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, December 22, 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; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Fire Chief Gary Curmode, Fire District #1; Captain David A. Matthew, Fire District #1; Mr. Robert L. Lamkey, Director, Public Safety Department; Mr. Don Brace, County Clerk; Ms. Jo Templin, Director, Human Resources Department; Lieutenant Cecil I. Goldsmith, Fire District #1; Mr. Nick R. Ard, Senior Administrative Officer, Comprehensive Community Care (COMCARE); Mr. D.A. Brann, Biomedical Technician, Emergency Medical Services; Ms. Margo S. Province, Paralegal, County Counselor’s Office; Ms. Judy D. Hilton, Emergency Service Dispatch 2, Emergency Communications; Mr. Tony M. Kelley, Intensive Supervision Officer, Corrections Department; Mr. Richard R. Chebultz, Operations Manager, DIO- Division of Information and Operations; Mr. John Schlegel, Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department; Mr. Sherdeill Breathett, Economic Development Specialist, Division of Community Development; Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Division of Community Development; Mr. Brad Snapp, Director, Housing Department; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Mr. Ted Jobst, Director, Integrated Family Health, Health Department; Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager and CIO; Mr. Richard Vogt, Chief Technology Officer; Ms. Jan Kennedy, County Treasurer; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communication Department; Mr. Jim Weber, Deputy Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Ms. Arneatha Martin, Member, Sedgwick County Advisory Board of Health.
Mr. Paul Damon,
Mr. Pat Neville, President, Beautyfirst.
Mr. Paul Shaw, Honeywell International.
Ms. Sandy Rickenberger, Women, Infant and Children program.
Ms. Sally Stevens, Corporate Supervisor, KPTS.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Pastor Rick Cline of Central Church of Christ, Wichita.
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported, after calling roll, that Commissioner Sciortino was absent.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:  

Regular Meeting, November 24, 2004  
Regular Meeting, December 1, 2004  
Special Meeting, December 3, 2004

The Clerk reported that Commissioner McGinn was absent at the Regular Meeting of November 24, 2004, all commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of December 1, 2004 and that Commissioner McGinn was absent at the Special Meeting of December 3, 2004.

Chairman Winters said, “All right, Commissioners, do we have a Motion for the meeting Minutes of November the 24th and December the 3rd. Commissioner McGinn was absent at that.”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 24, 2004 and the Special Meeting of December 3, 2004.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh Aye  
Commissioner Norton Aye  
Commissioner McGinn Abstain  
Commissioner Sciortino Absent  
Chairman Sciortino Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Now, the meeting of December the 1st.”
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 1, 2004.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh   Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner McGinn   Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters     Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Next item.”

APPOINTMENT

A. RESOLUTION APPOINTING ARNEATHA MARTIN (COMMISSIONER MCGINN’S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH.

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioners, we’ve prepared a resolution of appointment to the Board of Health. These are four-year appointments, so this appointment will expire in December of 2008 and I recommend you adopt the resolution.”

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE
Chairman Winters said, “And Arneatha is here. If you would please come forward, to the podium Arneatha, Sedgwick County Clerk Don Brace will do the honors of swearing you in.”

Mr. Don Brace, County Clerk, said, “Please raise your right hand.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas and faithfully discharge the duties of the Office of Sedgwick County Advisory Board of Health, so help me God.”

Ms. Arneatha Martin, Member, Sedgwick County Advisory Board of Health, said, “I do.”

Mr. Brace said, “Congratulations.”

Ms. Martin said, “I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all the Commissioners, and especially Carolyn McGinn, for appointing me to this position on the advisory board. And I really want to thank all of the Commissioners for your insight in looking at the health of the total community, with a focus on prevention and I’m very excited about working with you all for the next four years. Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you. Well Arneatha, don’t go far away. And we’re not going to say much about you right now, because we’re going to take a special Off Agenda item here in just a second and we’re going to talk about you more, but in thinking about the Health Department, and I’m sure Commissioner McGinn is going to make some comments, I don’t think we could find a better board person than yourself to be on the board. I think your community services and dedication to the better health of this community has been outstanding and so we look forward to working with you on that board.

Commissioner McGinn, do you have any comments now, or shall we go ahead and take the Off Agenda?”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Go ahead and call the next item.”
Chairman Winters said, “All right.”
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

MOTION

Chairman Winters moved to consider an off agenda item to make an award to Arneatha Martin.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh     Aye
Commissioner Norton    Aye
Commissioner McGinn    Aye
Commissioner Sciortino  Absent
Chairman Winters       Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioner, the floor is yours.”

OFF AGENDA ITEM

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT AWARD TO ARNEATHA MARTIN.

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman, County Commissioners, in thinking about Arneatha’s reappointment, it made me think about all the things that she has done over time in this community to make a positive change. And it was only appropriate to give Arneatha Martin the Community Enrichment Award. I think you’ll understand why after I read a little bit of background about her that she doesn’t often share when you’re out and about with her, because she’s just too busy working and doing those kinds of things that make a positive impact in our community.

In 2001, Commissioners began recognizing the work of those individuals in our community who step forward to give their time and talents to make our community better. Today, I would like to present the Sedgwick County Community Enrichment Award to a very deserving community volunteer, Arneatha Martin.

Arneatha has made her mark on our community by dedicating her service to the area of health care.
With Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees in nursing, she has taken her health care knowledge and compassion into forming a new vision for health and wellness in our community.

Arneatha’s connection with Sedgwick County goes back to the mid-1970s, when she served as Psychiatric Nurse Counselor at our Sedgwick County Department of Mental Health. She has served as a nursing instructor at W.S.U., Director of Education and Research and Director of Development at Via Christi Health System.

Most everyone knows Arneatha now. However, as a visionary behind the Center for Health and Wellness, she is the Chief Executive Officer and co-president. Arneatha serves on numerous community boards, including the Wichita State Board of Trustees, the American Red Cross, Regional Prevention Center and today she was appointed to serve on our Sedgwick County Advisory Board of Health.

She has been widely recognized for her work with the Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader award, and the NCCJ Humanitarian Award. Arneatha’s work at the Center for Health and Wellness is one of the best examples of putting words into actions. This state-of-the-art facility focuses on family health care and a heightened awareness of prevention and wellness and, Arneatha, we are also proud of the work you are doing to address the issues of affordable health care. Unfortunately, we all know too well about the growing numbers of uninsured and under-insured individuals and families.

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, I want to present you with this community enrichment award and thank you for your ideas, your energy and your dedication to keeping our community healthy.

Commissioners, on a personal note, and I do like you to make a few comments too, I met Arneatha about six years ago and as I said, she’s not one that goes around and talks about her background, because she’s very busy in looking at the future, the vision of our community. And I was so very impressed, even years back, of her talking about the volunteers that she does, but also the other nurses in the community that come in and volunteer and just share some of the little things that people can do, in their everyday lives, to make a difference as far as prevention and health.

And the other area that she recently played a key role in was our health summit we had last March. Thanks for Commissioner Norton for raising the bar on that and getting us to re-examine how we view public health in our community. As we look at people in the area of uninsured, the numbers continue to rise and we really need to start focusing on prevention as being a piece of that puzzle to decrease costs in the future for our community.
So, Arneatha, if you have some comments, please share them and words of wisdom for our community.”
Ms. Martin said, “Thank you again, Commissioner McGinn. I do have just a few things. I’m not going to talk very long, but I’d like to thank all the commissioners for this honor. But on behalf of the Center for Health and Wellness, and our board of directors and our really hardworking staff, as we are there trying to change the way health is delivered and we will continue to serve the community, by providing affordable health care, we make sure we keep in mind at all times, the self-esteem and respect our patients at all times.

And we do focus on prevention and wellness education, because there’s a large segment of our population that die of a preventable disease and that preventable disease is Hypertension. We don’t have to get it, but most people don’t know that. We like to take pride in helping people that have Diabetes, which is not preventable, but we want to prevent them from ending up with a chronic condition, because that should not be the end . . . . what happens at the end of having Diabetes, so we try to make sure that people understand that.

We make sure we give free health screenings twice a month, they’re free, so tell all your friends if they want to know what their blood pressure is, their cholesterol, their blood sugar, and then at the end of that process there’s always a nurse, an RN, that helps the community to understand what those numbers mean, because there’s no way we’re going to get out of this mess in health care that we’re in unless we focus on prevention, and so that’s what we really do there.

And always, at the end of anything I talk about, I want everybody to remember that the uninsured is growing across America, but even here in Sedgwick County, but all of us are only six weeks from being one of those uninsured. So if we look at it that way, it’s not those people, it’s all of us, because most of the times, it’s attached to our job. So, please remember that we, all of us, six weeks from being one of the uninsured population that have to go out and beg for healthcare, and so we don’t want that to be a part of what’s happening in Wichita.

And thank you all again, and I wish everybody a happy holiday.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well I have to tell you, I think this is so well deserved. I have the greatest respect for Arneatha. I happen to be able to speak at a symposium last week on the uninsured, and as I looked out in the audience, who was there for this all-day seminar but Arneatha.

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. We have a couple of commissioner comments. Commissioner Norton.”
I mean, she continues to surprise me at all turns of how dedicated she is at putting in the time to try to understand and advocate for the uninsured.

And you know, that number was around 40,000 in our community and that’s an abomination in a country as rich as we are that we still have, in our community, 40,000 people, a large majority of them children, that are not insured.

