

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL MEETING

July 27, 2004

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 7:00 P.M., on Tuesday, July 27, 2004 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Thomas G. Winters; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem David M. Unruh; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Carolyn McGinn; Commissioner Ben Sciortino; Sheriff Gary Steed; Mr. Ted Jobst, Director, Integrated Family Health, Health Department; Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Celia Koudele, Case Manager, Alzheimer's Association.
Mr. Bob Kessler, 1415 Westlynn, #404, Wichita, Ks.
Mr. Bruce Armstrong, Chairman, Sedgwick County Extension Service Advisory Board.
Ms. Bev Dunning, Director, Extension Council Board.
Mr. Kaley Morris, 12100 Dove Hill Drive, Derby, Ks.
Ms. Susan Klausmeyer, 1630 Wooddale, Wichita, Ks.
Ms. Susan Perkins, 1690 W. 55th Street S., Viola, Ks.
Ms. Leah Hill, 3113 N. 124th Street W., Wichita, Ks.
Mr. James D. Mendenhall, 532 S. Bluff, Wichita, Ks.

Chairman Winters said, "And I might mention that this meeting does replace our regular meeting of Wednesday, July the 28th."

Before we proceed with this evening's meeting, I would like to share with you a letter that the Board of County Commissioners sent to Todd Tiaht and his family today. Our condolences to them are as follows:

On behalf of the citizens and employees of Sedgwick County, the Board of County, extend our sincere condolences to your family. We are saddened by the unexpected loss of your son and brother, Luke, and know that he will be missed by family and friends every hour of every day.

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Todd, Vicky, Jessica and John, you are important to our community, to Kansas and to our country. Please know that you are in our thoughts and we extend our sincere support and prayers to each of you, during this difficult time.

Signed by the Board of County Commissioners.

At this time, I would like us all to stand for a moment of silence and I would encourage you to remember the Tiahart family and we will follow with the flag salute.

FLAG SALUTE

The Commission room stood for a moment of silence and the flag salute.

Chairman Winters said, "Madam Clerk, would you please call the next item of business."

ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Winters said, "Next item."

PUBLIC HEARING

A. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2005 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is the time of year and this is the time when we open the budget process up to the citizens. You heard the presentation of the budget last week. It has been on-line, it is in public libraries. Citizens and employees have been informed about the contents of the budget and it is appropriate, Mr. Chairman, for you to open the public hearing and hear comments from the public regarding the 2005 general county budget."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you, Mr. Manager. And we are putting this meeting on tape, so it will be shown at our regular meeting time tomorrow and then on the weekend as it normally is.

Mr. Manager, will you tell us again the dates of the following public meetings. I believe we

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have three public meetings and just to catch you off guard on the dates? What are the other times for our public meetings concerning this budget?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "9:00 on Wednesday, August 4th would be another public hearing. That's one week from tomorrow and then the final budget public hearing and adoption would be August 11th at 9:00. That's also a Wednesday morning, 9 a.m."

Chairman Winters said, "So we will have three public hearings, three opportunities for the public to comment on the budget."

All right, at this time I will open the public hearing and accept public comment on our 2005 budget. Is there anyone in the audience this evening that would like to speak to the county budget? Please come forward, give your name and address and we hope to limit comments to five minutes."

Ms. Celia Koudele, Case Manager, Alzheimer's Association, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you for letting me have a moment of your time. I want to especially thank you for your support, the county's support for our programs over the years and helping us provide services to the families in need. I'd like to introduce a caregiver I've brought with me. He just has a short letter he'd like to share with you about the importance of the Alzheimer's Association and the things we try to do for caregivers. He is a caregiver and a co-facilitator for a support group, Bob Kessler."

Mr. Bob Kessler, 1415 Westlynn, #404, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I was asked to give a spouse's view of the value of the local Alzheimer's Association."

A spouse and other caregivers, especially those who are directly related to a victim of Alzheimer's disease has an extraordinary need for a local source of information and support. To a great extent, these caregivers cannot be identified or counted. They are often unknown in the community as a whole.

Because they care so deeply, this local support that is available by phone, mail, personal visits, supplies, much needed aid. The Great Plains Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association here in Wichita is the foremost source of that aid and information.

As a spouse of an Alzheimer's victim and a facilitator in a local support group, I've made numerous visits, in person, to the Chapter

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office. There I've been provided with worthwhile, reading material, visual aids for my support group, as well as my own use and this information has always been provided in a caring and pleasant manner.

Progress of Alzheimer's disease has been quite unpredictable. Though there are common traits and manifestations such as sundowning, the pocketbook stage. While we need to be aware of the commonalities, we also need to know that our victim may progress through many, but not all. We surely need this source of education and information to allay our fears and concerns.

We may need guidance in securing professional services, for example a nursing home and/or developing our own skill to provide a better care for the victim. At the same time, we are in need of help in reducing our own stress and this local source has become the premier choice in that regard.

We sincerely hope that the Sedgwick County will continue their share of the funding of this worthwhile organization.

Thank you. My name is Bob Kessler, I am a caregiver.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you very much, Bob. Celia, did you have anything else? Thank you. Is there anyone else in the audience who would like to address us? Please come forward and your name and address for the record please.”

Mr. Bruce Armstrong, Chairman, Sedgwick County Extension Council Executive Board, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I'd like to thank you tonight for the past support that you've had for the Extension and for taking your time for these evening hearings. I think it makes it very easy for people to have access to the commission in that manner.

As you know, Extension provides services that provide a great economic impact in the life of Sedgwick County residents. Families are taught to manage their resources, to provide nutritional food and appropriate clothing and education for the children.

4-H development programs provide children and youth a safe environment, opportunity for mastering skills, as well as positive relationships with caring adults. Prevention with children begins when they're young and before they go astray to other things.

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Our culture programs provide research based on recommendations for farm production, preservation of natural resources that add to the economic base of our future. Our horticulture evaluates home landscapes and increases home values, advices on vegetable and fruit production for families and truck farms, again adding to the economic base in the county. These are just a few of the services that the Extension provides. I'm not planning on going into each and every one of them tonight for you."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "God bless you."

Mr. Armstrong said, "To accomplish these services, our executive board stretches the dollars that's provided to us from the County by asking for volunteers. We've got over 450 with our youth program, 180 in the master gardeners program, 125 in the family consumer and services program, just being a few of the volunteers around the county that work for Extension.

