we can. So for us not to be able to even talk about this alternative, to me, isn’t doing the job that we were hired to do and that is to try to find out how to provide necessary services, environmentally safe but for the least amount of money possible. So I’m going to support this issue and I just wanted to explain to the public that this is a one sentence, although it must have been written by an attorney, because it took seven lines to complete the one sentence, but it’s a one-sentence paragraph that simply allows us the option to discuss the concept of a landfill. It does not mandate that we put in a landfill. So, thank you very much.”

Chairman Norton said, “Okay. Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also intend to vote in favor of this resolution. I think it’s reasonable and logical that we should have more than one option in our solid waste management plan. It doesn’t seem reasonable and logical that we should tie ourselves down to only one solution to this problem.

I think that we need to be aware that today this resolution is only providing language that we may, in the future, establish a landfill. It doesn’t say that we’re going to. It doesn’t say that we have a site in mind. It doesn’t say any of that, but what we’re providing for that, that as we move along, as we look into the future, if the circumstances, if the economics provide us a way or make it seem reasonable, we should establish one and we have that option.

I know that . . . I see that Mr. Jim Spencer is in the boardroom today and he has publicly made some statements that he would allow for some funding to come back to the city and county and that he would provide for ways of recycling. I think all those are potential influences on our future decisions that we would need to take into account when we get to that point.

So, I’m still open on that issue, but right now I think we need to include the language. And I’m aware of opposing viewpoints. You know, I was at the solid waste management committee meetings. I was at our public hearing. I’m aware of those comments that were made. I’m acutely aware of comments from folks who are in Lincoln and Payne Township and also in Grant Township, folks who are particularly passionate about this issue, but I’m also aware of comments from business groups in our community, from the Independent Business Association and the Chamber of Commerce, from the Metropolitan Area Planning Committee and their perspective on it. I’m also aware of perspective from the vast majority of my constituency who elected me on this campaign issue. So, all that taken into account, this is one step that we need to provide more flexibility for us. I think it’s the logical decision, the business decision, the right decision. So, I intend to stand in favor of it. That’s all I have.”

Chairman Norton said, “Anyone else? Well, for me, having looked at all the different parts of this, and we’ve talked a lot about new technologies and certainly there are a lot of people out there
that have brought them to us and showed them off and new bells and whistles, but as I’ve analyzed them, some of them have not been proven and some of them that maybe have a little background are pretty darn expensive still. So, we need to continue to go down that path and look at it, but truthfully, I just don’t think we’re there with the technology that’s going to be good enough for Sedgwick County right now.

Also into the mix is what some others counties are doing. Harper’s landfill that’s kind of still out in limbo will affect what happens to us here locally. You know, we’ve kind of got the cart before the horse, which has always been the mantra that I’ve talked about is that we’ve talked about siting and we’ve had many, many people that have e-mailed us and talked to us about siting a landfill, and for me it was that why were we talking about that when we really didn’t even have landfill in the solid waste plan for everybody to get their selves into a tizzy.

We’ve kind of really moved pass that. There’s so many decisions we would have to make before we could ever site a landfill, if we pass this resolution. We would have to obviously consider what’s going to happen with the Harper Landfill. We have to understand the dilemma we would have because there are two transfer stations already running. We would have to make decisions on whether it’s a public, private or a partnership agreement. We’d have to understand the implications of importing and exporting trash. We’d have to understand that KDHE and EPA would have to be involved in any of this and then, finally we might get to some siting criteria and an RFP.

The truth for me is, as I talk around the County, and I’ve gone to a lot of Solid Waste Committee meetings, I’ve gone to the public hearings and I’ve listened to citizens. But you know that’s not the only place I listen to citizens in that forum. Certainly the people that come together and fight for a good cause will show up to every one of those but as I stop in a grocery store and talk to an 80-year-old lady that never makes it to these public hearings and hear her say that her trash costs are too high, I listen. And when I go to my son’s baseball game and somebody says what are you working on, I go ‘Well, we’re still wrestling with that landfill issue’ and 99-100% of them, in the conversation of 10 people, say you need to at least look at it. And when I’m in my Sunday school class talk about it and most of them say you need to at least look at it. When I get it out into the public, to people that aren’t advocating one position and showing up at the meetings with signs, I find that there’s a will of my constituents anyway, in the 2nd district, to at least put it on the table.

It has to do with having a toolbox and only having one tool in it. We have many, many other tools and technology is one, landfill is one, transfer stations is one, there may be other things out there. So for me it’s about continuing the debate, making sure that we keep ourselves honest, because we
have a full toolbox to use if we need to and to understand that we’ll, as a Board of County Commissioners, will ultimately come to the right conclusion based on public feedback, not from special interest groups, not from narrow-minded citizens’ groups, but for the general public. And with that, I will probably vote for the resolution to at least add it into the Solid Waste Plan today. And I would entertain comments from Commissioner Winters.”

**Commissioner Winters** said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that. Commissioners, I know that there are times I hope that we can respectfully disagree with each other and still work towards solutions for the community. I’m going to vote against the addition of this resolution into our Solid Waste Planning Plan for a couple of reasons. And one is I do think we have a plan that’s working. And the transferring of trash to regional landfills is a relatively new kind of action or event or solution.