And you know, we talk about visioneering and economic development and the quality of life in our community, and the work that Arneatha and her group does certainly adds to the quality of life, because can we all have a true quality of life if our health is not good. And more that we understand that, the more that groups like Arneatha’s work at making sure that our community is healthy, the better community we’re going to be. So, once again Arneatha, congratulations, we’re very proud of you for being in our community and helping us struggle with something that’s so debilitating to our community. Thanks.”

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

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you. Well, I’ve only had the pleasure of getting to know Arneatha in these last couple of years, since I’ve been a commissioner, but sitting on a couple of advisory boards and being involved in our health assembly, I can see why you’re so well respected by your peers and associates. You’re articulate and very active and you’re productive, you get things done. So, you’re an asset to our community and I think your award is very well deserved and we’re proud to have you as part of Sedgwick County’s healthcare community.”

Chairman Winters said, “Arneatha, thank you very much. We’re glad you’re here and Commissioner McGinn, thank you for making this recognition today. Madam Clerk, would you call the next item.”

AWARDS

B. RECOGNITION OF EXECUTIVE FIRE OFFICER DESIGNATION FROM NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY TO DAVID A. MATTHEW, FIRE CAPTAIN.
Fire Chief Gary E. Curmode, Fire District #1, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It’s a distinguished honor to be here today to acknowledge one of our captains in the Fire Department. I’d like to say, Captain David A. Matthew was one of several hundred applicants for the National Fire Academy, United States Fire Administration program. This is through the Department of Homeland Security. For every eight applicants, one person is selected. It is a diligent, four-year process and each time, when he completes that two weeks, the work is just beginning. He is required to do a national research paper on a topic facing fire department administration and/or operations.

He completed that recently, in this past year, and some of the courses that he had to attend during this time was . . . his first one was executive development. The second one was executive analysis of fire service operations and emergency management. Third is community risk reduction and fourth, basically executive leadership.

And again, he’s been an outstanding member of our department and, again, a leader, a future upcoming administrator with our department and I’m so proud to be able to have this. It’s a very tough class to get into, to get accepted. You network with people from not only the United States, but from around the world, it’s tremendous. And on behalf of the men and women of Sedgwick County Fire District #1, I would like to present this certificate on Executive Fire Officer to Captain David A. Matthew.”

Captain David A. Matthew, recipient, Executive Fire Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioners, I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the training. I’ve had a chance to participate in training in over 27 different states, in the 19 years on Sedgwick County Fire Department, and I can tell you, there’s no finer responders than what you have here in Wichita and Sedgwick County. So I encourage you to continue the support you have for the Fire District and once again, I appreciate the support I had to get through this four-year process. Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “David, we appreciate very much your hard work and dedication to fire service. We appreciate your going the extra mile to make sure that we have the best leadership for our department. We know it doesn’t stop with you. We know that the things that you learn in this kind of training will end up through every firefighter in our organization and we think that’s hugely important. So congratulations on a job well done, we appreciate your hard work.”

Captain Matthew said, “Thank you, Commissioner.”
Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. All right, Madam Clerk, would you call the next item.”
C. RECOGNITION OF CHIEF FIRE OFFICER DESIGNATION FROM FIRE ACCREDITATION INTERNATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS TO DIVISION CHIEF CARL COX AND FIRE CHIEF GARY CURMODE.

Mr. Robert L. Lamkey, Public Safety Director, greeted the Commissioners and said, “A number of years ago, the International Association of Fire Chiefs established a program of professional recognition and certification for fire officers. Our former assistant county manager, Jerry Harrison, who was actively involved in that, was one of the creators of this process.

The designation is to recognize and encourage professional development in fire officers and fire leadership and it’s more than just the operational aspects. Individuals who achieve this have to show competency in the range of things that affect current and contemporary fire organizations, everything from operations to budgeting to management of personnel.

There are only about 500 chief fire officer designations in the world, this is a worldwide organization, we’re blessed to have four that have been achieved in our fire department, and one more on the way, so this is a significant event and a significant investment in developing competencies on behalf of these individuals. It’s about a 18-month process of assessment, evaluation and if there are shortfalls and they have to achieve both education or competency in that process, and so I’m well pleased to recognize first, Division Chief Carl Cox, who recently earned this designation. Carl.”

Division Chief Carl Cox, Fire District #1, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’d like to once again thanks for the opportunity to go through this process, serve the citizens of Sedgwick County and a career that I do truly love. It is a lifestyle. It’s more than just a job you go to at 8:00 in the morning and go home at 5:00 at night.

You have one of the best departments in the country, should be proud of that, I know I certainly am, so thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you.”

Mr. Lamkey said, “And the second person I’m going to recognize is your Fire Chief Gary Curmode. This is a recertification for Gary. Of those 500, Gary was the 23rd. I would say that, both for the achievements of David Matthew and Carl Cox and the other folks who have stepped
out to get this education and training and demonstrate these competencies, it wouldn’t be possible without the leadership of your fire chief, so I’d like to give him a little bit of extra recognition, along with his certificate.”

Chief Curmode said, “Thank you, Bob. Again, you know, this is an award that I want to share with my department, because again, I’m only as good as the rest of the department, the men and women that lead this organization, and I’m just lucky to be the head of it. But again, I want to thank my boss, Bob Lamkey, and I want to thank again my other boss, Mr. Bill Buchanan.

He’s, as you well know, an ICMA leader in the International City Management Association and he is very strong on accreditation, he’s very strong on credentialing and that support has also lead to yourselves, governing as the Board of the Fire District and I appreciate that support. It’s something that, you know, you have really stressed in Sedgwick County since I’ve been here for 10 years, to raise the benchmark every year, to have strategic performance measures and we try to do that and we try to raise that bar every year, because the citizens expect it. And again, I want to thank Mr. Lamkey, Mr. Buchanan and the entire Sedgwick County Board for the support they’ve given our department. Thank you very much.”

Chairman Winters said, “Well, thank you Chief. To both you and Carl, we would again say we appreciate and it doesn’t go unnoticed that we are heavily involved in training and retraining and the work that all of you do to make sure that you are at the highest level of proficiencies travels throughout your entire organization and most likely travels through the county organization, and we think that that is hugely important. So to both of you . . . well, for all three of you, including David, who have gone through hard and difficult work to make sure that you’re at the top of your business, we appreciate it very much, makes our department one that we are extremely proud of. So, congratulations to all of you.”

Chief Curmode said, “Thank you, sir.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, one more round of applause for those awards. Madam Clerk, would you call the next item.”

RETIREMENTS

D. PRESENTATION OF CLOCKS FOR RETIREMENTS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1,
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

2005.

1. CECIL I. GOLDSMITH, LIEUTENANT, FIRE DISTRICT #1, 32 YEARS OF SERVICE
2. NICK R. ARD, SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, COMCARE, 28 YEARS OF SERVICE
3. D. A. BRANN, BIOMEDICAL TECHNICIAN, EMS, 26 YEARS OF SERVICE
4. MARGO S. PROVINCE, PARALEGAL, COUNTY COUNSELOR’S OFFICE, 25 YEARS OF SERVICE
5. JUDY D. HILTON, EMERGENCY SERVICE DISPATCH 2, EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS, 19 YEARS OF SERVICE
6. TONY M. KELLEY, INTENSIVE SUPERVISION OFFICER, CORRECTIONS, 16 YEARS OF SERVICE
7. RICHARD R. CHEBULTZ, OPERATIONS MANAGER-DIO, DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS, 13 YEARS OF SERVICE
8. JOAN M. POSS, SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER, COMCARE, 7 YEARS OF SERVICE

Ms. Jo Templin, Director, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I would just like to ask all of the retirees to come up front and just line up in front of the screen please.

This item recognizes the valued contributions and service, public service that these folks have done for many, many years. We have eight of them today. They are also joined by many family and friends and coworkers, and we thank you for coming in support of these employees.

The first one is Cecil Goldsmith. He’s a lieutenant at Fire District #1. He’s retiring after 32 years of service.”

Chairman Winters said, “Cecil, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, we know that you’re valued very much for the competent work that you’ve done for the department over these years. Public safety is one of the highest priorities that local government is involved in, and on
behalf of the citizens of Sedgwick County, we’d like to present this clock to you in recognition of your dedicated work to Sedgwick County, so congratulations on your retirement, and he has the plane tickets in his pocket.”

Lieutenant Cecil I. Goldsmith, Fire District #1, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Well, I had a few words right here and I had to write them down, because I’m not too good at giving speeches or remembering, off the top of my head, what I really want to say.

But to start with, I would like to thank the residents of Sedgwick County Fire District #1, the Sedgwick County Commissioners and past commissioners that have sat in as a governing board of the Sedgwick County Fire District #1 for the chance to serve you the past 32 years. I’ve served three fire chiefs during my career and it’s been a great ride.

One of the first things that they told me whenever I came onto this department, that within five years, that the county and city fire departments would be consolidated. The thing is, they never told me which five years it was going to be. Commissioner Norton, our kids went to school together down there in Haysville. I moved into a different district. I was hoping to run against Betsy Gwin, you know, for a commission seat down the line.

Commissioners Winters and Unruh, since Commissioner Sciortino wasn’t here, there’s not really very much I know about you guys. But Commissioner McGinn, I’ve saved you for last, because I live in your district, you know, I voted for you. I was hoping to take over your commission seat, you know, when you went up to Topeka, but I think you appointed somebody else.

But to all of you, remember the last commissioners I’ve seen out to the fire stations had been Betsy Gwin and Bill Hancock. You guys need to get out and visit the guys out there and let them know that you really care and you know, just go in and stop in and visit, have a cup of coffee. You don’t have to go through our offices, you know, the fire department offices, to do that, because we’d like to see you guys out there.