With that, it gets me to the real request is why I'm here to meet with you. Without a full budget to train and organize volunteers, our programs cannot succeed or exist at all. Earlier this year, Bev Dunning, our director and I visited with each of you about our 2005 budget needs. We'd like to start of by asking that you restore the 4.2% reduction of our budget that you have asked, which is in the amount of \$39,905. This amount comes to about 30% of our operating budget.

Without this being restored, we may have to reduce additional staff positions. Presently, we have two positions that are frozen and not being funded from previous reductions of our budget. Losing additional professionals would cause a large impact, we feel, to the Sedgwick County residents. The second request is to add \$21,436, which we will use to make general pay adjustments for our employees. Both of these total \$61,341 we would add back to the budget.

As I said earlier, we also have two positions that are frozen. If you could find it in your budget, we would like to have those restored to continue to serve Sedgwick County residents in the amount of \$83,460.

Each of the funds that we're requesting are not growing programs. They're maintaining the programs that the Sedgwick County residents were used to having provided for them. Again, we would like to thank you for having this hearing in the evening and making the difficult decisions that you do on the budget, the same as our board has to make those

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difficult decisions. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions you have.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you. Bruce, I have one question. The two positions that are vacant, those are agent positions, is that right, extension agent positions?”

Mr. Armstrong said, “Yes, those are extension agent positions that we had frozen because of budget.”

Chairman Winters said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you. Bruce, what is K-State doing this year? What are they asking you to accept from this year?”

Mr. Armstrong said, “They said, actually, this year because of the increase in salaries, we’ll be increasing the salaries coming from us from K-State.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “What type of a percentage of increase, or dollars and cents?”

Mr. Armstrong said, “They’re looking at about a 3% increase is what they’re doing.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “And how much is that money?”

Mr. Armstrong said, “The total dollar amount that we will receive this year, in salaries, from the K-State will be \$129,405.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “That’s the increase?”

Mr. Armstrong said, “No, that’s the total amount.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “And what kind of an in . . .”

Mr. Armstrong said, “It’s increased from \$123,053, so that’s about a \$6,400 increase.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “And is there any other funding that they have increased or decreased for you? Is that the only amount of monies that you get?”

Mr. Armstrong said, “That’s the only one that will be increased as far as the funding that would come to us.”

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Commissioner Sciortino said, "And have they made any decreases this year to you."

Mr. Armstrong said, "No, they have not made any decreases, except in . . . postage? No, about the same? So no, they actually are not decreasing us, they are actually making an increase back to our budget this year."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay, and what is the total amount of funding that, as a percentage that K-State takes care of, as opposed to the County? What is the ratio of funds?"

Mr. Armstrong said, "The ratio of total percentages there? To me, it looks like it's about a third. Is it about a quarter, Bev?"

Ms. Bev Dunning, Extension Council Director, said, "About 20%."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Twenty percent from the State and 80% from the County? Okay, thank you, that's all I had."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Bruce, on the two positions that you want to add back, are they special . . . do they specialize in anything other . . . I mean, I know they're agents, but do they have a specialty?"

Mr. Armstrong said, "Those positions themselves, I'll have Bev too speak to it better, as far as know what the positions are, but yes, they were specialty and they were the two highest that were requested, as far as positions that we had to cut out. Bev, both of those were . . . I'll let you speak to that."

Ms. Dunning said, "One is foods and nutrition and as you know, this time of year . . . in fact, I'm answering many of the foods calls because our foods person is gone. She retired, so by attrition we'd lost that, could not fund it back. The other is horticulture and those are two high-profile positions and have lots of calls."

Commissioner Norton said, "Are they full-time positions?"

Ms. Dunning said, "They are."

Commissioner Norton said, "Is there a possibility, if you could add them back as part-time positions? Is that . . .?"

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Ms. Dunning said, "That's a possi . . . we'll work with you anyway we can."

Commissioner Norton said, "And I guess the next thing, if somebody retired, would you have to go out and try to hire someone, or is there somebody in the organization that has that skill that might be able to . . .? So you'd have to look for both of those. Okay."

Ms. Dunning said, "And the State had theirs frozen, their part that they put into that frozen until July 1, and then July 1 they released that. So the only thing that's holding up right now and county funding."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. So, let me be sure. The two positions are \$61,000 and the two agent positions are \$83,000. Is that correct?"

Mr. Armstrong said, "The \$61,341 is the increase in pay adjustments and the restoring of our 4.2% budget decrease."

Commissioner Norton said, "Oh, okay that's what that is. Okay."

Mr. Armstrong said, "And then the \$83,460 is the two . . ."

Commissioner Norton said, "Is the two positions. Okay, good. Okay, that's all I've got, Mr. Chair."

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

Commissioner Sciortino said, "No, let Carolyn go first."

Chairman Winters said, "I'm sorry, I didn't see your light on. Go ahead, Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "That's okay. Just a question, a clarification. When you said that the State was increasing the salaries by 6% . . . 3%, are those salaries or are those benefits?"

Mr. Armstrong said, "Those are actually the salary dollars, my understanding, they send down to us as far as the salaries that they will be increasing."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, because . . . do they provide the benefit portion to the agents? No. So they actually pay a portion of the salary."

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Mr. Armstrong said, "The agents have to pay a portion of those benefits."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Okay, thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. And then for my clarification again, what you all are making as your request is you were reduced by \$39,000 as your 4.2% and so you'd like to restore that. You'd like an additional \$21,000 to make pay adjustments to everyone out there. And then, on your agenda still is two vacant agent positions, which Sedgwick County's portion of them would be \$83,400."

Mr. Armstrong said, "With that though, there is some state funds that would come to us in the amount of \$12,082. So because of those, State does kick in some money."

Chairman Winters said, "Right. Okay, Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay. Well, one thing I do want to remind the Board is that I don't want to accidentally slide into letting anyone think that we're funding . . . we're paying for the salaries. It's not what we do and everybody has to understand that, because that carries a lot more responsibility. We give money to the Extension and the board decides how to spend it. If you want to spend it on salaries, if you want to spend it on furniture, whatever you want to do with it is up to you."

Mr. Armstrong said, "That's correct. And we'd truly like to make sure you know what we're doing with the money."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, I understand that, but I want to make sure that we don't all of the sudden thinking that we're funding the salaries and then if we make a reduction, you have to cut a person. Whatever adjustments you make is solely the responsibility of the Board."