Back in 1993, when we started on this process really and federal regulations were taking effect about the structure and construction of landfills, in 1993 there were 110 landfills in Kansas and no transfer stations. Today, there are 33 small, arid landfills and mostly in western Kansas, where they have less than 20 inches of rain, and there are 18 Subtitle D landfills and there are 64 licensed transfer stations. So the concept of using regional Subtitle D landfills in areas that are environmentally more acceptable is not a strange or new phenomenon or it’s not something that we’re really breaking new ground on here in Sedgwick County.

The two issues that I think led past Commissions to get here were one, thinking about what is environmentally the correct thing to do with the soil structures and water levels that we have here in Sedgwick County and to put an emphasis on a system that encourages reuse, reduction and recycling as opposed to a system that creates revenue by a higher tonnage of solid waste going into the system.

So those are . . . and I think it’s important to remember that, under the current system that we have now, there’s 24% less tonnage going through the transfer stations than was going into Brooks Landfill at the time it closed. So there has been, even though recycling numbers are not what need to be, when you include the construction and demolition debris removal from the solid waste stream, there has been a 24% reduction.

So, again, I’m going to vote no on this resolution, but as we proceed on, I want us to stay tuned to what is the environmentally proper thing to do and how can we continue to encourage our citizens to recycle, reduce and reuse items that they are not today. So, with that pretty short wrap up of about eight years of serious work in solid waste, I’m going to vote no on this resolution. Thank
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

Chairman Norton said, “Thank you, Commissioner Winters. Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Not quite two years ago, I had asked the Solid Waste Committee to go back and reevaluate final disposal options for our community. And that meant landfill, new technology, or stay the course that we’re currently on. I agree that . . . with Commissioner Winters as far as the fact that we do have a system in place. So many times we hear people saying ‘when are you going to get it solved?’ Well, we have a system in place and it seems to be working very well. But can we do things better as a community and what fits best for our community?

We sent it back to the Solid Waste Committee and asked them to finish their work in less than two years. And it was my intent always to stay out of the process at that point, because this is a very diverse citizens’ committee from all across our County. These are people that come from all walks of life and in all businesses and I thought it was very important to not mess with the process and let them do their work. I want to thank them for doing the work in less than two years and, in fact, they finished this work in 18 months.

The Solid Waste Committee, it appeared, was very polarized. At one point, they came back with a narrow vote and if I remember right it was to stay with the same plan. Nicki Soice, the chairman, had them go through another process to ask several different questions and I think that that information sounds like as we move forward will be very helpful to us, as we make other decisions, should a landfill ever surface in this community.

The other thing, I guess I’d just like to share about the public hearing, we read a little bit about it in the paper but I guess one of the things I thought was very interesting was I heard very loud and clear that the system that we have today is working. There’s many people that still would like to see the incineration system in our community. But the thing I think that was as loud and clear as could be and that was reduce, reuse and recycle. And you know that was a component of this Solid Waste Plan in ’97 that you adopted and to me it has always been overshadowed by the debate whether we have a landfill or whether we have a transfer station. And I think it’s the most important element of the whole scenario and that is because it doesn’t matter whether we use someone else’s landfill, whether we use our own landfill, the bottom line is we need to reduce the amount of trash that we produce as a community. And so, I still think that that needs to be at the forefront, no matter what the final disposal option was.

I was curious why the landfill supporters were not at a public hearing that specifically asked the question, do you want a landfill in our community? I think, if I remember right, there was 47 people that testified. I think maybe there was two or three people that did speak in favor of a landfill.
Before I move forward with a few more comments, I do have a couple of questions for Mr. Euson. And in the motion that we’re looking at today, as I read it, I don’t see that it talks about leaving the option open as to whether you have a publicly run landfill. And so could you clarify that just a little bit for me, because I’m not seeing that.”

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The option before you talks about a landfill that would be operated by contract. It does not talk about who would own the landfill and so, in that case, it could be either publicly owned or privately owned. It would just be operated under a contract which would be secured through the Request For Proposal process.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay. So you’re sure that a public utility could be put in with this resolution. Is that what you’re saying?”

Ms. Euson said, “I am as sure as KDHE will agree with me, but yes, I’m sure. It’s open and it doesn’t restrict us to a privately owned. You will recall, in March 19th at your meeting, that you had three options before you and the three options were: a county-owned landfill, an RFP process that didn’t talk about the ownership and a privately-owned, market-driven landfill and you chose the second options, which did not really specify who owned the landfill. So, in my opinion, the history of it, as well as the wording of it is pretty clear that it could be private or public in the ownership.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Well, I think that’s very important, as we move forward, because we still haven’t even had that discussion or debate about public versus private and I think one of things that’s very important, as we move forward as a community, is that we understand when we say we want to take care of our own trash that there is a big difference between public and private. Public, we can just take care of our own trash and stop it at the borders, as I understand. If it’s privately owned, it’s pretty much we can bring it in from all over the United States and the world, for that matter.

And so I think that that’s a discussion that has not been had yet. As Commissioner Norton said, you know we really, we haven’t even gotten to that level of even having those discussions. And so, I want to make sure that that option remains open, because I think that’s very important. When I go out and talk to people in the community that say can we just take care of our own trash, you know, I’m like that’s fine but let’s also talk about what does that mean. And when I explain that to them, then they’re like ‘Oh, I didn’t know that’.

And so, I think it’s important that we understand the difference between public and private, especially when we talk about let’s take care of our own trash. And when we say that, we need to also say ‘do we want to take care of everybody else’s trash too”? And so, I think that’s an important
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

point, that we need to have good discussion on, if today we move forward on this having this option.