And Mr. Buchanan, over the years we’ve had our little controversy, but I do want to say that I proved you wrong. Yes, I can make a career out of the Fire District, and this department, so please put the career back in the mission statement of the county’ mission and thank you very much.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you Cecil.”

Ms. Templin said, “Nick Ard, Senior Administrative Officer from COMCARE, will retire after 28 years of service.”

Chairman Winters said, “Nick, we appreciate your service to COMCARE and on behalf of the
citizens of Sedgwick County, we present you with this clock as a token of appreciation for all the work that you’ve done to make this county a better place. So, thank you and would you like to make a remark or two? All right, step right up here.”

Mr. Nick Ard, Senior Administrative Officer, Comprehensive Community Care (COMCARE), greeted the Commissioners and said, “You know, this last 28 years has been a two-way street. I have certainly received a lot from the county and from my fellow co-workers. Local government is closest to the people and it has the resources to respond to people in need and because I work for COMCARE, I take with me the satisfaction of knowing that I worked for a part of county government that responded to people with the greatest needs. And I just appreciate knowing that that’s what I was involved in all of these years.

I’m very grateful to the staff of COMCARE and Human Services. Some of these people were with me when I came in December of 1976 and they’re still here and still serving and that’s certainly impressive.

If I tried, in total, I could have picked a finer group of people to work with. I’m also thankful to other departments in the county, DIO for example. I could do my job without their assistance all of these years.

I just want to leave with the impression that I’m always going to respect the people who work for the county, who work for COMCARE, that are doing the right thing, and my favorite quote from Mark Twain is, ‘Always do right. It will gratify some and astonish the rest’.”

Ms. Templin said, “D.A. Brann, Biomedical Technician from EMS, will retire after 26 years of service.”

Chairman Winters said, “D.A., congratulations on your retirement. We appreciate everything you’ve done for the service, to make sure that things are running and operating as smoothly as they possibly could. The Board of County Commissioners want to present this clock to you, from the citizens of Sedgwick County, as a token of appreciation for all the work you’ve done in these past 20-some-odd years.

So, with that and the certificate, would you like to make a comment? All right, good, step right up here.”

Mr. D.A. Brann, Biomedical Technician, Emergency Medical Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I would like to thank the commissioners, and the manager’s office.
We’ve gone through some hectic times in the last couple of years and the commission has stood behind emergency services, and that’s amazing, because I have seen other towns and big cities that the commissioners don’t even understand it, and you go out and you find out what’s going on and I appreciate that. Thank you.”

Ms. Templin said, “Margo Province is a Paralegal in the County Counselor’s Office and Margo will retire after 25 years of service.”

Chairman Winters said, “Margo, congratulations on your retirement and the Board of County Commissioners want to present this clock to you, on behalf of the citizens of Sedgwick County, for all the work that you have done over these past years. I think your interpersonal skills in working with the public and the people in the Legal Department, and the other county departments, has been outstanding.

We enjoyed seeing you on the 3rd floor. We’re going to miss seeing you on the 3rd floor, but again congratulations and we wish you the very best. Would you like to make a comment or two? Okay, step right over to the microphone.”

Ms. Margo S. Province, Paralegal, County Counselor’s Office, greeted the Commissioners and said, “All these folks are just like family to me now and it’s going to be awfully hard to not come in. I’ll probably mistake some day and come in.”

Chairman Winters said, “Well, congratulations and we wish you the very best.”

Ms. Templin said, “Judy Hilton, Emergency Service Dispatch 2 from Emergency Communications, will retire after 19 years of service.”

Chairman Winters said, “Judy, congratulations on your retirement and for all the work that you’ve done, particularly finishing up here in Emergency Communications. Again, one of those public safety service issues that local government is very pleased and has a high priority. And we appreciate all the knowledge that you’ve gained over the years, in both medical and law enforcement dispatching and so, on behalf of the citizens of Sedgwick County who you’ve served for these many years, we present you with this clock, as a token of our appreciation. Would you like to make a comment?”

Ms. Judy D. Hilton, Emergency Service Dispatch 2, Emergency Communications, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Just a little one. Commissioners, I would just like to say, let my second family know, the 9-1-1 dispatchers, how much I’ve enjoyed working with them, how much I’m going to miss them and to all the citizens of Sedgwick County, please don’t forget the dispatchers. They don’t get near the praise or the thanks they should, just remember them. Thank you.”
Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you very much.”

Ms. Templin said, “Tony Kelley, Intensive Supervision Officer from Corrections, will retire after 16 years of service.”

Chairman Winters said, “Tony, congratulations on your retirement. We wish you the very best. We’ve appreciated the hard work that you’ve done in a changing environment. This clock is presented to you from the Board of County Commissioners, but really on behalf of the citizens of our county, who you have served over these many years. We wish you the very best in your retirement. Would you like to make a comment?”

Mr. Tony M. Kelley, Intensive Supervision Officer, Corrections Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It’s been an honor and a privilege to work for Sedgwick County for the last 16 years. I’m going to miss the people that work for Sedgwick County. I think they’re an awesome bunch of people.

Basically, you could find no better people to work with and supervisors have been awesome also, who have faced challenges and we’ve had to work to overcome those challenges. Thank you again.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you.”

Ms. Templin said, “Richard Chebultz, Operations Manager from DIO, Division of Information and Operations, will retire after 13 years of service.”

Chairman Winters said, “Richard has served both county staff and district court staff. Richard has been calm and cool under many pressure situations, being involved with the facilities and security. Richard has done a tremendous amount of good work, including being very visible in some of the high profile court cases that have been here.

Richard, we want you to know that we have appreciated your work very, very much. The Board of County Commissioners is going to present this clock to you, but as just with the others, it’s really from the citizens of Sedgwick County, who you’ve served so well, actually through two careers and we have been very fortunate to have you with Sedgwick County. We wish you the very best in your retirement. Would you like to step up and say just a couple of words?”
Mr. Richard R. Chebultz, Operations Manager, Division of Information and Operations, greeted the Commissioners and said, “First of all, I’d like to thank you for this very nice clock. It’s heavier than I expected. I’d also like to say that I’ve enjoyed very much working with each of you on the Board of County Commissioners and also those that have been on the board, over the past 13 years. I’ve had a very rewarding career and experience here at the county, I’ve enjoyed it very much, thank you.”

Ms. Templin said, “Commissioners, we also had one more, I don’t believe Joan Poss is here. She’s a senior social worker from COMCARE with seven years of service and we’ll make sure she gets her clock.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, well let me just make one final comment then to all of you who are retiring today, family members who may be here, fellow coworkers, to all of those retirees, we all wish you the very best, the very best for your future and the very best for this holiday season. We have truly appreciated the work that you’ve done for the citizens of Sedgwick County and thank you very much for your service to the county. So, with that, we will pause for just a moment. I think John is next. John, if you need to get ready to go, we’ll give the room to clear out.”

Chair Pro Tem Unruh said, “Well, Mr. Chairman, a couple of comments from up here. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I wanted to congratulate everybody and I had the opportunity yesterday . . . Tuesday, I’m sorry, to stop by Gary Mathis’ retirement. He didn’t feel comfortable receiving his award on television, but he had a great retirement party from a lot of his folks that he’d worked with for years and years over at the Old Courthouse and because he’s in my district, he asked me to give him his clock and I attended that, 15 years of service with the Election Commissioners Office and our Legal Department here, a wonderful employee, but didn’t feel comfortable being on camera today, but once again, another addition to this great group of retirees.”

Chair Pro Tem Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you. You know, I guess I’d just like to give a little bit of a different perspective, as an outgoing commissioner, coming here six years ago, and thinking about county government. And a lot of what we think about in the unincorporated area has to do with Public Works, because that’s what we see. We don’t see all the other things, the things like COMCARE. Those are the people who touch lives in our community, learning and understanding
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

that we need true professionals out there for families that have aging challenges, physical disabilities and mental health. You’re the one that are touching our community and making a difference for them.

Emergency Services, you’re the ones that make the quick responses when our families are in crisis or our neighbors or those kinds of things and it’s so important and truly appreciated, but generally isn’t appreciated until after someone has had a crisis in their life, or their family or their community even, when we have large emergencies and those kinds of things. I think people remember that though, after they see that kind of thing, that has touched them but it’s so important.

And Judy’s comment about 9-1-1 dispatch, you’re so right, I’ve been down there and watched, in that room, and thank goodness we’re going to get a new facility, but some of the calls that our 9-1-1 people have to take, I mean, it’s not an information network, but you graciously take those calls and get people to the right direction, and you’re taking two calls at a time and you do a fabulous job. Once in a while, I’ll get a call about something and Mr. Lamkey brings me the tape, and you do a marvelous job in handling those situations.

I added up here, and we have 166 years of public service today here at Sedgwick County. And I, as a citizen of Sedgwick County, just want to say personally, thank you very much. I’ve learned a lot about county government and I’ve found out that Sedgwick County is full of 2,800 true professionals in this community and you’re what makes things continue to work and you’re the ones that reach out and continue to help our community.