Mr. Armstrong said, "That is correct."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "You can cut your volunteer chairman's salary in half if you want to. Okay, but I mean that's an important distinction to make. The thing that disappoints me just a little bit is that this county is looking at a serious fiscal imbalance

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and we've asked every department, every entity that we allot money for to please tighten your belts and look at your programs and look at the ones that might be the least impact-ful and help us, without forcing us just to mandate.

And I'm a little depressed that the Extension service hasn't felt a need to help us, by working with us, and instead of . . . in other words, you're saying you want no reductions, and also you want increases and I was hoping that you would look at our serious problem that we have a try to be a part of the solution for us, and that's what I was hoping for anyway."

Mr. Armstrong said, "I understand that and I guess my only response back to you would be, I know that with the 4% that your budgets that you did, you did reallocation of those funds, you may not have cut all those budgets that were there. You truly re-funded and you reallocated funds of the 4% into other areas that was felt maybe needed there."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Correct."

Mr. Armstrong said, "So, as far as truly all of your departments reducing 4% . . ."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "No, they didn't but I think we'll find that most of our departments, excepting public safety, are going to see some reductions in their total funding."

Mr. Armstrong said, "Yeah, that I totally don't detail know, but I do want to make sure that we know that there was a reallocation of funds and not a full 4% . . ."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "No, I want you to put on your mayor's hat and tell me how you would react if you were the Mayor of Haysville, talking to a department head that said, 'No, I want to be increased'. You know, well anyway, that's all I had."

Mr. Armstrong said, "I don't think you've got that much time."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, Bruce, thank you very much for being here and thank you very much for your volunteer work on the Extension Board to help them keep programs as viable as possible. We do appreciate the work that you do on the Board."

All right, are there other speakers who would like to address the Board of County Commissioners? Is there anyone else here? Please come forward? Just give your name and

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address for the record, please.”

Ms. Kaley Morris, 12100 Dove Hill Dr., Derby, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m 17 years old and I’ve been a member of the Derby 4-H Club for the past 10 years. While in that club I have been the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer and in all these offices, I have learned leadership and responsibility, as well as how to conduct meetings.

I’m coming before you today to tell you what I’ve learned in 4-H and how it’s had an impact on my life. The project I’ve been involved in have been cooking, sewing, crafts and leadership, all of which have taught me very much about various aspects of my life.

Some of the events in 4-H that I’ve participated in, one of the main ones is 4-H Days. In this, when I was younger, I would participate in Parliamentary Quiz Bowl, where I learned so much about the parliamentary procedure and it helped me in conducting meetings and making sure everything runs smoothly.

I’ve also . . . I still do demonstrations, where I would get up in front of people and demonstrate how to make something and this has greatly helped me in my public speaking. I am no longer afraid to get in front of people and talk.

This is also my first year as a 4-H ambassador for Sedgwick County. I go around Sedgwick County and talk about the 4-H program and encourage young people to join. I’ve spoken at McConnell Air Force Base. We’re trying to set up an after-school program there and we got a few people that actually came and are trying to join our club in Derby, but we’re trying to get that going.

We also do so much community service, both through my club and the County. Some of the examples: we do a Christmas Tree recycle and we also visit the nursing home around Christmas time and visit the elderly residents that don’t have family.

The skills I’ve learned in 4-H, I can’t even begin to describe all of them. As I’ve said, public speaking is a big one. Also, I’ve learned teamwork, I have to work with my club and in my projects to make sure we get things done. I’ve learned leadership; as an older person in my club I have to set an example and I have to lead them and help them in their projects.

I’ve learned so much about community awareness, problems in our community that need to be dealt with. Especially as an ambassador, I’ve witnessed this a lot. I’ve learned project skills, through cooking and sewing and leadership, all those types of things and there’s other

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kids out there that do different projects from rocketry and there's so many different projects that teach you so much.

It also helps me in decision making, we have to pass motions in our club and we have to work together for what's best for our club and also, there's Sedgwick County Teen Council, which I have also . . . I attend meetings with that and we have to make decisions for our whole county in that. I've learned citizenship. I was able to take a trip to Washington D.C. where, through 4-H, I learned a lot about government and I got to meet our senators and representatives. I've learned a lot about mentoring. As I've said, there are a lot of younger children in our club and I have to set an example to them and I have met so many great kids and it's great to see me impact them and how they look up to me.

And I've also made so many friends through 4-H that have the same interests as me and it's just an overall really good program and I ask that you think twice about these cuts because there have already been projects and events that we've had to cut and cancel because of previous cuts and I ask that you re-think this and thank you very much for your time.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you, Kaley. Excellent job. Is there anyone else that would like to address the Board of County Commissioners? Please come forward. Please state your name and address for the record, please.”

Ms. Susan Klausmeyer, 1630 Wooddale, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you for the chance to talk to you tonight and I also want to talk to you about the Extension budget and the possible cuts to the 4-H program. I am an alumna of 4-H, a 4-H parent and a 4-H club leader and I want to share with you a paper that my oldest son William wrote for his 3rd grade teacher last year. The assignment was to write a paper trying to convince someone to do something and he wrote:

You should join 4-H. It's fun and you make new friends. You learn lots of stuff and you can go to camp. You can take projects and learn in them. I really think you should join 4-H.

And this is followed by a line of exclamation points, and for an eight-year-old kid to write even that much was amazing. He wrote this after only one year in 4-H and he's very excited about 4-H, as you can tell, especially because he could have written about soccer or baseball or any of the other activities that he's involved in. And as his mom, I'm also excited about

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4-H and what he's learning.

When our friends ask me why we chose to put William in 4-H instead of Scouts or any of the other activities, I have many reasons to share with them. First, it gives them a concern for the community. His club, the Achievers, has a different community service activity that they do each month. They range from collecting food for the needy, to doing landscape work at the Ronald McDonald House. They help distribute toys in the Toys for Tots program and helped with activities at the assisted living center.

Through these activities, William is learning to help those around them, even when there is no physical or monetary reward for him. Second, 4-H is giving him a chance to learn things he wouldn't at school. In the past year, he learned to sand and paint a shelf for his room, build and launch a rocket and measure its altitude, and demonstrate and talk in front of an audience.

Many years ago, when I was in 4-H, I also learned to talk in front of an audience and organize my thoughts, which is helping me tonight.

Third, William is learning to work with all ages of people. This past year, all the members of his club put on a skit for club days competition. The older ones wrote the skit and everyone that wanted a part had one. There were seniors and high-schoolers in high school helping 1st and 2nd graders feel comfortable, learn their lines, and best of all they were having fun together.