The other question that I have for you, Mr. Euson, is new technology. I hear a lot about new technology from my constituents and that’s important to them and so I guess I know I’ve asked you at a staff meeting but not at a public meeting. How would new technology fit in, should we have a landfill someday or with the existing solid waste plan as it exists today?”

Mr. Euson said, “The answer to that just really depends on exactly what it is. For instance, we have a recycling component to our plan, so if it has to do with recycling, if it’s a technology that says you can take contaminated soil and replenish it and reuse it, that’s really a recycling type of a component. If you’re talking about a disposal option, that’s probably something different. So in other words, if you’re talking about pyrolysis on a grand scale, then that’s maybe something that would require you to amend your plan. So it really just depends on what the new technology is, I think.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Well, I just want to leave the door open and give people the opportunity, should new technology come along and maybe it is at a small scale and we start seeing that it’s very successful, that we can change the direction that we’re going, because I strongly feel that new technology is the way to go. I’ve been told that it’s still not economically feasible, but you know the way technology changes in this day and age, it could be and it could be very soon. And so, I don’t want to shut the door to that opportunity, should it exist.

Okay, I guess you guys would probably like me to wrap it up, but you know I’ve been silent for two years now, so it’s my opportunity. I guess, in closing, I think I’m willing to approve this today, because this today is saying all we’re doing is leaving this as an option for final disposal. And the next step, and if I may ask my colleagues and Mr. Euson, if we move forward though, we would have the authority to approve an RFP and we would have to vote again on that and we would have the authority, if we’re going to have a public landfill, we would have to vote on that again as well.

Okay. Well, I just want to share that, as we move forward, I will not approve an RFP for a landfill unless we have a pay-as-you-throw and curbside recycling program in place in this community. I think that is very important. I hear it loud and clear from all of my constituents and, as I said earlier, it doesn’t matter what final disposal . . . the final disposal options are, we need to be very prudent with those and not just fill them up, because as Commissioner Winters quoted on some of the comments he had that we’re seeing fewer and fewer landfills in this community and all across the nation. And so I think we need to decrease the amount of trash that we throw in them.
I also will not approve an RFP unless there is a total, county-wide look at the best geologically suited site to put a landfill. I think the City . . . I don’t know what Furley calls themselves, but the community of Furley has been dealt some bad cards and I think it’s because that massive amount of
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

land was probably not acquired in the light of day. That was prior to the County Commission having any control over it, but I don’t think that just because this massive amount of land was acquired, that that ought to be the given place to have a landfill.

I look at data that’s been given to me about geologically suited sites for landfills in this County. I’ve looked at past data. There are other locations in this County that are better suited for a landfill than the Furley area. And so, I hope that as we move forward that we diligently go over that with a fine-tooth comb and don’t just say, ‘well, it’s easy because we’ve got over 1,000 acres already acquired here’ and so that just makes it, by default, the best place to put a landfill. I think we need to take a stand on if we’re going to have a landfill, let’s find the best place and depending on where that is, that we did it because it was the best geologically suited site in this County and not because we already had this massive amount of land acquired.

And so, I just share that because those are the things that are going to be important to me and I will not move forward on an RFP for a landfill unless those things are in place. I want to also share that, should we move forward, I think that we also need to continue to look at transfer stations, even if we have a landfill, because I think they’re very convenient for our citizens. I’ve heard lots of good comments and I think that that’s something that could be part of the piece of the puzzle as well.

And in closing, as I’ve said that a second time now, . . .”

Chairman Norton said, “We’ll give you a third time.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “The TV’s go off at noon.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay. I think that cost is important, as it pertains to short-term costs, as well as long-term costs and so I think that we need to look, as I said when we talked about geologically suitable sites, we need to look at the long-term costs, should something go wrong and we need to think about that in our plan.

There are certainly short-term costs that we’re looking at today and I know those have been on the front of Commissioner Sciortino’s and others minds, very much so, but those can also be dealt with in another way as well. I look at Bel Aire and some of the success they’re having and they just went together and we have one provider and their cost for trash went down and I’ve said all along, if we’re going to talk about cost, we need to talk about how the trash gets picked up in the first place, because that’s where the largest amount of cost is. It’s not in the final disposal area. And so, I think cost is important but I think we’re not going to solve the cost problem at the final disposal place. We’re going to solve the cost problem in the distribution area.

So, those are my comments for today and I am willing to take one more step forward, but in light of
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

what I heard at the public hearing, in light of what I hear from my constituents, I can’t see that we can move any more, make any more progress until we implement some of the programs that were talked about in ’97 and that we’ve put off twice now. And I will add too, even if we don’t have a landfill, I look forward to the conversation about some of these pay-as-you-throw and curbside recycling programs that we’ve talked about in the past. Thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no other lights. So, what is the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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<th>Commissioner</th>
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<tr>
<td>David M. Unruh</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Winters</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolyn McGinn</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben Sciortino</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Norton</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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Chairman Norton said, “Next item.”

E. RESOLUTION REVISION POLICY 4.710, HOLIDAY PAY, OF THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL.

Mr. Russell said, “Last year, we changed about 22 policies, trying to straighten out how we do business in Sedgwick County. This one is a straggler that left some inconsistent practices, because the policy was being interpreted differently. The bottom line on this item is that it eliminates any concept of a floating holiday and standardizes leave practices and I would recommend adoption. Can answer any questions.”