And Cecil, I just wanted to share a couple of things to you. One, I didn’t know you were interested in this position. Maybe we could have worked on that. But the other thing is, I have been out there, because I happen to know that our firemen and women make wonderful meals and none of them have been a low-cal entry, excellent food, but I do go out there every and I go out there every year as a citizen because I have to get my fire permit every year and I haven’t figured out how to get that done through the mail, but maybe you guys can get that changed in the future, but we do truly have a professional fire department. We’ve needed them, from time to time, and again, it’s everybody that works for Sedgwick County that’s making a difference and I just wanted to share that today, because we have a lot of people here that have served for 166 years. Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Unruh said, “Thank you. Well, I just want to make a comment also. If you add the gentleman that Commissioner Norton talked about, it’s 181 hours [sic] of total service to our community and you know, that’s a lot of hours, that’s a lot of blood, sweat and tears, a lot of projects and people don’t stick around that long, unless they feel like they’re doing something worthwhile. And I would also say, from a business perspective, that turn-over is really devastating to an organization. The fact that you all have stayed is what’s help make us strong and helped make
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

Sedgwick County be able to progress in its service to the citizens of our county, so we thank you very much for your service and we just wish you Godspeed on this next phase of your life and all we can say is, ‘Enjoy’. So, thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you all very much for being here. Madam Clerk, let’s wait just a moment while the room clears out before we call the next item. Okay, I think we’re ready to proceed. Madam Clerk, would you please call the next item.”

PLANNING DEPARTMENT


Mr. John Schlegel, Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m going to have to adjust what I present to you today, because we failed to send over the PowerPoint presentation. So this is going to be much briefer. You did see this, the presentation, the other day in our workshop session, so I think you’ve had the benefit of the background that I wanted to provide with that presentation. So, if you don’t mind, what I’ll do is I’ll just make a couple of comments on the plan that’s before you today for adoption and take any questions then that you might have.

I think, in a lot of ways, this plan has been a long time in getting to this stage. There’s been a long history of the City of Wichita attempting to make a variety of efforts to revitalize the 21st Street Corridor. On the east side of I-135, they have enjoyed some success over the past five to ten years and have made a considerable investment in that portion of the corridor.

The City Council, however, in directing the MAPD to undertake this study, back earlier in this year, wanted us to come up with a revitalization plan for the corridor that would lead to a strategic action implementation plan, so that something would actually move forward and get done this time.

And the plan was also intended to provide solutions for longstanding transportation issues, conflicts between rail traffic and vehicular traffic that have existed along 21st Street and within that central industrial corridor from 17th Street up to 33rd Street.

And we made every attempt that we could to make this as open and inclusive a planning process as we could. We had a variety of advisory committees in place. There were actually three sub-areas within the overall study area. We had an advisory committee in place, 15 members each, for each
of those sub-areas. We had an overall steering committee, which was composed of members from each of those advisory committees to guide us through the preparation of the plan.

We made a . . . we had a number of public meetings between April and September, in an effort to try to invite the larger community to come out and provide input and comment on what needed to be done to revitalize this important corridor. And I’m presenting the plan to you today for your consideration for adoption, with an endorsement from the two district advisory boards for the City of Wichita, within which the study area lies, and also a recommendation for adoption to amend the Wichita/ Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan to include this 21st Street Revitalization Plan as part of the overall comp plan.

I reviewed with you the other day the guiding principles on which the plan’s recommendations were based. They were developed in cooperation with the steering committee and I think those were important principles that really set a very firm foundation for the recommendations of the plan and I also highlighted for you, at Monday’s workshop, some of the principle recommendations that came out of this planning process, so I won’t go over those again with you, but I would like to conclude with a couple of remarks.

The plan does look out over 20 years. It’s a long-range plan. The problems that exist there, that the plan attempts to address, did not happen overnight and the solutions to those concerns and issues are not going to come about overnight as well. And what we’ve tried to do is outline a series of actions that can be taken, over that 20-year period. There’s a very detailed implementation plan that lays out what are the highest priority things that need to be done, including three pages worth of actions that we think need to happen in the year 2005 and then it goes on to lay out actions that need to be taken over the next five years, ten years, and twenty years.

Adoption of the plan is not a financial commitment to any particular recommendation of the plan. Those financial commitments will come from future action from city council in reprioritizing how they allocate CIP resources and hopefully, in future actions by the U.S. Congress, to make appropriations for transportation improvements, in application approvals for grants and so forth.

And a point that I really would like to stress is that the plan is really a starting point more than a final product. There’s a lot of work that needs to be done. It’s really meant to set a direction for how to go about revitalizing this area, and we recognize, as we move forward with those implementation actions, that adjustments will have to be made over the years, but that’s pretty typical for how plans get implemented.

So, with those comments, I’ll conclude. The recommendation from the MAPC is for adoption of the 21st Street North Corridor Revitalization Plan as an amendment to the Wichita/ Sedgwick
Chairman Winters said, “All right, John, thank you. Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “Well, I see we have some visitors here that have been working very hard on this 21st Street project and I’d like to make some comments, but I didn’t know if you would, Charles and others, would like to make some comments about the plan.”

Mr. Paul Damon, steering committee member, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The reason I got involved in this is not because I live in the area. It’s because I believe it’s an area that’s completely left alone, so to speak, for many, many years. One of the things, John, that I think we might want changes on, are our guiding principles and I just figured it out last night. It’s a little bit too late, but it says that one of the main, guiding principles that we have is the revitalization of 21st Street is important to all of Wichita. I think we forgot also Sedgwick County, okay.

I think it’s very important to know that even though, you know, the County doesn’t see it as being part, you for that little area there, we do have people that are coming from the county to that area, or visa versa, people that are working in the area and living outside of the city limits.

The other thing is that what we felt was very important as one of our goals, which it says ‘To increase the long-term economic renewal and vitality’ and then we added, just recently also the sustainability of 21st Street. One of the things that we, as steering members felt, as well as advisory members felt, that because you’re going to bring in all this funding to different organizations, and I hear that we just received some funding for one of the CDCs through the federal government in the amount of $330,000, so that will help us get this started. But we also felt that, we, before we do the widening of the streets or do the bump out, or some of those other elements, we have to find out is this area vital, does it have the vitality, and does it generate economic wealth and economic wealth is a big word. Meaning I’m not talking as the tax base, but does it improve the well being and the livelihoods of the people residing there, as well as the people that are taking advantage of, for example, the international market, (unintelligible) or W.S.U. or other elements there.

So I’m hoping that you all consider this plan and, like I said yesterday, this is number 14 and I’m hopeful we don’t have to study it again and say we did it 15 times in a row. I think it’s a very important plan. Like John said, this is a plan that will keep on changing. We have done some specific funding but we have not said, you know, let’s put this money here. As we go and develop the area, I know we’re going to change funding from one area to another specific need. I just hope that you will approve it for us. Thank you very much.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, Paul, thank you very much. Commissioner McGinn, did you have other comments?”
Commissioner McGinn said, “I did, thank you. Well I’m glad too to see that this is finally coming forward. Before I was a commissioner, I’d heard about previous plans and ideas and they continued to get put back on the shelf, and so I’m glad that we’re finally seeing this be put a little bit into action. We’ve done plans like this in the past: Delano, McAdams, Historic Midtown. They’re all wonderful plans and I wish we could just click our fingers and they would all be done tomorrow. The problem is that we have a limited amount of resources to get things done in our community, but what is most important is the fact that these plans were put together by those individuals in the communities, along with governmental entities, so everyone understands the direction they want that community or that neighborhood to go.

And why that is so important is because, over time, there are opportunities to change zoning that better fit that area. Also there are opportunities to receive grant monies, as the City of Wichita moves forward and works on their CIP, Capital Improvement Programs, it’s something they can think about. So, just because these plans don’t happen quickly, and as quick as we would like, it is a plan that is in place so that we have orderly change and we are efficient with the dollars that do come forward and we know how to use them. So, I certainly support this plan, as I’ve supported other plans like this.

This particular one, I think, is very unique in the fact that we have a lot of culture and history in this area and I think we have an opportunity to share that, not just with Wichita, not just with Sedgwick County. I think this is a regional thing that could happen, that we draw in more tourism in our area.

So, as these plans move forward, I want to say thank you for those in the community that care enough to sit there for many, many hours in working on details of trying to put together what is best for their community and I guess I’ll share, please be patient, stay the course and hopefully we’ll see some of these things come to fruition and bring a lot of other people into our community to share that great culture that we have. Thank you.”

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

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to voice my support for this plan also. I know it’s been a long process, but you know any long journey, you’ve got to take that first step. And this, at least now, we’ve have a definite point in time where we’re made that first step, so I think this is significant process.

On principle, I’m very much supportive in that this is a community led revitalization, so it’s not something being imposed by some theorists. It’s the folks down in the trenches who are helping make these decisions and we’re building on that group of folks that are there, on that ethnic and cultural diversity, which I think is also a strong principle that’s involved here and it has an
emphasis, according to the material, on local entrepreneurship, which I also think builds a healthy community. So those three principles, I think, are admirable and I’m . . . I guess, celebrate with you, the success that you’ve had up to this point, getting the plan put together and getting it adopted and I’m very much supportive of it. Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you very much, commissioner. I’d make just a couple of comments. I’m going to be very supportive of this and I think that there’s times when people can look at this as a neighborhood plan, but, I mean, it’s much more than a neighborhood plan, it is a community plan. And I agree with Paul, that it goes beyond Sedgwick County. You begin to think about just three parts of the plan, or three things that are there are, one is that industrial area north of 21st Street is going to look entirely different and that is totally under-utilized now and could just be opened up, particularly with the removal of the old refinery, I mean, that’s going to change, can be a huge plus.

When we start talking about . . . and again, the commissioners had a detailed briefing by John on Monday afternoon in a workshop and when you start talking about developing an international marketplace where perhaps this is the only really place in this region where you can obtain the kind of food or international kinds of things, that’s beginning to talk about a regional attraction or a regional area.