One day, one of the senior members came over and taught William how to paint the set, and together that morning, they painted the set in our garage. It was great to see the young helping the old and working together, or the old helping the young and working together.

The club activities include all ages of kids, working together to learn, to help each other and to grow. As the members grow older, they lead the club and take on more responsibilities.

Fourth, 4-H is giving William confidence. He has made several presentations at 4-H, as well as participating in the meetings. At the end of the school year, each 3rd grader at his school, there were about 75 of them, gave a presentation on his or her science project. William was one of the few students that had enough self-confidence to make himself heard and understood by all the parents, teachers and students there, over 100 people.

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Another boost to his self-confidence comes from the thrill of earning a ribbon at the fair for something he worked hard on. He's learning by doing and learning that he can do whatever he wants if he tries hard enough.

Finally, and most importantly, 4-H is a family program. When William was in Scouts in the 1st grade, it was dad and William that went to the meetings and mom and the rest of the family stayed home. Now that we're a 4-H family, everyone goes to the meetings, including my 9-month-old daughter Abigail, who has yet to miss a 4-H meeting.

4-H is building tomorrow's leaders today. 4-Hers learn to set goals, work towards them and record their achievements and disappointments. All of these are skills we want our future leaders to have. The loss of funding to the Extension program would mean that there would be less people to continue existing programs and to develop new programs for the youth of Sedgwick County.

What a loss this would be to tomorrow's leaders. As a parent and a citizen, I would hate to see these valuable programs cut that would keep my two girls and the other youth from having the benefits of the 4-H program that my son and I both have had.

I would encourage you not to cut money from the Extension budget, so that these programs can continue to work for our county, now and in the future, by the leaders they create. As William said, with excitement, in his paper to the youth, 'I really think you should join 4-H'. I want to say to you that make our budget, I really hope you continue to give our young people something good to be excited about. Thank you for your time and consideration."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you, Susan. Tell us again where you live?"

Ms. Klausmeyer said, "East Wichita."

Chairman Winters said, "Okay. And so this is a club that is in the City of Wichita?"

Ms. Klausmeyer said, "Yes, it is."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you very much. Is there anyone else here who would like to speak to the commissioners? Yes, please give your name and address please."

Ms. Susan Perkins, 1690 W. 55th, Street W., Viola, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here representing the Ninnescah 4-H Club . . . Ninnescah Valley, sorry. We are a brand

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new club and I just kind of want to take a very short time to tell you that this club was developed because of the dream of one person and that one person was an Extension agent, because she saw a need in the Clearwater area, where there was nobody there working with the youth that was in the 4-H club.

She came to us, asked us to help, and through her we were able to expand. We now have 55 members, 32 of them brand new, first year 4-H members. This year I've watched them grow, develop, become incredible young women and men that have learned how to speak in front of others, make decisions and goals. It's kind of that movie 'Pay it forward'. Those kids will now go forward and they'll pass that on to someone else.

By cutting the Extension, we're afraid that we're not going to be able to keep doing that with the youth of our county and we want to continue to do that. So we urge you to remember, when you're making those cuts, we're affecting our future, the future leaders that may be sitting in your chair someday. Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, Susan, again how many members do you have in your club?"

Ms. Perkins said, "We have 55."

Chairman Winters said, "And it meets in Viola?"

Ms. Perkins said, "It meets in Clearwater."

Chairman Winters said, "Clearwater."

Ms. Perkins said, "I actually live near Viola but we chose Clearwater. We're closer to Clearwater."

Chairman Winters said, "Fifty-five members."

Ms. Perkins said, "Thirty-two brand new first-year 4-Hers."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you very much. Is there anyone else in the audience who would like to address the Board of County Commissioners? Yes, please come forward. Please give your name and address for the record please."

Ms. Leah Hill, 3113 N. 124th Street W., Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I

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represent the Wichita Sunflower 4-H Club. We have about currently 35 members, aging in range from six to eighteen and they're wonderful, wonderful kids.

I'm not sure that I can really say much that will top what these other people have already spoken on. I'm one of the 400 volunteers that work with 4-H kids and I love working with the kids. They are a cut above, if you can use that expression. I've gone to camp with them. I've gone backpacking with them. I've been a foods leader, a leadership leader, a community leader at the club, worked with pets. I just love working with the kids. It's really a lot of fun.

I personally have two teenage daughters. I'm glad I'm blonde, because that hides the gray hair that is there, but is a wonderful organization for the teenagers to get involved. 4-H teaches such great life skills that is not taught in the schools and any other organization that I know of. I was an 11-year 4-H member myself. My husband was a Boy Scout and we debated whether to go with scouting or 4-H and we picked 4-H because of the life skills that it does teach.

I don't have handouts for everyone, but there's a chart that has been printed. It actually comes from Iowa State University and it lists 35 different life skills that the 4-H organization teaches. It is just a wonderful, wonderful organization and I would hate to see budgets cut, especially in times when youth are really struggling, not only in Sedgwick County but all over the place, looking for role models, looking for identity, looking for somewhere that they can go that's a safe environment and 4-H definitely offers that.

I know you have a tough, tough decision ahead of you, lots and lots of pulls different directions, but I really think the youth and the future leaders of Sedgwick County and of our state and of our nation really need some funding right now. Thank you for your time."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you very much Leah. We would like to look at that. I'd like to see that chart, if I could. Do you need this back or can we have this? That's all right, we'll share it. Thank you very much. Is there anyone else in the audience who would like to address the Board of County Commissioners? Anyone else in the audience on any topic on our budget? All right, sir. Please come forward. Please give your name and address for the record."

Mr. James D. Mendenhall, 532 S. Bluff, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Mr. Unruh is my representative. The Wichita Visioneering statement, I'll show you this, it's on the website, is going to be coming up and it shows that we have a large number of representatives, 25-years and older, with Bachelor degrees or higher. However, our manufacturing job numbers are twice those of surrounding cities. It's astonishing, but it's true. These are our economic development creators, manufacturing jobs.

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To maintain this adequate workforce will require investment in training and I especially talk today about the Wichita Area Technical College. They need immediate help and they need to be allowed to participate in the creation of new areas of study. If we study what we taught five years ago, we will fall behind. Boeing will be a leader and will be strongly impacted by RFID, Internet Protocol Volume 6, composites and a variety of wireless information delivery from satellites to planes to cars on the ground. This automotive aspect is called telematics and it's going to be very large in the future. It involves cell phones and communications with cars, similar to OnStar.