Chairman Norton said, “I see no questions.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “A quick one.”
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

Chairman Norton said, “Okay, Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Sorry Doug. I was trying to find my page. You may have already had this taken care of. I know it seems like every year we have somebody say on one of the vacations, can we have this extra day because it’s so close to the weekend or whatever. You have discussed this with team leaders or with employees or . . . I mean, the word is out there, as far as our employee base, this is what it’s going to be?”

Mr. Russell said, “Oh, this does not change holidays at all. All this does is indicate that when Commissioners designate holidays, and if you have sick leave or vacation tied to those, it will be handled in a standardized practice. The answer is Paulette Goines did about this much research with every imaginable stakeholder to figure out what we’re doing. We met with Ed Randals to make sure the Sheriff’s part was good, Jennifer Magana to make sure everybody else was, ERP, HR, Finance, every stakeholder we could consult has been consulted and Bob Lamkey was needing this for his fire/EMS and other to clarify that. He was a strong advocate and we all agree that this is a good policy.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “And with that said, we probably still have some phone calls. But anyway, I just thought I’d ask.”

Mr. Russell said, “I hope not, but possibly.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “That’s all right. Thank you, Doug.”

Mr. Russell said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “Any other questions of Doug? What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn 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
Chairman Tim Norton said, “Thanks, Doug. Next item.”

F. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES.

1. AGREEMENT WITH CENTRAL PLAINS REGIONAL HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION FOR PROVISION OF MEDICAL CARE AND PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION TO INCOME-ELIGIBLE, UNINSURED CITIZENS THROUGH PROJECT ACCESS.

Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Division of Human Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, “What I bring to you today is the contract with the Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation, which we more commonly talk about as Project Access, for the medications that are provided for individuals who participate in that program.

This has been a very successful program and I think one our community can certainly be proud of. In 2002, 1,187 new patients were enrolled in the program. In terms of the donated medical care, and this is donated from physicians and hospitals, exceeded $6,000,000. And the prescription medications that were purchased with city and county funds totaled $559,988 and 23,910 prescription claims were processed.

Project Access has certainly filled a niche in our community. The safety net clinics, such as Hunter, Good Samaritan, Guadalupe provide much of the primary care for folks who are uninsured who are indigent in our community. However, Project Access steps in and provides that specialty care that those clinics are not equipped or able to provide. So, this has certainly been a great program for us. They have been good stewards of those dollars. They certainly have moved forward in terms of always requiring generics when they’re available. They went for a grant and actually got a staff person whose job is to access the indigent drug programs that pharmaceutical companies provide and actually, obviously, has far exceeded the cost of that position in terms of those medications being brought in and they’re currently working with the Medical Services Bureau in terms of expanding their non-profit pharmacy and having that available to the people served through their program. So, I would recommend your approval and would be glad to answer any questions.”

Chairman Tim Norton said, “I see no questions. What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

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, Deb. Next item.”

2. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES AND KANSAS DEPARTMENT ON AGING FOR CENTRAL PLAINS AREA AGENCY ON AGING TO PROVIDE NURSING HOME PRE-ASSESSMENTS.

Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Central Plains Area Agency on Aging has operated the CARE program, which is the Client Assessment Referral and Evaluation program since January 1st of 1985. Under this program, we’re responsible for conducting pre-assessments for anybody in the tri-county area, Butler, Harvey and Sedgwick County, intending to go into a nursing home. So, the Kansas Department on Aging contracts with us to do this program and they reimburse the Central Plains Area Agency on Aging per each assessment. So, this is the agreement for the new fiscal year, which begins July 1st and it’s in agreement with the state and federal laws, which require this.

Last year, we averaged approximately 200 assessments a month under this program and the latest figures we have indicate about a 14% diversion rate. So whenever anybody is assessed, they give them information about other options, because a lot of times when someone’s considering a nursing home placement, they don’t know what the other options and services are available in the community. So, the Kansas Department on Aging tracks to determine what the diversion rate is.
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

And so that has continually gone up over the last five to seven years. So, this is the contract and we would ask that you approve this and authorize the Chairperson to sign.”


Commissioner Sciortino said, “Annette, I think you’ve answered my question, but the pre-assessments are designed to see if we can’t divert some of the people from a nursing home, if another alternative might do just as well or better?”

Ms. Graham said, “Yes, and it’s to educate the individuals and their family members of what other service options are available. Of course the decision is up to them whether or not to proceed with that, but a lot of times they just need some information and support.

Another component of this also is that we do 60 and 90-day follow-ups to follow up with the individuals to see if they need other information or what decisions they’ve made.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “So they would have an option to, if they got assessed and they still picked nursing home, 60 to 90 days, if they’ve changed their mind now that they’ve been exposed to the nursing home, they can opt out of the nursing home and go to this other alternative?”

Ms. Graham said, “Yes, they can always call and ask for assistance and services that are available outside the nursing home.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I’m going to probably ask this question . . . can you just give us an example of one or two alternatives to a nursing home that they could be . . . that could be discussed with them?”

Ms. Graham said, “Yes. There’s services such as the Caregiver program. Sometimes the caregiver just needs some respite or some support services. Or there’s in-home services to help the individuals with their activities of daily living, shopping, bathing, things like that.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I think it’s great. I mean, people sometimes think there’s just one, ‘Well, mother is getting too difficult to take care of, so we’ll put her in a nursing home’ maybe not knowing that there are some other alternatives that might be more loving in a way too. So, thank you very much. That’s all I have.”