And then when you talk about the overpasses over the railroad, of course a huge help to the neighborhood, but also a huge help to anybody that’s traversing from east to west in that part of town, so has much more benefits beyond just the neighborhood itself. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, we got the briefing the other day and, although I’m going to be very, very supportive of this, I’m cautionary that one of the things that concerns me is we did have 14 other reports on this and if we put this as top priority and it’s the new shiny thing, it pushes back some of the others that we’re working on in other parts of the community and we know that mid-town has some problems revitalizing.

There was a South Wichita study, and if you look along the corridor along 81 Highway, Broadway, we need to focus on that. I mean, there are a lot of pockets and to me it’s going to be prioritizing, visioneering has set us in motion on trying to improve the quality of life and neighborhoods and these revitalization things. One thing that is maddening, as John . . . as we went through this, pulled out a Northeast study that is 10 years old and said, ‘Now, we’re going to look at that again’.

Now, that becomes maddening to me, because now does that become the new shiny and 21st Street kind of falls away into second place and Midtown becomes 4th place and South Wichita becomes 8th place until we study it again. At some point, we need to move to action. It is going to be very, very tough, but I truthfully . . . it’s almost like tech education. You know, the state did seven studies
until John Moore finally got to the state and said ‘Enough studying is enough’. We’re not going to study it anymore, we’re going to try to do something.

And I guess my cautionary mood here is that this is a great plan. If we can implement it, it’s going to make a huge impact along the north corridor, but we’ve got a lot of other parts of our community that need that same help, and I hope we don’t continue to just leapfrog over one to get to another, and never really get anything done. And that sounds like a rainy day on something that’s really good, but I want to challenge our community to make sure that we’re raising the water so all the boats go up.

Our community has a lot of spots that are needing revitalization, need attention, need the entrepreneurial spirit and need government’s help. And I hope we can pull all the studies off the shelf, dust them off and prioritize pieces of all of it at the same time, instead of putting all our ducks in one pond. That’s all I have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. John, you have any other closing comments? I think we’re probably ready for a Motion up here.”

Mr. Schlegel said, “No, I have no other comments.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Commissioners?”

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the 21st Street North Corridor Revitalization Plan as an amendment to the Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh Aye
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner McGinn  Aye
Commissioner Sciortino  Absent
Chairman Winters   Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you John, very much and thank you for all the committee members who were here and all the committee work that’s been going on on this project. We appreciate your work. Thank you. Next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

F. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A FORGIVABLE LOAN TO BEAUTYFIRST FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES.

Mr. Sherdeill Breathett, Economic Development Specialist, Division of Community Development, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Merry Christmas to you all. Beautyfirst is a rapidly growing national company that, in 2003, considered moving its corporate office and warehouse distribution center from Wichita to Dallas.

Beautyfirst is a chain of beauty and stylist shops, with over 1,900 employees nationally. Seventy-five percent of those stores are franchised across 25 states. All stores receive the majority of their merchandise from the warehouse and distribution center, located in Wichita, Sedgwick County.

Beautyfirst also carries out an ongoing program of in-service training seminars and conferences for salon franchisees and employees, which they call Beautyfirst University in which dozens of Beautyfirst operators are brought to Wichita two or three times a year to learn about new products and techniques.

Combined with quarterly business reviews, monthly meetings and a fall conference of franchisees, Beautyfirst is a significant generators of visitors to the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County. And for your consideration today is a forgivable loan with Beautyfirst, which will keep their corporation headquarters and their warehouse location here, to grow their business in the Wichita, Sedgwick County.

And we have the President, Pat Neville, and the CFO, Tim Allen here as well to speak to any questions that you might have.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you Sherdeill. If either one of those gentlemen you would like to make a comment, just briefly or just a brief comment would certainly be appreciated. Your name please.”
Mr. Pat Neville, President, Beautyfirst, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Carolyn actually came out and was involved in our groundbreaking on our new project. Thank you, Commissioner McGinn. We are grateful for the opportunity to stay in Wichita. My family, our staff, myself did not want to leave and are grateful that you are making this opportunity possible for us to be here. We appreciate your trust. We appreciate your funds that you’re giving us an opportunity to have and we look forward to growing and prospering in Sedgwick County.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you very much, Pat. We know very well that businesses such as Beautyfirst could select to be any place in the country. You may have one or another geographical area you’d like to be in, but we understand that there are opportunities all across this country for locations for companies such as Beautyfirst. I’m just glad that we can work with folks at the Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition, that we have them out there on the front lines, looking at this, analyzing these kinds of operations and then, as public sector local government, we can step in and backfill them and their work, to make sure that we’re able to attract and retain businesses such as this. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well certainly, you know, we open ourselves up for criticism any time government gets involved in business and entrepreneurial kinds of things, but the GWEDC has become that filter that we can put these kind of projects through that really analyzes it, look at the numbers, work with the businesses, get out on the front line and understand what the impact is going to be to our community and then give us that good feedback, so that we are making good decisions on the use of public money to keep jobs, to retain jobs, to retain great companies that may grow up and be the Pizza Huts, the Rent-a-Centers, the Coleman Products of the future and we’re excited about that.

And just a small, forgivable loan today may be the incubator for something really great later and being able to put that through the filter of the GWEDC certainly makes our job a lot easier, because then it’s not government playing favorites for any one person, just because we know them pretty well or whatever, it’s really taking a business case, putting the numbers to it, putting it through the filter of some pretty smart people that aren’t just government wonks, and come out with a great product, and I think this is a good example of doing that today, so we’re glad you’re here, Pat. Thank you, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, I see no other questions. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board on this issue?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolution.
Commissioner McGinn seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

- Commissioner Unruh   Aye
- Commissioner Norton   Aye
- Commissioner McGinn   Aye
- Commissioner Sciortino  Absent
- Chairman Winters   Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Pat, thank you very much for being at our meeting. Madam Clerk, would you call the next item please.”

**G. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A FORGIVABLE LOAN TO HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL INC. FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES.**

Ms. Irene Hart, Director, Division of Community Development, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Today, I too am bringing to you a retention project, also filtered by the Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition. You know, corporations everywhere, in order to be more competitive, are looking at their assets for strategic value, and Honeywell International is no exception.

Even though we have a 50-year-old division of Honeywell here in Wichita, employing nearly 180 individuals, their facilities are old and out of date and Honeywell International was taking the opportunity to see if they really needed to be here in Wichita or if they could be consolidated in another community.

The Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition stepped in, put together an incentive package, working with the state, the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County and the result today is we have a forgivable loan document for your consideration today that would encourage Honeywell International to stay here for a five-year period, and retain a minimum of 179 valued employees here at their Honeywell facility.

Today I have with us Paul Shaw, who is the HSE and Facilities Manager for Honeywell and between the two of us, we can answer any questions you might have.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Paul, we would just like to acknowledge your
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

presence. If you’d come forward and just briefly make a comment or two.”

Mr. Paul Shaw, Facilities Manager, Honeywell International, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Okay, appreciate the opportunity to be here today and speak with you. Honeywell has four major divisions. One of those divisions is aerospace electronics systems. Part of that is the development of avionics equipment, and in support of that endeavor, what we do at our facility here in Wichita is the overhaul and repair of units.

We have thousands and thousands of units that go through our facility each year. We have employees that are highly trained, dedicated to customer service and we’re very pleased to be able to keep those employees here and to move forward with a facility that will allow us to be much more flexible in the future. It has expansion capability associated with it, which means we can continue to grow that part of the business.

We certainly want to thank the commission. We want to make sure that the cooperation that has been provided by the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Wichita, the Sedgwick County officials that we’ve worked with and the Economic Development Coalition. One of the comments that we have heard from our corporate representatives is they are very, very surprised, very, very pleased at the way everyone has worked together to make this process work and we do thank you for that.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, Paul, thank you very much for your comments. Commissioners, are there questions or comments? Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I guess I’m going to keep harping on the same subject, but this is a project where a lot of folks did come together to try to work on it and it doesn’t . . . it’s another one of those issues where the county is not kind of hanging out there going ‘Oh, we’re the only guy that’s going to have to put some money and we’re going to get criticized, because we’re helping a business’. The state is involved, the chamber was involved. I mean, a lot of entities came together to help keep Honeywell here and healthy and I think that’s critical for our community, for people to know that a lot of the entities are working together and it’s not just one body that’s trying to do these things. It’s a lot of folks thinking about our economy and job creation and job retention, to make sure that these kinds of things happen and that great businesses in our community have the ability to stay here for a lot of years and grow and create jobs and infrastructure and, eventually, more tax base and all that’s important. Thank you, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, commissioner thank you very much for those remarks. I see no other questions. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board on this item?”

MOTION
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

- Commissioner Unruh   Aye
- Commissioner Norton   Aye
- Commissioner McGinn   Aye
- Commissioner Sciortino   Absent
- Chairman Winters   Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Paul, thank you very much for being at our meeting today. Next item.”

**H. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LOAN TO OPTIMA BUS CORPORATION FOR ECONOMIC INCENTIVES.**

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is the third economic development issue that we have this morning, and I’d just like to take a moment to give an overview about where we are.