Our community has shown ongoing support for health issues created by an aging population, but even in this area, technology will have a profound impact, with sensors, gene alterations, record keepings and new medicines.

Just as medical areas are impacted, so will be agriculture, the backbone of County finances. Growing demand from India and China will increase the volumes of exports from Sedgwick County in large numbers. Soon India's population will be greater than that of China, almost hard to believe.

We compete with South America in grain production. We cannot allow ourselves to fall behind, while they produce the same grain cheaper. Only by enhancing and implementing modern technology, innovation, in these many important job areas I have mentioned will we continue to prosper economically.

Most municipalities that oppose casino growth, savor technology, parks and R and D centers. Since we are lacking this desirable economic development site, I strongly encourage enhanced and new financial support for the Wichita Area Technical College, in their struggles to give our county what they need, a good strong and modern workforce.

I support Wichita Area Technology Center . . . or Wichita Area Technical School as an example of what we need to create in the future and that is a modern, competitive workforce and an economic development foundation that can compete effectively, not only with our neighbor cities, but with other counties, with other countries that are ripe and anxious to compete with us and to cut our throat economically. It's our future. Thank you very much for this moment of time."

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Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you James. I would comment on your comments, that I think there are a number of us are very concerned about technical education and how we do that. We don't know that we have the right answer, but we appreciate you sharing your thoughts, because we agree that this is going to be a critical issue. Thank you.

Is there anyone else in the audience who would like to address the Board of County Commissioners? Is there anyone else in the audience? We are just about to close the public hearing. There will be two more public hearings, but is there anyone else. All right, seeing no one else, we will close the public hearing and we appreciate you all coming very much. I would say to all you 4-Hers, James mentioned the Visioneering that's coming up. If you see one of those community meetings in your area, I would encourage you to go. And I know there's going to be one down in Derby, Kaley, so we need input from high school age students particularly. You've got valuable information and we would encourage 4-Hers to come to that Visioneering meeting.

All right, Mr. Manager, what do we need to do, now that we have closed the public hearing?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "Call the next item."

Chairman Winters said, "Madam Clerk, would you call the next item."

B. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY MANAGER TO PUBLISH A NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2005 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioners, you have the proposed language for the resolution. I am recommending that you give me the authority to publish a total budget of \$307,827,049. This would include \$210,174,702, with ninety-three thousand [sic] two hundred thirty-seven, three hundred twenty in budgeted ad valorem taxes which is approximately 28.8 mills.

What that action will do is allow me to publish these items in the newspaper and publish in our legal paper. And what it does is ties us up to, when you adopt the budget, the budget cannot be more than this amount. So we can reshuffle the money within the budget any way possible, but you cannot increase it above the \$307,000,000 that's recommended."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. I would make just one comment, and I see the Clerk

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has the printed message and that 93 is not \$93,000, it's \$93,237,320. All right, Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I just want to be sure that . . . I thought for some reason, when we had the original budget presented to us it was \$317,000,000 as opposed to 307. Is that an adjustment, or am I thinking . . . did I just look at a wrong number somewhere or remember wrong?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "No. It is . . . Hi, Commissioners. The number that you're referring to is really both the general fund, the 307, and the \$12,000,000 for the fire district. So, it went from . . . you said 317. Because of the recommended tax increase in the fire district, it went up a little bit, so that number is 319 . . . \$320,000,000. So, if you add the . . . we got to the same place you did, a little longer route."

Commissioner Norton said, "So I do remember a final number of \$317,000,000."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Right. And, if you now include the total tax increase of the proposed, plus other technical adjustments that we made in revenues, those numbers have increased slightly, to 320, 307 of which is recommended here."

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to authorize the County Manager to publish a notice of hearing for the Sedgwick County 2005 total budget of \$307,827,049. The total budget includes a legal budget of \$210,174,702 with \$93,237,320 in budgeted ad valorem taxes (\$98,144,546 with delinquency), which is approximately equivalent to 28.8 mills, subject to review and technical adjustments and establish August 11, 2004 as the final hearing date on the 2005 Sedgwick County Budget.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

Chairman Winters said, "Is there any other discussion? And again remembering is what we're doing today is setting the upper limits of the budget. We have two more public hearings and the adoption of the budget on August the 11th. Commissioner Sciortino."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "If I remember right, looking at this book, this maximum level, in essence, is no property tax increases for 2005 over 2004. Is that correct?"

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

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And that's the maximum. We could whittle that down even further."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Always lower, and we have in some cases in the past."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "And it doesn't set in stone each department's budget. We can manage around that and shove and push, as long as we can't go any higher than that 307,000,000-something dollar figure."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Okay, thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, are there any other questions, Commissioners? We have a Motion and a Second. Are there any other questions? Seeing none, call the vote."

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you, Commissioners. Now, at this time we will recess the Regular Board of County Commissioners."

C. RECESS TO THE FIRE DISTRICT #1 MEETING.

The County Commission recessed into the Fire District Meeting at 7:46 p.m. and returned to the Regular Meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Chairman Winters said, "Madam Clerk, would you go back and call Item D and I'll call

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back to order the Regular meeting or the Special meeting of July 27th. Madam Clerk, call Item D.”

NEW BUSINESS

D. GRANT AWARD FROM FORREST C. LATTNER FOUNDATION FOR FUNDING OF THE SHERIFF’S BULLET PROOF VEST PROGRAM.

Sheriff Gary Steed, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Good evening. I’m glad I got the ‘evening’ right. I was sure I’d say ‘good morning’ when I got up here. Perhaps a bright spot in some otherwise tough budget times. You know, every year we have to replace a portion of our body armor, the bullet proof vests that the deputies are issued. Each year we do that by receiving some money from an anonymous donor here in Sedgwick County and we also apply to the federal government for some grants that they supply.

Their funding has been cut and they’ve focused their resources primarily to some of the smaller departments in the country and so this year we received only a few hundred dollars from the federal government to replace our body armor. It wasn’t sufficient to do much for us, so my deputies, being flexible as they are, looked for some other funding for this body armor.

They applied to and received a grant from the Forrest C. Lattner Foundation, a grant in the amount of \$29,960, which was the amount of money we expected from the federal government. And so, with that money, we’ll be able to complete our annual replacement of about one quarter of our body armor for the sheriff’s deputies. I think it’s 56, so with that I would ask you approve the grant and authorize the Chairman to sign all the necessary documents.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you very much, Sheriff Steed. Commissioners, are there questions? Seeing none . . .”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to Accept the Grant Award and authorize the Chairman to sign all necessary documents.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Sheriff, thanks for attending our special evening meeting.”