Page No. 25
Chairman Norton said, “Okay, I see no other questions. What is the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

Chairman Norton said, “Thanks, Annette. Next item.”

3. **GRANT APPLICATION TO KANSAS JUVENILE JUSTICE AUTHORITY FOR JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLOCK GRANT FUNDS.**

**POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

Ms. Chris Kautzer, Systems Integration Coordinator, Department of Corrections, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m filling in for Mark Masterson this morning. Before you is our juvenile accountability incentive block grant application for state fiscal year 2004. The block grant is a federally funded initiative that is administered by the state. The intent of the block grant continues to be the same, and that is to promote greater accountability for the juvenile justice system in our area.

Sedgwick County this year is eligible to receive $345,539 for the next state fiscal year, and that is the fiscal year beginning July 1st. A required 10% cash match has been planned for in the County budget, so the total funds available, you’ll see at the top of this slide, is $383,932. On May 2nd, the Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board, or Team Justice, recommended continued funding for the current programs which were selected to address and meet the important needs in our strategic plan.
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

So the proposed grant would provide continued funding for two positions in the District Attorney’s Office. That is the data entry clerk, which is the first one on the slide and then the diversion manager underneath. The data entry clerk position was created to address effective operation within the Juvenile Justice System. This person will continue to prioritize juvenile journal entries according to those that are time sensitive, such as out-of-home placements and direct commitments of youth to state correctional facilities.

The diversion manager position provides supervision for three diversion programs with the Juvenile Division of the District Attorney’s Office. The third one on the list is the juvenile justice technology project manager. This is with the Sedgwick County Division of Information and Operations and they are proposing to transfer the management of the new juvenile data base system to an in-house project manager rather than a consultant. And by doing this, this will reduce the personnel costs for this project. In addition to providing ongoing support for that Juvenile Justice database, this person would also be responsible for managing other technology projects that are specifically related to Juvenile Justice.

Two programs that the Sedgwick County Department of Corrections is proposing to maintain is the Juvenile Detention Facility Mental Health Project and the Getting Responsible And Disciplined, or GRAD Program. The purpose of the Mental Health Project is to improve the mental health services in detention by screening all of the youth that come into detention and intake for symptoms and then get them connected to the appropriate community resources if necessary. And the GRAD program provides educational support and supervision for youth that are on probation, diversion or intensive supervision at one of the four area target schools. And those schools are East, North, South and Sowards.

And finally, $5,000 has been budgeted to bring a national strength-based trainer to Wichita. This person would conduct a two-day training for the direct service staff that work with our juvenile offender populations.

When considered as a package, these components do strengthen our local juvenile justice system through improved technology and increased capacity to serve and hold accountable the juvenile offenders in our community. We are asking that you approve this grant application and authorize the Chair to sign. I’d be happy to answer any questions you may have.”


Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. Chris, now these programs are in operation now and these people are in place in most of these positions from previous grant awards?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “That is correct.”
Commissioner Winters said, “So this is really not breaking new ground.”

Ms. Kautzer said, “The only one that would be a new position is the Juvenile Justice Technology project manager and that’s just switching it to an in-house person, versus a consultant.”

Commissioner Winters said, “All right. How much . . . the amount here looks to be, what $383,000. What was that amount last year? Do you have that number? Is this a reduction?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “It is a reduction. The total awards for the current fiscal year were $412,340.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay. And then, I believe you did indicate that Team Justice, which is our Juvenile Justice Advisory Board made up of citizens and people that are in the system some way, they’ve reviewed all of this information on this grant request and they’re okay with these requests?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Yes, that is correct.”

Commissioner Winters said, “All right, thank you. That’s all I have, Mr. Chairman.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you. These are total federal dollars and come straight to us, don’t stop at Topeka, get shuffled around and lost in the mail?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “It goes through Topeka. It goes through the Juvenile Justice Authority.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Do we get every penny? It’s a straight pass through?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Yes.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Okay, thank you.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “It they let it pass through, we get it. I have a couple of questions.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you. I think this is great, if we’ve figured out a way to do it more efficiently and I’m going to assume that the reduction was due, in large part, to taking that
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

project manager in-house, as opposed to contracting out.”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Correct. It was a 33% reduction.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “And hopefully the federal government, and maybe even their gatekeeper Topeka, will appreciate that we’re trying to use their money in a more efficient manner. The question I have is that let’s say for example we don’t get the grant, what happens to these people, and I have to assume under the grant program, there’s probably individuals involved in that too? Is that correct?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Correct.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay. So what happens to all those people that presently have a job if we don’t get the grant?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Actually we are . . . the award for this next fiscal year is secure. We have been told this is the allocation for Sedgwick County. We then turn around and submit a grant application how we would like to use it.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “We don’t submit the application until we’re told that we have the money. I like that. Okay, that makes sense. All right, so we can sidestep that very tough question, at least for next year.”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay. All right, great. Well, that’s all I had. Thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “Chris, where was the project manager paid for? What monies paid for that previous, this monies or some outside monies?”

Ms. Kautzer said, “The consultant that developed the data base was . . . it was created through this project, for this grant program.”

Chairman Norton said, “So it actually saves money in this grant block project. Well, I knew but it didn’t move from something else and take the place of other people doing other jobs.”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Right.”

Chairman Norton said, “It was already in this.”
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

Ms. Kautzer said, “You are correct.”

Chairman Norton said, “This is just part of the . . . it created part of the savings.”