Commissioner Norton had talked about GWEDC, the Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition and how we use those folks to screen this information and gather the data. There’s been lots of talk about financial models and whether these projects have gone through the financial model, and let me just tell you that the financial model that we’re developing will not be finalized until about June of this year, so we’re using a past model that has flaws, but fundamentally, Sedgwick County only invests in issues that are sending goods and services out and dollars in, basic Economic 101. We’re not passing laundry around. We’re not doing any of those sorts of things. We are investing in goods and services that are leaving the community and dollars that are returning. All three of these projects meet that basic qualification, that the goods and services are leaving and dollars are coming in here.
This is an economic incentive for Optima Bus. Optima Bus is located north of the . . . in Park City, across from the Greyhound Race Track. It produces a bus, a 30-foot bus, and we are investing in their changing that bus into a hybrid. We believe the market is such that they can clearly sell their bus and have customers in southern California and other areas that have Hyatt heir attainment and we think this is a way in which we can do this incentive.

You have the details of that in front of you. It’s $100,000, the same as the State of Kansas has invested, and Michael Montefaront, the President of Optima Bus, or Chief Operating Officer, would have been here, but I was out buying Christmas present for you guys and forgot to ask him. Okay, part of that’s true. So the reason he is not here is my responsibility, certainly not his interest.

Let me tell you that I have had a meeting with him and had a meeting concerning this issue several times and he would have been here, had I done that.”

Chairman Winters said, “And I believe, it’s my understanding that Michael has met with several commissioners, visited with several folks about that.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Yes, sir.”

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, I just want to make a couple of comments. This is another opportunity that we have that I’m going to be support of, but I just also want to verbalize the fact that we’re working together with other units of government to make these things happen. This is not just Sedgwick County government. It’s all of us working together and I think that’s important for our citizens to know that.

It’s a competition to keep these people here. I mean, we’re not just out looking for things to do. We’ve got into an arena where we are trying hard to keep folks here in town, and so we’ve got to do what we have to do to be competitive and hold them here, and we’re not having to do it by ourselves, but we’re doing it in concert with other levels of government.

The other thing is that I think that it’s just good business sense to do this. It’s a lot easier to keep people than it is to attract new people. You know, in retail business they tell us that it’s better to go ahead and spend money on your current customers than it is to try and find new ones, it’s more productive and you make more money. Well, I think that’s analogous to this situation. We’re probably doing a better job with our investment by investing in local people and retaining them here and saving those jobs than just only looking for outside interests, however that’s important also.
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

But anyway, just a few comments that I’m very supportive of this one, along with the other opportunities that we had presented to us today. Thank you.”

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

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, it’s just another example. I know that there are those that criticize government for putting any money into economic development, carving out any money, but we made a very core decision about a year and a half ago that we would be very involved with the GWEDC, that we would set monies aside to nurture our community, particularly in the economic development area, and this is just another instance of where we’ve brought a lot of smart people together to try to figure out how we best utilize our economic development dollars and parlay that into more money, by partnering with the state or other entities. And even with the criticism, I’m going to be very supportive again.

We have an obligation to make our quality of life good here and I think, more and more, communities are figuring out that part of that is economic development. And it’s not always been the role of government to do that, but in today’s tough times, economic development is critical to quality of life and the well being of our citizenry, and we have to be involved in it and once again, this has been through a lot of filters and I’m going to be supportive of it. Thank you, Mr. Chair.”

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

Commissioner McGinn said, “Thank you. Well, I just wanted to add too that this is a company that continues to reinvent itself, based on the needs of the community. You’re seeing trolleys all around the country, in places such as Old Town, other uses for the trolleys, and then also I think that the fact that the low floor bus was specifically designed for those people who can’t get on a traditional bus. So, I commend this company for continuing to look at how they can reinvent themselves and continue to be a viable business in our community.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you, Commissioners, for all those comments. We’re on Item H. I see no other questions. Mr. Manager, do you have anything else to add?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “No, sir.”

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, what’s your will on your agenda Item H?”

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the Resolution.
Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

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**I. AMENDMENTS TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN.**

Mr. Brad Snapp, Director, Housing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Before you, for your consideration, are two amendments to the Sedgwick County Housing Authority Administrative plan. The first is implementation of HUD’s new, up-front income verification system, designed to reduce tenant fraud and housing assistance overpayments. This is an additional tool housing authority staff will be able to use to verify tenant incomes at the annual recertification. We can’t use it at the initial lease-out, because their data is about a quarter behind.

We give clients with up to $5,000 of unreported income an opportunity to repay that and our conditions are up-front . . . one half of the debt up front, and the other half within 12 months. We like to try to do that while they still have their assistance hanging in the balance, because we have a better rate of repayment. If they default on that agreement, we terminate their assistance and then we turn it over to the Kansas Set Off program for repayment eventually.

We report clients with unreported incomes or greater than $5,000 to HUD’s Office of Inspector General for prosecution and then a court-ordered repayment agreement. And HUD is requiring
housing authorities to certify that these amendments have been made to the administrative plan and the annual plan.

The second amendment adds more structure to our definition of family composition. The language before you had been approved by HUD and better defines the family unit. It requires a stable relationship or a history be demonstrated for a year, prior to the family’s application for assistance. All family members 18 or older must be on the initial application and then, when adults are incorporated into assisted family later on, it usually causes an increase in the voucher size, making the housing authority pay more for their rent assistance and their utility reimbursement.

We’re getting to an age where their housing authorities work within a structured and set budget by HUD and so we want to do our best to adhere to that and to minimize our cost whenever possible. If you have any questions, I’ll try to answer them.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, Brad, thank you. I don’t see any questions. Commissioners, questions or comments?”

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to approve the Amendments and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh Aye
Commissioner Norton Aye
Commissioner McGinn Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Thanks, Brad. Next item.”
J. AGREEMENT WITH CRICKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR ADVERTISING RIGHTS.

Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is our standard agreement for advertising rights at the Coliseum. This is actually a renewal. We’ve been very pleased with the equipment and services we’ve received from Cricket this past year. They’re very pleased with the exposure they’re getting in their advertising program at the Coliseum. We recommend approval. If there’s any questions, I could answer those at this time.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, I see no questions. Again, this is an extension to a contract that you currently have in place.”

Mr. Nath said, “We had a one-year agreement, Commissioners, because we thought that originally there was a possibility that the Coliseum would be closed in 2005. Well, since our plans have changed, we’ve extended the agreement for an additional three one-year terms.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, very good. Commissioners, are there questions or comments?”

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn 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 Unruh Aye
Commissioner Norton Aye
Commissioner McGinn Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Thanks, John. Next item.”
DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS- HEALTH DEPARTMENT

K. ADJUSTMENT TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT’S WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN PROGRAM STAFFING TABLE TO INCLUDE ONE GRANT-FUNDED PART-TIME REGISTERED DIETICIAN AND ONE GRANT-FUNDED FULL-TIME REGISTERED DIETITIAN, B-321-1.

Mr. Ted Jobst, Director, Integrated Family Health, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We’re seeking approval this morning for an addition to the Women, Infants and Children’s staffing table of these two positions, a part-time and full-time registered dietitian.

The funding from KDHE, or through KDHE, includes a caseload of about 12,325 participants in the WIC program. In November of this year, we were serving 15,438 clients, which is a 24% increase over November of last year. The increase of these positions . . . or the addition of these positions will help us serve that additional caseload that we are now serving. If there are any questions, I’d be glad to address them.”

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “It’s the same one I ask every time you come. We’re still not at the potential . . . we still haven’t reached the potential number of people that are out there. Is that true?”

Mr. Jobst said, “I think that’s true, yes. The fact that we’re serving 3,000 additional clients above what we anticipated serving in the past year, means that there’s still more people that we’re needing to serve, and I think are going to be able to serve, as long as we continue to get this additional funding.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay, that’s all I had.”

Chairman Winters said, “Ted, do you have a way . . . and I’m going to be supportive of this, but do you have a way of tracking how our employee to caseload work is with other parts of the country? Are we comparable with other programs in other parts of the country, or are the similarities different enough that you can’t compare yourselves?”

Mr. Jobst said, “I think we are probably on par with that. I do know that we . . . that in terms of serving clients and the expectation that WIC has for timeliness, that we are somewhat behind there, but that is partly because, for the staff that we have, we’ve seen such an increase in our caseload
that it’s hard for us to meet those timelines.

Other than that, I don’t know that I could address that directly. I think, if you’re wanting more specific details, Sandy Richenberger, who is the WIC Program Director is here. Would you like her to address that issue?”

Chairman Winters said, “Sure. Sandy, come up for just a second.”

Ms. Sandy Richenberger, Program Manager, Women, Infants and Children’s program, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Pretty much, the state allows the local agencies to determine how to operate WIC within the community. And so I feel like we’re probably right on track with the addition of adding professionals. The professionals in WIC are what pretty much drive how many appointments we can offer and so, I think . . . that’s something I’m continually evaluating also, the mix of our clerical and professional staff.”

Chairman Winters said, “Okay. I got it. Thank you very much. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board considering this addition of one and a half persons. Commissioner Unruh? Commissioner Norton, did you have another question?”

Commissioner Norton said, “No.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the adjustment to the Health Department staffing table.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

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Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, at this time we need to take an off agenda item.”

MOTION

Chairman Winters moved to consider an off agenda item.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh   Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner McGinn   Aye
Commissioner Sciortino  Absent
Chairman Winters   Aye

OFF AGENDA ITEM

Mr. Jobst said, “Commissioners, this involves the Healthy Start Initiative reapplication grant for the Healthy Babies program for the health department. This would be for a four-year period, a four-year funding cycle, running from June of 2005 through May of 2009, in the amount of about $550,000 per year.