Sheriff Steed said, “Thank you very much.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you. Next item.”

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

E. HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

1. GRANT AWARD FROM KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES (SRS) TO CONTINUE FUNDING TREATMENT SERVICES FOR FOURTH-TIME DUI OFFENDERS.

Mr. Ted Jobst, Director, Integrated Family Health, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m before you this evening to request approval of a grant amendment with the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, with the Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners for the Health Department Behavioral Health Center to provide treatment services to fourth time DUI offenders, as mandated by Senate Bill 67.

This amendment increases the original grant award from 15 to \$30,000 and increases the caseload from five to ten. We would request that the Chairman or his designee sign this contract and any subsequent renewals to this contract, including any related documents. If you have any questions, I’d be glad to address those.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Commissioners, as you’re looking at this item, I’ve been handed a note that says the correct recommended action is on page 15 of our backup.

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So on page 15 is where we'll need to take a recommended action. Who was first? Commissioner McGinn?"

Commissioner McGinn said, "Yes. I guess I just, for the edification of the audience and us again, it seemed like we talked about this last year and I don't know if it was third time DUI people and this is fourth time, but there was a reason why. I mean, this just doesn't make sense I think to the general public why you would even have a program such as this."

Mr. Jobst said, "Okay. Commissioners, what occurs is that even though there is a process, a progressive process of addressing individuals who receive DUI citations, when it reaches the level of a fourth time DUI, this is considered to be a person that is having a habitual problem and one might also say, the severity of addiction that is possible with a fourth-time DUI is something that is needing to be addressed.

What the State of Kansas has done with this is provide a program that is a 12-month, treatment and aftercare program for fourth time DUI offenders to try to address this in a way that they will hope will arrest the problem, will cease the problem so that we don't have a fifth or sixth or seventh time DUI offender. And over a period of twelve months, this offender is given treatment and aftercare and the rate for that treatment and aftercare is, as you can see here when you divide it out, about \$3,000 I believe per client or per patient.

And as we treat those individuals, this amendment needs to be renewed. In other words, this provides for an increased number of clients that we served before, from five to ten, because we were serving more clients. As we start to get to six, seven and eight, this is needing to be renewed. And that's why, by the way, the changing of the wording so that the next time this needs to be renewed, we do not have to come before you formally like this, but the Chairman would be authorized to sign that renewal agreement."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Do we have any statistics of the success rate of this program?"

Mr. Jobst said, "I'm sorry, I don't have. I don't have anything I can provide for you. I could seek out that information if you would like."

Commissioner McGinn said, "But it's being moved forward cause of Senate Bill 67."

Mr. Jobst said, "It is and Senate Bill 67 was trying to address the fact that they were seeing and were aware of the fact that we were getting DUI offenders that were repeaters, and the seriousness of this situation is that somebody is, even after treatment or even after having

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received two or three DUIs, is still driving while intoxicated, which puts the public at serious risk.”

Chairman Winters said, “By the time you get to a fourth DUI, have you already served some jail time, more than just the holding facility?”

Mr. Jobst said, “It is my understanding that you have served some. Now that would probably depend on individuals. I think the law does stipulate that a certain amount is mandatory, but then I don’t know what discretion a judge may have to amend that.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Unruh. Or maybe . . . I think Commissioner Sciortino was next.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, Commissioner McGinn clarified that this is a mandate that the state has put down, but the state hasn’t actually mandated that we do it. It just mandates that they have to go into a 12-month treatment and aftercare prog . . . we could deny the grant and let the state figure out to put the person someplace else for a 12-month program. Is that correct?”

Mr. Jobst said, “Well, you could deny the grant. It would just mean that somebody else would probably receive that grant for those . . .”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I understand that, but I mean, they’re not mandated that Sedgwick County do this. Somebody else would get the grant and they could do it, so my question to you is do we get all the money we need to cover all of the costs of doing this program?”

Mr. Jobst said, “I think . . . that’s a good question. I think that what I’ve seen so far is that the clients that have been referred to the Behavioral Health Center, and I know that COMCARE also has I think a contract like this, that those . . . there has not been, to my knowledge, a situation where we have more clients referred than we have received funding.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “No, it’s \$3,000 per client. Is that correct?”

Mr. Jobst said, “That’s correct.”

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Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, \$3,000, one client, 12 months, is that enough money to cover one client for the 12-month program that we provide?”

Mr. Jobst said, “In most cases.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “That’s an easy question, isn’t it?”

Mr. Jobst said, “I know. It’s a difficult question to answer with a yes or no, because in some cases, the amount of treatment and aftercare provided to that client over that 12-month period may not be of the same intensity. In other words, you may find a client that needs more attention and you may clinically decide to give them more attention at your own cost or it’s a cost to the program, but in most cases I think this is probably covering what we need to cover, as far as the amount of money, and actually this is . . .”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “All right, could you do this for me? Last year, we had five clients referred to us. Is that correct?”

Mr. Jobst said, “No. There were more clients referred. What this does, what this has done for us is allow us to serve more clients before having to renew the contract. Last year we had five and then coming . . . it required us to renew this contract every time we got close to running out of the money that we had.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “So the dollar amount hasn’t changed. So they haven’t given us any cost of living adjustment or anything. It’s still just a flat \$3,000 per client. I would like to see the last 12-month period that we have records of, that’s already completed, how many clients we served and how many dollars we spent. That should be easy to find, shouldn’t it, because that’s already past history. Correct?”

Mr. Jobst said, “I believe so and if you wish, that could include all of the . . . I mean, the programs within Sedgwick County that have this contract, if you wish it.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “No, I would just like, on this particular one, if we could find out how much money it costs us to serve whatever number of clients we had and how much money we got from the state. I’m trying to get to the fact is the state giving us sufficient money.”

Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Yes, Commissioner, we can get that information for you. I would tell you more generally, the

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entire behavioral health program, which is about a \$300,000 program and this is one piece of that, is fully funded by the state and other grant monies. It does not have any county, property tax money in the program. So the whole program pays for itself.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, and are you able to take money from the grant that allows us to service mentally handicapped people and put it over here to service DUI offenders?”

Ms. Sexton said, “Absolutely not.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, so what I’m interested in is this particular program. Is it paying for its own? Now if the overall program is paying for itself, and you can’t shift dollars around internally, then this program must be paying for itself individually.”