Ms. Kautzer said, “Yes.”

Chairman Norton said, “Okay, good. I see no other questions. What is the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

Chairman Norton said, “I have a Motion and a Second. Clerk, call the vote.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I have just one other comment, now that we’ve made the Motion. I want to compliment whoever worked on this grant application, or whoever negotiated this because maybe the incentive to make it more efficient was because maybe they allocated less money or what, but the concept of always re-looking at a policy or a program as to how can we do it better, how can we do it more efficiently sometimes is a labor of love, because often times it doesn’t matter, as far as an individual’s personal promotion or career or what have you and saving $10,000-20,000 here, $10,000-$20,000 there. In the big picture, sometimes people can just say, ‘What the heck, it isn’t worth the effort’ but I think it is worth the effort and I commend those of you that worked on being able to continue to deliver these services in a more efficient manner and you are to be commended on that. Thank you. I wouldn’t have done it if your boss was here, but for you I’ll compliment you. No, I’m just kidding.”

Chairman Norton said, “Clerk, call the item.”

**VOTE**

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

Chairman Norton said, “Next item.”

COMCARE

4. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH DIANE OVERSTREET, MOT, OTR TO PROVIDE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CONSULTATION.

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The agreement with Diane Overstreet, who is an Occupational Therapist, is amended to reduce the total number of hours that we purchase from her.

Recent budget reductions have made it necessary for us to reduce occupational therapy services at COMCARE. The original contract was for an average of 25 hours per week. This amendment reduces the contract by six hours a week, at a savings of $9,765 for the remainder of this year. Diane is currently rearranging her schedule and meeting with clients to meet this new average as soon as possible and she’s anticipating she’ll be at that point by June 1st. We’re requesting that you approve the amendment and I’d be happy to answer any questions you might have.”

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

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Amendment to 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
5. AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION SERVICES FOR THE SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION FUND.

Ms. Jeannette Livingston, Contract Administrator, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The agreement before you is a contract with Wichita State University for professional evaluation services for the Sedgwick County Community Crime Prevention Fund. Last summer, Sedgwick County contracted with a consultant to review both the Sedgwick County Community Crime Prevention Fund and the Juvenile Justice Authority grants administered through the Department of Corrections.

One of his recommendations was to have a standard evaluation process between the two grant programs. This contract is in compliance with his recommendation. The Department of Corrections has contracted with the Wichita State University for evaluation services, the Juvenile Justice Authority grants for the last several years. The contract will expand those same evaluation services to the Sedgwick County Community Crime Prevention fund. The evaluator is Dr. Delores Craig-Moreland. Dr. Craig-Moreland has extensive experience in juvenile justice matters and has been providing these services for the Department of Corrections for a number of years.

Specifically, Dr. Craig-Moreland will provide . . . she will develop an evaluation strategy, develop an annual report on the performance of the grant recipients for the Commission, make at least one site visit to each program and provide professional consultation services for program initiatives, any new program initiatives we might think of doing. The recommended action is to approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. I’m available if you have questions.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “I have a three-part question. How will this effect what you do? How will this effect what the County’s prevention committee selection group does and what Team Justice, the juvenile advisory board does?”

Ms. Livingston said, “I’m not sure exactly how . . . I will work more closely with Dr. Craig. I think the information, it will work very similar to how it does on the Corrections side. The information comes to Corrections, it’s consolidated there and fed through to Dr. Craig. Now, she
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

may want additional information and work with the programs on that, but she develops an annual, more comprehensive evaluation of each program. So, it won’t affect my position dramatically. I will still be collecting the information. I’ll still be doing the quarterly reports. Those will go also to Dr. Craig, plus she may do some additional data gathering that she determines necessary to make her recommendations. As far as the grant awards, this is something that the grant award committee will also have available to them to help them to make their selections next year. And Team Justice, I mean it’s already a process that they use with Dr. Craig and her annual reports.

I believe the ultimate goal, one of the recommendations from the consultant was to consolidate the fiscal year, so that these could be allocated on the same fiscal year, the same committee both allocating both Team Justice funds, as well as the Community Crime Prevention dollars. So, it will standardize the evaluation process and how that will work.”

Commissioner Winters said, “And so will then the prevention selection committee that makes recommendations to this Board on the County prevention funds, it will still be functioning but we’ll just have more information available to it?”

Ms. Livingston said, “Yes, that’s the plan at this point, as I know it, yes.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, I think that’s all I have right now.”


Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, but these two funds will still remain totally autonomous and separate. We’re just going to try to see if there’s a way to standardize outcome measurements and what have you?”

Ms. Livingston said, “We’re going to try to standardize the evaluation process. We’re going to try to coordinate the fiscal year, so they would be administered on the same fiscal year. The Juvenile Justice grants are state funds and have significant amount of state requirements to match those that the County does not have to follow. So it’s not like we can dump them in the same pot, but we can do as much as we can to coordinate and consolidate the structures so the grant recipients have a similar process on both sides.”
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, but my question is this won’t in any way curtail our flexibility on what we may or may not want to do. What about that consultant’s report that we hired here a year or so ago to give us, basically, the same information but just germane to the crime prevention funds? Will she be evaluating his recommendations also, or is this a brand new evaluation?”

Ms. Livingston said, “Well, this will be an ongoing evaluation component for the prevention fund. Now, it was his recommendation, the consultant last summer, that recommended standardizing the evaluation processes between the two grant funds. So, that’s where the idea came from. We’re just doing the same thing the Juvenile Justice Authority does for their grants.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay. But ongoing, meaning on an annual basis?”