The Healthy Babies program is largely funded through this Healthy Start Initiative and the program has seen major improvement in services over this past year, with our protocols in working with clients and also in our collaboration with community agencies, such as the Board of Education and the Center for Health and Wellness.

This area realized, the area served by the Healthy Start Initiative realized decline in infant deaths 14.32 per 1,000 live births in 2002 to 10.40. That’s a significant drop, considering the fact that just two or three years ago, we were at a place where we were not really seeing that kind of improvement. Since the program and the department has come under the auspices of Sedgwick County, we’ve been able to make some major improvements in our services and in our approach to
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

working with this community and I think that that is directly involved in the fact that this birth rate has declined.

We still have more challenges ahead of us, in bringing this birth rate, this infant morality rate I should say, even to lower levels and we hope, with the funding that we will get from this grant, we’ll be able to do that. This grant funds approximately 40% of our Healthy Babies program and the loss of it would mean approximately 200 families would go without services, from about 450 that we serve now to about 250 families that would be served if we did not have this grant. We seek your approval and if there are any questions I can answer, I’ll be glad to do so.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, I see no questions. Commissioners, we do need a Motion. You should have a memo dated December 21st with the recommended action and outlines the grant.”

MOTION

Commissioner 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 the application; and approve establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh    Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner McGinn   Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters   Aye

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

DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS- FACILITIES SERVICES
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

L. REORGANIZATION OF FACILITIES SERVICES IN THE DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS.

Ms. Kathy Sexton, Assistant County Manager and CIO, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’ll be brief. As you can tell, I’m losing my voice this morning. We have had a couple of retirements in our Facilities Department recently and that kind of prompted me to look at the pay scales and look at the organization and what we’re accomplishing for our customers and for taking care of our county buildings.

So what we’re asking for your approval today is to simply create one facilities department, instead of two. We have two now separate, one for facilities maintenance and one for projects, new projects, new CIP projects and remodelings and that kind of thing. So what we’re proposing is that we combine those two into one department and that one person would report to me, rather than two.

In the proposal also is a reclassification of four positions and as you can see in the backup information, there is really no fiscal impact, in fact there is a net reduction in salary and benefit costs of $148 in 2005, so pretty much a wash. I would ask for your approval please and I’m available for questions.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the reorganization.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh Aye
Commissioner Norton Aye
Commissioner McGinn Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters Aye

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

M. DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS – IT.
1. AGREEMENT WITH THE SEDGWICK COUNTY TREASURER TO HAVE THE SEDGWICK COUNTY DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS PROVIDE CALL CENTER SERVICES.

Mr. Richard Vogt, Chief Technology Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “In looking at the agenda, I may have got the cart before the horse, so I’m going to give you a little explanation about the call center and talk about the agreement briefly.

For as long as I can remember, the county has answered calls from the public in the tried and true method. That is, each department had internal staff to answer questions and provide information specific to that one department.

Today however, we are asking you to approve an endeavor which we are confident will improve upon this approach. This endeavor, first envisioned three years ago by Sedgwick County Treasurer Jan Kennedy, who is with us today, along with Deputy Treasurer Linda Mitchusson and office everything Vickey Horton. But Jan envisioned this idea that would combine call-taking staff from multiple departments into a combined call center. These employees from the Treasurer, Appraiser and County Counselor offices will bring with them their department’s knowledge, but they will also learn from each other all the questions that the other departments normally get calls on, so they will, all 12 of the staff, will be able to answer calls and give information for all three departments.

But the key advantage of a combined call center is not just that we will have more knowledgeable staff. Rather, by combining into one call center, we will be able to answer more calls. The reason we were able to do this has to do with peak times and slow times. Every department has their peak times and when these peak times occur, many calls go unanswered but when the slow times occur, the time that could be used to answer calls for other departments goes wasted.

By combining forces then, that extra capacity will be put to use. We project an additional 6% of the calls the currently go unanswered will be answered in the first year of operation while we get our legs under us, and 11% in the years thereafter. And after we prove the concept, we are confident we can expand this operation to other departments, generating improvements everywhere we go.

This particular agreement that’s before you is a service level agreement stipulating the specific terms governing the relationship of DIO and the Treasurer with regards to the combined call center. Although DIO was signing bilateral service level agreements with each of the departments who are contributing staff, the Treasurer has asked that the commission also sign an order to make it an agreement between peers.
Of particular interest and importance in this agreement is language addressing use of tag office monies and there is specific language in the document assuring that state statutes concerning the use of tag office monies and general fund monies will not be violated. I ask that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chair to sign and I stand ready to answer any questions you might have.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, Richard. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I just want to compliment staff and Jan Kennedy for putting this on the table. I know it’s been a long process trying to get here, a lot had to be worked out and maybe Jan will speak to that, but I know she was at a conference three years ago and kind of heard some of the techniques some other entities were doing and came to the conclusion that this would be good for Sedgwick County and I’m just glad we’re at this point today.

I know there’s going to be other places, you know we talk about consolidations of governments, but within our own organization, we’ve got things that we can consolidate and make better functionally and I think this is a good example of that today.”

Chairman Winters said, “Jan, if you would like to make a comment, please feel free.”

Ms. Jan Kennedy, County Treasurer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Just to clarify, I was on a visit to Maricopa County, which is the largest county, Phoenix, Arizona, which is the largest county, and spending time with their treasurer and then also with their tag facility, which is state operated solely. They were doing completely Internet by then and I was wanting to get into that.

But what they had done is their equivalent of their register of deeds and clerk and appraiser and treasurer had put together the call center with exactly this in mind and intent, that by combining forces, they could sort of even out the peaks and valleys of the call necessity. They do this with a minimum number of staff and they supplement by hiring part-time staff. For example, they would hire six to eight people when statements went out.

Theirs was so successful that almost immediately their equivalent of the board of county commissioners and others joined in, because you had a live person answering the phone, they could be directed, they had some people that were language proficient, so they could . . . the calls could be directed to the people that could speak in the language of the caller and it was very, very successful.

I hope that we can see this same kind of exciting success and the citizens that I’ve talked to don’t want an automated system. They don’t like them. They want a person. Now, they don’t seem to be willing to leave a message, but that’s another issue. So, that’s where it came from was actually I
Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Well, I think I would speak on behalf of the commissioners that we want this to be successful, so for those groups who are involved, the Treasurer, the Tag Office, the Appraiser, the Delinquent Tax Unit and as they come together, please know that the commissioners want you all to succeed. We don’t want to be messing around in the business of trying to help too much, but I mean, if you run into issues that need to have our assistance, were we can play a positive role in being helpful, we want to do that because we think this thing can really work. We know it will probably have some hiccups along the way, but if there’s anything that we can do to help with the success, please ask us to be involved however we can be helpful.

All right, so Richard, we need to take two actions, one to approve the agreement, this agreement with the Treasurer’s Office and then we need to take action of establishing the Call Center.”

Mr. Vogt said, “That’s correct. I just wanted to say, my appreciation for Rich and his staff and I don’t know if Mike Borchard, the Appraiser is here, but appreciation for him as well. They’ve all worked very well together to develop this very exciting endeavor.”

Chairman Winters said, “Okay. Commissioners, are you ready to move forward with action on Item M-1?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner McGinn moved to approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

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Page No. 42
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

Chairman Winters said, “And that was the agreement between the County and the Treasurer. Jan, thank you very much for your help on that. Now the next item, Madam Clerk call the next item.”

2. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SEDGWICK COUNTY CALL CENTER.

Chairman Winters said, “Richard, any other comments then?”

Mr. Vogt said, “Just briefly, the resolution before you would create a combined call center in DIO, move staff from contributing departments, authorize compensation adjustments to align salaries with greater responsibilities and pay for the physical move of staff. I ask that you approve the resolution and I stand ready to answer any questions.”

MOTION

Commissioner McGinn moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

Chairman Winters said, “We have a Motion and a second. And again, I would let my words again express that the commissioners want to be helpful in making this successful, so if there’s anything we can do, we want to do it. Any other discussion? Seeing none, call the vote.”

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh Aye
Commissioner Norton Aye
Commissioner McGinn Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Next item.”

3. AWARD FROM THE CENTER FOR DIGITAL GOVERNMENT FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY’S INTERNET-BASED JUVENILE JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM.

Mr. Vogt said, “Commissioners, for the last two years, several juvenile justice agencies in the community have been using a new application to track juveniles and improving the delivery of services. This application called JISS, which is short for Juvenile Information Sharing System, was
the brain child of Mark Masterson, Sedgwick County Corrections Department Head, who is with us today. Mark, if you could come here.

It was largely written by Joe Worley, who is also with us today. Raise your hand, there you go, Joe Worley, and a few of his best friends, programmers, writing the system. We appreciate the work that they’ve done in putting this together. It’s a multi-year endeavor.

In October, JISS won third place, the third place achievement award from the Center for Digital Government, who annually survey and honor the best government applications nationally. On behalf of DIO and the Center for Digital Government, we would like today to recognize Mark, the Department of Corrections staff and developers who made this award possible. Mark, thank you very much. I know you have some staff here as well that worked long hours testing the system and appreciate the work that you were able to do together.”

Mr. Mark Masterson, Director, Department of Corrections, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you, Richard. Actually the brainchild was the result of the community planning process, where we developed a Juvenile Justice five-year strategic plan. One of the areas that needed to be addressed was improvement in access to information, as juveniles come into the system, they move along a course of continuum of entities and gathering the information for making good decisions was a tedious, time-consuming process that this application helped address, so it provides good information at the case level that decision-makers can use and then good system level information for policy planners and it is certainly a work in progress. Larry Ternes is in the audience, the Youth Services Administrator that worked a lot on it and to give Richard the technical credit, our group came up with what we needed. He came up with the idea about how to do it technically, and so deserve certainly a lot of the credit for this award.”

