

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SITTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF FIRE DISTRICT #1**

REGULAR MEETING

July 27, 2005

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 11:10 a.m., on Wednesday, July 27, 2005 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman David M. Unruh; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Ben Sciortino; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner Lucy Burtnett; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer; and Ms. Bethany Carpenetti, Deputy County Clerk.

ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OFFERING FOR SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES A, 2005, OF FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1, SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS.

Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer, Division of Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have had a number of discussions and briefing from staff about the fire station . . . what we refer to as the Fire Station Relocation Plan. In short, over the next two years, we are planning on building five fire stations to replace five existing fire stations. The resolution that's before you today accomplishes four things, which allow us to proceed with that project.

First, the resolution formally authorizes the project and establishes an estimated cost of \$6,000,000 for that project. Secondly, the resolution authorizes us to proceed with actions that will lead to the issuance of Fire District General Obligation Bonds to finance the project. Third, the resolution authorizes us to publish the legally required advertisement of intent to issue those bonds, and that ad initiates a 60-day protest period and at the end of that 60 days, if a sufficiently valid petition protesting the issuance of the bonds is not submitted to the County Clerk, then we have all the authority that we need to proceed with the issuance of those bonds.

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And then finally, the resolution declares your intent to reimburse fire district cash accounts for certain expenditures in conjunction with this relocation project that we will incur in advance of the issuance of the bonds. The relocation process, as I said, entails the construction of five new fire stations over the next two years. The first two stations we expect to be undertaken over the next several months, beginning with land acquisition in the very near future and leading to completion of the projects we think about September of next year, about one year from now. Those two stations will be in the vicinity of North Maize to replace the Colwich station and along the I-235 corridor, near the Kansas Coliseum, in the vicinity of the Kansas Coliseum and that station will replace the existing station that's at 53rd and Broadway.

In the future, we expect to do three more stations. One will be in the vicinity of southeast Sedgwick County, to replace the station that is currently identified as the Derby Station, located outside the Derby city limits, at 63rd and Rock Road I believe it is, and the fourth station will be located . . . I'm drawing a blank, I'm sorry, thank you, Bel Aire. Will be located northeast of Bel Aire and it will replace the station that is currently located on Woodlawn Avenue, in Bel Aire. The fifth station, the final station, will be a new station located southwest of Wichita, probably south of Goddard, and it will replace Station 38, which as you know is currently located in east Wichita, in unincorporated Sedgwick County, east of Wichita and we expect that that area will be fully annexed by the city within the next several years, so there will be no need for Sedgwick County Fire District to maintain a station in that area.

I'll be happy to answer any questions about the resolution that's before you that again formally authorizes the project and authorizes us to proceed with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds.

Before I ask you to approve it though, I should note that the \$6,000,000 estimate that is attached to this resolution is a high estimate. We do not expect to issue that much debt. We don't expect the project to actually cost that much. We're setting that high estimate at this point so that, as we refine costs, we don't have to come back to you and do subsequent resolutions and have to start the process all over if our initial estimate was too low.

Additionally, we don't expect ultimately to issue general obligation bonds through the Fire District for this project. We expect to issue these bonds in the summer of 2006, and at that time, we expect that the county will also be issuing bonds for county facilities through the Public Building Commission. Assuming that's the case, we will roll these bonds into that Public Building Commission bond issue, so that we will do a single transaction that will be a lease revenue bond for Sedgwick County and for the Fire District, to finance all of those projects. That will allow the Fire District, if we can do that, that will allow the Fire District to obtain a better interest rate than it would obtain if it issued bonds on its own. If there are any questions about any of these, I'll be happy to address them. We have in the audience, the public safety director, Bob Lamkey and the Fire Chief, Gary Curmode, who can answer more detailed questions that you may have about the relocation project itself."

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Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, well we have everybody on board, our public safety director, fire chief, our CFO, our bond counsel, our attorney, I mean everybody that’s got a fingerprint on this, we’re all together, ready to move forward.”

Mr. Chronis said, “With the exception of bond counsel, who was unable to be here because of another commitment.”

Chairman Unruh said, “But he’s ready . . .”

Mr. Chronis said, “Yeah, he drafted this resolution.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. We do have a couple of question though. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “The bonded indebtedness here will be paid for by the taxes received out of the Fire District #1 and we raised the mill levy to start that process of garnering that money. Is that correct?”

Mr. Chronis said, “That’s correct, yes.”

Commissioner Norton said, “And there appears to be enough money to pay for whatever bonded indebtedness there is here, without raising the mill levy again in the Fire District.”

Mr. Chronis said, “Yes, that’s right.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Unless revenues deteriorate.”

Mr. Chronis said, “The mill levy increase that the commission adopted a year ago, for the Fire District, was intended to fund the debt service on these bonds, which we expected to be issuing, plus pay anticipated costs that we may have to pay to the City of Wichita for a contractual service arrangement for any unincorporated areas that remain in east Sedgwick County, after we close Station 38, but we fully expect that we have enough revenue from that mill levy adjustment to finance this without a further tax increase.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay. Well I think that’s just very important, particularly as I represent Haysville. I mean, that’s a pretty big group of people supported by one fire station, as they’re helping . . . their money is going to help build five new stations and will not get much new service out of that, I want to be sure that this doesn’t creep up and we have to go back and have more mill levy. They are already starting to reach their highest level of capacity out there with mill levy. That’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

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

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Commissioner Winters said, "Just two quick questions. I think you've probably answered this. This resolution has been reviewed by our bond counsel, Joe Norton, Gilmore and Bell."

Mr. Chronis said, "Yes, he drafted it."

Commissioner Winters said, "And Mr. Euson has also reviewed this."

Mr. Chronis said, "Yes, he has signed it, as to form."

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

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, well commissioners, are there other questions or comments for Mr. Chronis? What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Commissioner Sciortino	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Chris. Is there any other business to come before the Fire District? Seeing none, I will adjourn the meeting of the Fire District."

B. OTHER

C. ADJOURNMENT

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There being no other business to come before the Board of Fire District #1, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17a.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SEDWICK 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
Fourth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2005