Ms. Livingston said, “Correct.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “But I noticed, and don’t get me wrong, I don’t want to up the price, it was only like $5,000. Around here, that sometimes hardly buys you a cup of coffee to sit down and start thinking about having a meeting. How in depth is she going to be able to do an evaluation of two different funds and research out her recommendations, etcetera, for $5,000?”

Ms. Livingston said, “The $5,000 is just for the Sedgwick County Community Crime Prevention funds. I don’t know how much, exactly, off the top of my head, the Corrections Department pays her. She has additional responsibilities on the Correction side. They have some reporting requirements to the state on the risk factors and that sort of stuff, so I think she probably gets a little more for the Juvenile Justice evaluation process than ours. This will only be the Sedgwick County Community Crime Prevention funds. A couple of the programs are shared. We have two programs that are on both sides, so she will have some information on both of those already. Did that answer your question?”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yeah, it’s as clear . . . well, no, but that’s okay. So this is just a supplemental to a program that she’s already getting ready to do for the state and then she’ll try to figure out what she does for the state that may be germane to our Crime Prevention program and that’s where the ancillary costs come in. Okay, I understand.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well, that was one of the complaints of the providers is that they weren’t apples and apples and now they’ll be able to compare everything that we do in the juvenile side
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

together, because one took one track and one took another track.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “We’re getting on very dangerous ground. We may become efficient and that’s going to scare the heck out of people.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Well, I think Commissioner Sciortino finally got the answer, but also I didn’t want . . . we spent the money on the consultant and I didn’t want to start going in another direction, because I think he had us down the right path. We just need to continue on, fine-tune and I agree that, in some of the situations that I’ve looked at, we need to make sure we’re doing the same thing with the JJA funds and Prevention. Thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well, thank you. I bit of hopefully making it a little more clearer. Back when we first started on Juvenile Justice reform, in ’97 and ’98, one of the things that we did early on was pulled Wichita State University and Dr. Paul Cromwell and I’m not sure of what his real group is, but the ones that do criminal justice issues. We said at that time, who can we get as an independent third party, watching what’s happening with juvenile justice reform dollars that are coming from the state and he was very active in the development of our community-wide plan. Delores Craig has been active in the monitoring and I think their help, as we went through this post-audit legislative review earlier, which showed Sedgwick County is one of the few district courts areas in the state that are doing it properly, it’s because Delores Craig and Wichita State have had a big role in making sure that things were done according to the standards set by this grant award we get federal money from, state money from and so they’ve done, I think, just an excellent job working with the Team Justice folks, the advisory board.”

Chairman Norton said, “Well, and truthfully, this just puts the same standards and measurements to our money as we did from the state money. So now makes it very standardized and easy for all of us to understand. Because I think that’s been part of the confusion, when we get the outcomes from one, it doesn’t kind of line up to what the outcomes we were asking from the JJA funds. What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

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, “Thank you, Jeannette. Next item.”

G. PUBLIC WORKS.

1. MODIFICATION OF PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION WITH CORNEJO AND SONS, INC., REQUEST NUMBER ONE, FOR IDLEWILD STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT. CIP #D-3. DISTRICT #5.

Mr. David Spears, P.E., Director/County Engineer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Item G-1 is a modification of plans and construction, request number one for the Sedgwick County Idlewild Street reconstruction project designated as D-3 in the Capital Improvement Program. There will be a net increase of $36,443 due to replacing water and sewer service lines. I recommend that you approve the modification and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

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

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Modification of Plans and Construction 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, “Next item.”

2. **MODIFICATION OF PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION WITH RITCHIE PAVING, INC., REQUEST NUMBER ONE AND FINAL, FOR 2002 NOVA CHIP OVERLAYS PROJECT. CIP #R-175B. DISTRICT #3.**

**Mr. Spears** said, “Item G-2 is a modification of plans and construction, request number one and final, for the 2002 Nova Chip Overlays designated as R-175B in the Capital Improvement Program. This project has been completed and is ready to be finaled out. There will be a net decrease of $5,315.68 due to variations in plan quantities from actual field measurements. Note that this is 2002. We did not let them start last year, toward the end of the year. It was too cold and so we waited until this year to finish out that project. So, I recommend that you approve the modification and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

**Chairman Norton** said, “Once again, I see no questions. What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Modification of Plans and Construction and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Chairman Norton seconded the Motion.
There was no discussion on the Motion, the vote was called.

**VOTE**

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

**Chairman Norton** said, “Next item.”

### 3. MODIFICATION OF PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION WITH RITCHIE PAVING, INC., REQUEST NUMBER ONE AND FINAL, FOR SAVANNA AT CASTLE ROCK RANCH 9TH ADDITION PROJECT. DISTRICT #1.

**Mr. Spears** said, “Item G-3 is a modification of plans and construction, request number one and final, for the Sedgwick County project Savanna at Castle Rock Ranch 9th Addition, paving and drainage improvements. This project has been completed and is ready to be finaled out. There will be a net decrease of $1,574.40 due to variations in plan quantities from actual field measurements. I recommend that you approve the modification and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

**Chairman Norton** said, “Once again, I see no questions. What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the Modification of Plans and Construction and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Chairman Norton seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

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

1) MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL- COMCARE FUNDING: COMCARE ADMINISTRATION

The first item is a membership renewal for COMCARE. Recommend the expenditure with the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas Incorporated in the amount of $35,863.87.