Chairman Winters said, “Well, that sounds like a great partnership and lets give everybody a round of applause. Again, we would especially want to thank Larry and Joe, Mark and Richard and all your other team partners that touched this project. It sounds like it’s a great improvement and going to be a great value. And again, to be recognized by a group that is tracking local governments digital commitments all across the country and to be selected to be in that group is pretty prestigious, so thank you all, it was a great job, we appreciate all you work on it. All right, Richard. Was there anything else involved in that?”

Mr. Vogt said, “That’s it.”
Chairman Winters said, “That’s it. Thank you very much, Richard, for your presentations this morning. Madam Clerk, would you call the next item.”

N. RESOLUTION DELETING, AMENDING AND ADDING POLICIES OF THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL.

Ms. Templin said, “This resolution allows for one deletion of a policy, amendments to five policies and the creation of a new policy. I have met with each of you individually, either met or talked with you individually to discuss these and so I just ask your adoption of this resolution so that we can implement them and communicate to the rest of the organization.” Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you very much, Jo. Commissioners, are there questions or comments?”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh Aye
Commissioner Norton Aye
Commissioner McGinn Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters Aye

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

O. AGREEMENT WITH KPTS TO PROVIDE TELEVISION BROADCASTING SERVICES.

Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Every Wednesday, we have the opportunity at Sedgwick County to enrich the lives of our youngest TV viewers. We get to teach them about local government, when we show up on the air Wednesday at 9 a.m. and so, once again, we’re not only teaching our youngest citizens, but we also have the
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

opportunity to show our other citizens how we are working for them and they actually get to see the work of local government in action. So, we do this with Channel 8 because it does provide countywide opportunity. Folks don’t have to have cable or satellite or anything else. They can dial up Channel 8 and watch what’s happening.

We have had a very long relationship with KPTS to provide this service and this is a renewal agreement and we are very pleased to continue to have this time to provide the work of county government for the folks to see.

Today I have two folks here who are helpful in making this happen. This is Sally Stevens and Roger Sajak and they are with KPTS and help make sure that we are on the air every Wednesday morning.”

Ms. Sally Stevens, KPTS Corporate Support Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “KPTS has been very pleased to work with commission over the past several years to provide the broadcast of the commission meetings to our community. We look forward to continuing this service and respectfully request approval of renewal. I stand ready to answer any questions. Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, Sally thank you very much. We appreciate both of you being in attendance at our meeting. It still is somewhat amazing to me the number of people that comment, during a week’s time, that they saw some portion of a county commission meeting on Wednesday morning. So, I think it is a service that I’m glad we’re able to provide and again, I wouldn’t have it on the must-see TV list, but it is surprising how many people tune into parts of our television and it’s, I think, a valuable service. So, even though it’s not on my list, it gets watched. Commissioner McGinn.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “I was just curious if Kristi has ever done a survey about how many parents actually keep it on, or children that age keep it on after they find out Sesame Street is not on.”

Ms. Zukovich said, “You know, it’s surprising, I think folks just dial in and they just assume, every Wednesday this is . . . you know, turn it on Channel 8 for their kids and I know, from my experience, when my kids were little at day care and child care and the sitter would turn it on and pretty soon they’d say ‘Well, there’s mom’ and so it was kind of a good experience for them to see mom at work too.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “It is amazing that I have heard some people say that they kept it on
and something caught their attention. But I do want to say, I think it’s a very important service to our community that this is on a channel that everyone can view, whether you have cable or not, and this is our opportunity to share about government to our citizens. Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, my three granddaughters learned the Pledge of Allegiance by watching this, before they started preschool. I think this is a very valuable communication tool. As Mayor of Haysville, we communicated that way and it was real interesting, I took a lot of heat the first time we were going to project on Channel 7. We had council members didn’t want to put the money out and the first time it went great. The second meeting was not flawless, the sound went out, and we got 83 phone calls the next day that the sound was terrible on our broadcast, so people do watch government. They may be surfing around a little bit, but they get caught by a face they recognize or an issue they’re concerned with and KPTS certainly give us the opportunity and the outlet to get our message out to the public and we appreciate that, how professional they do it and what a longstanding relationship we’ve had. That’s all I’ve got.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, very good. Commissioners, do you have any other questions of Roger or Sally? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner McGinn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh Aye
Commissioner Norton Aye
Commissioner McGinn Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters said, “Roger, Sally, thank you both for being here and Kristi, thank you for your work on the contract. Next item.”


Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The meeting of the 15th resulted in four items for consideration today.

1) ONBASE MAINTENANCE- VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS FUNDING: VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

First item is Onbase maintenance for various county departments. Recommend the expenditure with Automated Business Systems in the amount of $84,114.

2) MICROSOFT SOFTWARE AGREEMENT- VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS FUNDING: VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

The second item, Microsoft software agreement for various county departments. Recommend that we execute an affiliate agreement with Microsoft for an estimated annual cost of $358,106.77, using the State of Kansas Large Account Reseller, which is Software House International.

3) 2005 RECOMMENDED INSURANCE RENEWALS- RISK MANAGEMENT FUNDING: RISK MANAGEMENT

Item three, 2005 recommended insurance renewals for Risk Management. The recommendation is to accept the 2005 insurance renewals for an estimated total cost of $502,306.

4) FIREWALL SUPPORT & MAINTENANCE- DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATION FUNDING: SYSTEMS & SECURITY
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

And the fourth item today is firewall support and maintenance for the Division of Information and Operations. The recommendation is to accept the expenditure with Fishnet Security in the amount of $44,509.55.

Be happy to answer any questions and I recommend approval of these items.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you. I just had one question about the Risk Management contract. There were a couple of companies that were competing very hard for that and there was some issues regarding the commissions that were earned and the amount of contract expense. All those issues have been settled, is that correct, and both parties have been notified?”

Ms. Baker said, “I believe so. Mick can address . . . okay, yes he says.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “All right, and we did contact the Kansas Insurance Department to get clarification on all that.”

Mr. Buchanan and Ms. Baker said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “All right. So, the main thing is that we’re following the rules and the second thing is is that we took the best bid for our citizens.”

Ms. Baker said, “Correct.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, I have one question and I don’t need a long, detailed answer, but on the Microsoft agreement, by joining the State of Kansas large account retailer, we are confident that we will save money, as opposed to anything we would do on our own, so this is a define benefit to Sedgwick County to purchase Microsoft materials.”

Ms. Baker said, “Yes.”

Chairman Winters said, “Okay. Is there any other question or comment?”
MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh   Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner McGinn   Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters   Aye

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Q. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Amendment to the 2004 Capital Improvement Program to increase funding for re-roof of four towers – Historic Courthouse Project.

2. Grant Award to K4A for Title III-E: Caregivers Services.

3. Line item adjustments to Community Truancy Immunization Project, to be submitted to Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority.

4. Range Reallocations.

5. Application for License to Retail Cereal Malt Beverages.

Applicant Name  Business Name

Patrick D. Crowell  Crowell Enterprises, LLC
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

Db a General Station

6. Special Assessment of $6,000 to support REAP legislative activity in 2005.


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

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, you have the consent agenda before you. What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Chairman Winters moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh   Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner McGinn   Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters    Aye

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, we do need an Executive Session in the Regular Meeting, but we also have a Fire District Meeting today, so at this time I’m going to recess the Regular Meeting of December 22  nd .”

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into Fire District #1 meeting at 10:59 a.m. and returned at 11:09 a.m.
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, we do need an Executive Session, but if there’s any community business, this would be the time to do it. Does anybody have any community events? Commissioner Unruh.”

R. OTHER

Commissioner Unruh said, “I just want to say Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone in Sedgwick County.”

Chairman Winters said, “Very good. Commissioner Norton?”
Commissioner Norton said, “Boy, I can’t top that.”

Commissioner McGinn said, “We agree with Dave.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, for everyone, this is the 22nd. Christmas Day is Saturday the 25th so again, as Commissioner Unruh has suggested, we wish everyone the best of holiday seasons. Our board will not meet next Wednesday the 29th, which is our regular meeting day, so there will be no county commission meeting next week and we wish everyone the very best. Commissioner Unruh.”

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved recess to executive session for 15 minutes, to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney-client relationship, relating to potential litigation and legal advise and that the Board of County Commissioners return to this room from executive session no sooner than 11:27 a.m.

Commissioner McGinn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh Aye
Commissioner Norton Aye
Commissioner McGinn Aye
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

Commissioner Sciortino Absent
Chairman Winters Aye

Chairman Winters said, “We are recessed into executive session.”

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into Executive Session at 11:11 a.m. and returned at 11:39 a.m.

Chairman Winters said, “All right, I’ll call back to order the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for December the 22nd. Madam Clerk, let the record show that there was no binding action taken in Executive Session. Is there any other business to come before this Board? Mr. Euson? Mr. Manager? All right, well, Merry Christmas to everyone, have a good, safe holiday. This meeting is adjourned.”

S. ADJOURNMENT
There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

DAVID M. UNRUH, Chairman
First District

BEN SCIORTINO, Chair Pro Tem
Fifth District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

LUCY BURTNETT, Commissioner

Page No. 54
Regular Meeting, December 22, 2004

Fourth District

ATTEST:

_________________________

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_________________________, 2005