Ms. Sexton said, “You’re asking a good question. We can’t tell you tonight this specific, very small, \$30,000 program, but the whole program that does all the DUI counseling, which is about \$300,000, is funded by various grants from various sources, no county money in it. It pays for itself.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay. So . . . but then to carry that statement further, if you’re not able to shift any of those grant dollars, they’re all stand alone grant dollars, then each individual stand alone grant function must be paying for itself.”

Ms. Sexton said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “So this one must be paying for itself. That’s why I couldn’t understand how complicated that question was, unless you were able to shift dollars around, it shouldn’t . . .”

Ms. Sexton said, “Well, shifting in terms of the DUI counseling related programs that are all within this department. Okay, not mental health program monies or any other grant monies but DUI related monies.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Overall, you think it’s a program that is not going to cost us a lot of subsidy to continue.”

Ms. Sexton said, “Right, to cost us no subsidy.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “That’s all I had. Thanks.”

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

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you. I just want a little clarification and Ted, maybe you don't know this, but aren't fourth-time DUI offenders, aren't they mandated to a year in jail. And if that's so, are these programs all delivered in the County jail?"

Mr. Jobst said, "To my knowledge, they're not necessarily delivered in the County jail and the other, this could be and I don't know for sure, this could be an option that the individual has, having once served that time in jail and also . . . and then being on probation and I don't know whether it can be served in lieu of that time in jail. But it is something that is overseen by the Department of Corrections and SRS."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, my understanding was that a 3rd or 4th time DUI was a state felon and they were mandated a year sentence and we couldn't even . . . it's part of our overcrowding problem in our jail, but I'm saying things I'm not certain of."

Mr. Jobst said, "Right, and you may be very correct about that, Commissioner. I think that what this does address though is even if you spent a year in jail, if you didn't address the underlying problem, which may be an addiction that is creating . . . you know, this person to continue that behavior, we're kind of back in that same boat."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Right."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, they don't have a license, because they lost their license after the third time, so if they got picked up the fourth time, that's a crime for driving without a license."

Mr. Jobst said, "The ability to commit the crime is not something that slows down somebody if they're under the influence sometimes. I think that, even though it's a very tragic situation."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Yeah."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you. Are there other questions or comments? If not, what's the will of the Board and if we're ready to make a Motion, we need to make the Motion that's on page 15, recommended action."

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MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to authorize the Chairman or his designee to sign this contract and any subsequent renewals, including any related documents.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

Chairman Winters said, “And even reading this Motion, this makes the assumption that this is money that’s coming from SRS. This is not county mill levy money. Is there any other discussion on this Motion? Call the vote.”

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Next item.”

2. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH SRS TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE HEALTHY FAMILY KANSAS PROGRAM.

Mr. Jobst said, “Commissioners, this is an agreement with SRS for the Healthy Family Kansas program provided through the Health Department’s Healthy Babies Incorporated program. As you know, the Healthy Babies program provides nurse case management and this is a grant for \$259,794 that will cover two nursing positions, an interpreter and an administrative assistant for the Healthy Babies program. We ask that you approve the amendment and authorize the Chair to sign. I’ll be glad to answer any questions.”

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Chairman Winters said, “All right. Commissioners, are there questions or comments? Seeing none, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Chairman Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you, Ted. Next item.”

CONSENT AGENDA

F. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. State-approved salary increase of 3% for District Attorney.

2. Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Contracts.

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Rent Subsidy</u>	<u>District Number</u>	<u>Landlord</u>
V04035	\$324.00	5	Central Plains Development
V04036	\$495.00	2	Daniel Bridwell
V04037	\$615.00	Butler	Eugene Collins
V04038	\$202.00	Butler	Dannie Wedel
V04039	\$312.00	Harvey	Metro Plains Development
V04040	\$275.00	5	John Van Winkle

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V04041	\$52.00	5	Oakview at the Park
V04042	\$535.00	4	James/Sherry Arnold
V04043	\$430.00	Butler	Robert Tafoya
V04044	\$425.00	5	Helms Rental Properties
V04045	\$424.00	4	Brookfield Apartments
V04046	\$742.00	4	Gregory Petrakis

3. The following Section 8 Housing Contracts are being amended to reflect a revised monthly amount due to a change in the income level of the participating client.

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Old Amount</u>	<u>New Amount</u>
V010116	\$290.00	\$287.00
V97048	\$257.00	\$253.00
V99050	\$201.00	\$198.00
V8009	\$295.00	\$290.00
V020044	\$147.00	\$172.00
V94049	\$138.00	\$135.00
V03061	\$285.00	\$385.00
V72016	\$247.00	\$244.00
V03063	\$256.00	\$98.00
V03060	\$640.00	\$640.00
V020049	\$332.00	\$334.00
V2045	\$177.00	\$193.00
V020040	\$287.00	\$280.00
V01039	\$441.00	\$408.00
V03058	\$307.00	\$321.00
V010126	\$239.00	\$238.00
V03062	\$613.00	\$613.00
V020053	\$265.00	\$263.00
V010110	\$504.00	\$560.00
V01023	\$283.00	\$267.00
V03072	\$650.00	\$391.00
V020056	\$225.00	\$269.00
V020052	\$406.00	\$436.00

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V010111	\$700.00	\$500.00
V010101	\$416.00	\$366.00
V95118	\$245.00	\$241.00
V03085	\$285.00	\$281.00
V2060	\$248.00	\$221.00
V98043	\$320.00	\$177.00
V010114	\$455.00	\$455.00
V94081	\$273.00	\$254.00
V010118	\$282.00	\$291.00
V03079	\$595.00	\$595.00
V010124	\$339.00	\$505.00
V98004	\$328.00	\$384.00
V95088	\$550.00	\$550.00
V03075	\$275.00	\$213.00
V020059	\$284.00	\$223.00
V03065	\$525.00	\$525.00
V03071	\$265.00	\$169.00
V99039	\$278.00	\$274.00
V09068	\$575.00	\$575.00
V010103	\$292.00	\$289.00
V020051	\$469.00	\$425.00
V020441	\$272.00	\$272.00
V01025	\$332.00	\$334.00
V96065	\$270.00	\$239.00
V010113	\$306.00	\$289.00
V03078	\$199.00	\$225.00
V03134	\$700.00	\$633.00
V03134	\$700.00	\$700.00
V04041	\$52.00	\$156.00
V020075	\$505.00	\$458.00
V01087	\$481.00	\$567.00
V03033	\$541.00	\$517.00
V03043	\$0.00	\$500.00
V2009	\$545.00	\$545.00
V020081	\$700.00	\$512.00
V020052	\$550.00	\$406.00

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V04028	\$488.00	\$94.00
V03074	\$425.00	\$353.00
V04020	\$475.00	\$322.00
V03079	\$595.00	\$595.00
V95088	\$550.00	\$600.00
V01078	\$416.00	\$506.00
V03086	\$291.00	\$0.00
V03086	\$380.00	\$291.00
V200114	\$166.00	\$0.00
V020031	\$525.00	\$525.00
V95119	\$192.00	\$360.00
V04014	\$500.00	\$500.00

- 4. Order dated July 21, 2004 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 5. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of July 21 – 27, 2004.**

Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, you have a consent agenda before you and I would recommend you approve it.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you. Commissioners?”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to Approve the consent agenda as presented.