2) RESCUE TOOLS- FIRE DISTRICT FUNDING: FIRE SHARED MAINTENANCE TECH RESPONSE/ FIRE STATION 33 & FIRE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

And item two, rescue tools for the Fire District. Recommend the low bid meeting specifications from Casco Industries for $20,453.

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

MOTION

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

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, Iris. Next item.”

CONSENT AGENDA

I. CONSENT AGENDA.


2. Amendment Agreement with the Estate of Vera J. Casado providing an extension to the inspection period for property to be used for a 911 and Emergency Operations facility.


5. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of May 21 – 27, 2003.

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

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

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 there anything else to come before the Commission today?”

**J. OTHER**

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Mr. Chairman, I just need to ask the Manager a question. I noticed, way back earlier this morning, we had changed the holiday pay in Sedgwick County personnel policies and procedures manual. Is that something also that the Fire District has to do too or can that be done just by here or should we . . .? I didn’t know if that’s something that we have to have as an item for the Fire District also?”

**Mr. Euson** said, “That’s a good question. I don’t know the answer. I’ll find out. They’re, of course, governed by their contract and there’s those considerations.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Okay, well I just threw it up because I know, in the past, we’ve had something replicated. That’s all I had, except if we’re ready to get to the real ‘other’.”

**Chairman Norton** said, “Let’s get to the real ‘other’ then, Commissioner Sciortino.”

**Commissioner Sciortino** said, “Well, this weekend it is Derby Days and it starts off with a parade Friday. They have a big carnival by Ottaway. The people there get . . . but all the rides and they have a food court and we have had a presence there for many years and we’re going to have a booth and it should be a nice weekend. It’s a lot of fun. It’s a tremendous family event. I have to go buy a new pith helmet, because my old pith helmet finally gave up the ghost, but I’ll do that today. Going to have a golf tournament and I’ll play the fool there too. But it’s a fun event and it’s a real family thing and encourage anyone that’s looking for a fun place to go, take the short drive down south and enjoy the fun, the food and the fellowship and what have you and you’ll have a nice way to spend a weekend.

So that’s what I’ll be doing this weekend, as well as weeding my tomato plants. They’re doing well. This mild climate and a lot of rain, they’re growing but nothing has set on yet, no little
flowers yet but I’m sure that that will come. So I’ll keep you posted on my tomatoes.”

Chairman Norton said, “Okay. And Sedgwick County will be at Derby Days, with a booth and kind of showing our wares as a county, so that’s good. Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you. I just wanted to mentioned that several of us had the opportunity to tour the remodeled Koch Arena, at least the remodeling to date. It’s going to be a great facility when it’s done, great addition to Wichita State and a fun place to watch and play basketball. But I think they’re to be complimented on how they’re getting it done and it doesn’t look like it, but they say that they are on schedule and ready to start on time.

Secondly, want to mention that we did get that Australia and South American exhibit out at the Zoo opened. I think all of us were there and the Chairman spoke and there were a bunch of little kids that were really eager to cut that ribbon and get into the exhibit. It was fun to watch them and see their enthusiasm.

And speaking of the Zoo, Kristi mentioned earlier about the Zoobilee coming up on June the 7th and it’s going to be a great opportunity for kids and I think they’re going to have 20 restaurants out there serving kid’s foods and so it will be a fun event for the family to get out and take that in.

Lastly, I want to mention so that folks will know that I have opened my satellite office in Bel Aire, out there on Friday mornings from 8:30 to noon and if anyone in the community would like to come in and chat or has an issue, well I will be there, happy to speak to anyone.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Where is your office located?”

Commissioner Unruh said, “It’s in the Bel Aire City Building, on 4500 block on North Auburn. They have graciously provided me space, a desk, a telephone and we’re up and ready to go.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “They just want your ear, so they can brag on you.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, that’s part of my job, to listen.”

Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. Just a note about an event I’m going to attend this evening and Mr. Chairman, I think you may be attending the Wichita Committee of 100, which is really a pretty quiet group of folks who are out there helping public safety officers who are injured or somehow involved in life-altering situations, as their jobs of either police officers, sheriff’s officers, EMS, what have you. And this group works pretty quietly but today is their annual
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

banquet meeting tonight at the Hyatt and I’ve tried to be supportive of that organization in the past. I’m going to attend that tonight and represent all of us. I hope, I think the Chairman will be there too. So, that’s the only thing I had.”


Commissioner McGinn said, “Just want to know where you’re going to get a pith helmet at?”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Hatman . . . you know, the funny . . . I’ve got to share this. On the way home, I’m thinking ‘Well, I’ll stop at Dandale’s and they’ll have pith helmets’. I walk in, this young fellow, ‘How can I help you today, sir’. I said, ‘Well, I’m looking for a pith helmet’. ‘Don’t know what that is’. I said, ‘Well, think about a 1939 movie, Clark Gable, jungle safari, Buwana’. ‘Oh yeah, we don’t have those, check Hatman Jack, they might have it’. So, I’m going to go there and try to find one.”

Chairman Norton said, “Did Jack Kellogg pay for that Hatman Jack publicity you just did?”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “No, but he will, because I’ll remind him when I go there that I gave him a plug.”

Chairman Norton said, “If there’s nothing else to come before us, we’re adjourned.”

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

Page No. 43
Regular Meeting, May 28, 2003

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