Chairman Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner David M. Unruh Aye

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

Chairman Winters said, "All right, I was going to thank all the staff for coming to this meeting. The room was full at the beginning, but all the staff left except for you faithful servants who stayed till the end. Commissioners, is there any community business that you'd like to discuss at this time? Commissioner Unruh."

G. OTHER

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you. I didn't have to turn my light on."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Well, we were used to that seat because that's where Tim used to sit and he started this whole program."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, others may want to talk about the zoo grand opening. Chairman and I were not there, and so you all can tell your impressions of it. But I will tell you that the weekend before last, when it was members only, they had over 18,000 visitors and last weekend at the grand opening, they had over 15,000 visitors and the Downing Gorilla Forest is an absolute amazing exhibit. Everyone should take the opportunity to see it and it's been very good for the Sedgwick County Zoo, because we've exceeded our best July ever by Monday of this week and we've got a week to go. But it's, besides the other outstanding attractions at the zoo, we've been talking so much about the gorillas, but the zoo in total is a wonderful facility, but you ought to go check out the gorillas."

And then the others can give your impression, but I also want to say that I had the opportunity to go out to Cowtown this weekend for their Rails and Trails celebration, saw a couple of gun fights, very entertaining and I about got arrested by a bounty hunter."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Did you lead the cattle drive down Main Street?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "Yeah, we had the cattle drive and it was very good. I mean, interesting and a bounty hunter come up and tried to arrest me but thankfully a very nice saloon girl rescued me, so I'll be indebted to her for a long time."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Does Karen know anything about that?"

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Commissioner Unruh said, "Karen was watching with her mouth open, like 'What's going on'. Anyway, that's all I had."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you Commissioner. Commissioner McGinn."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Thank you. And that was Cowtown's second cattle drive."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Largest one since 18-something."

Commissioner McGinn said, "Yeah, they had one and Commissioner Winters was out there. And I think that's something they're going to try to continue doing. And then on August 7th and 8th, I know jumping ahead a little bit, they're going to have family days and a historic baseball game.

I had an opportunity to go out to the zoo and make comments about the Downing Gorilla Forest, wonderful exhibit. Everybody needs, as soon as you have an opportunity to go out there, you need to go out there because it just is amazing, all the different things that they did.

They did have an area of some . . . over here in one part of the place of gorilla food and they were hoping that you were going to be there, so that you could sample that."

Commissioner Unruh said, "I don't know about gorilla food. Monkey food, okay."

Commissioner McGinn said, "I did let them know you guys were out of town and that I knew you both would want to be there.

And then the only other thing I just wanted to comment was this is the first time we've ever had an evening meeting since I've been a county commissioner and I just think this is a great idea. I hope this continues, maybe one time out of the year for budget, because this does give people . . ."

Commissioner Sciortino said, "Are you going to come back to it, then?"

Commissioner McGinn said, ". . . the opportunity to be a part of the budgeting process and the public hearings. And there are people out in our community that can't get away during the day, and so I think this has turned out to be a very good idea and I hope that it continues.

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Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well maybe that could be the start of something. Maybe if things go the way I hope they go you could change some of the meetings up in Topeka to be at evening hours, in case people could want to see some of the committee meetings and things. I think that would be great.

Derby has opened up now the only real aquatic center since Fantastic Bob’s or whatever that place was, FantaSea or up there and I was talking to the mayor of Derby and I think they’re anticipating now it’s a case of they’re going to be too successful. They had only allocated like 600 parking spaces and they’ve already ran out of room there and they’ve talked to Mike Pomarico and he’s graciously let them use the high school parking and they’re going to shuttle people over there. So, I think that’s going to turn out to be a very well received quality of life item that they have, not only for Derby, but it’s actually going to provide a little economic impact for Derby because I think they’re going to get a lot of people from the communities around Derby and Wichita going there. Hopefully they’ll linger a little longer and spend a few dollars, so I think that is great.

You’re absolutely right, I went to the zoo, along with Tom . . . excuse me, with Tim and Carolyn, anticipating that I was going to see something very nice. What I saw was fantastic.

I mean, you’re sitting in this glass room and it looks like you’re looking out at the Serengeti or wherever apes are, whatever the indigenous area that apes comes from, but supposedly, the landscaper took pains to recreate this space to look like what an ape would think was his home and I say his, because they’re all guy apes. They haven’t got a girl ape in there. Or you can walk this kind of goofy bridge that shakes all over, but you can ring it and look down on them and see them and they’re very active and one of them, the one guy is pretty aggressive. He doesn’t let any of the other ones mess around, but it was just, everybody was just awestruck and that’s definitely going to be the signature exhibit for many years to come. And Darryl Downing and his wife . . . Barry Downing, excuse me. Darryl Downing is a city council person in Derby. Barry Downing and his wife very generously gave that to all of us to be able to enjoy for years to come and I would encourage anybody, if you haven’t been to our zoo recently, you haven’t been to our zoo. Go out there and experience it, bring the whole family. It’s a wonderful, wonderful quality of life product that Sedgwick County donates to all of its citizens.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Thank you all. Dave and I were not able to attend the zoo opening. We were in Topeka, working that day with the Kansas Association of County folks, so we were about county business but just out of town that day. Is there any other business to come before this meeting? Mr. Manager? Mr. Euson? All right, this meeting is

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adjourned.”

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

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

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Chairman
Third District

Regular Meeting, July 27, 2004

DAVID M. UNRUH, Chair Pro Tem
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

CAROLYN McGINN, Commissioner
Fourth District

BEN SCIORTINO, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2004