MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

July 13, 2005

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, July 13, 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. Bill Meek, Register of Deeds; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Mr. Richard Vogt, Chief Information Officer, DIO; Mr. Ted Jobst, Director, Integrated Family Health, Health Department; Ms. Valery Powers, Director, Transportation Brokerage, Department on Aging; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care; Mr. Pete Giroux, Senior Management Analyst, Budget Department; Mr. Jim Weber, P.E., Deputy Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. Jerry Phipps, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department; Mr. Kent Koehler, Project Manager, IT Development, Division of Information and Operations; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Ms. Cathy Feemster, Member, Sedgwick County Physical and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board.
Mr. James Dinkel, Member, Sedgwick County Physical and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board.
Ms. Lucille Shifton, Member, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board.
Mr. Carl Galler, Member, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board.
Mr. Neil Guthrie, Member, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board.
Ms. Deb Voth, Vice President, Rainbows United, Inc.
Mr. Rob Allison, Chairman, Exploration Place Board.
Mr. Chris Presson, General Manager, Wichita Thunder Hockey Inc.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Reverend Sherdeill Breathett, Sr. of St. Mark United Methodist Church, Wichita.

FLAG SALUTE
ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:  Regular Meeting, June 15, 2005
                                Regular Meeting June 29, 2005

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meetings of June 15th and June 29th, 2005.

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, you’ve had an opportunity to review the Minutes of those two meetings. Are there any additions or corrections?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meetings of June 15th, 2005 and June 29th, 2005.

Commissioner Burtnett 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, “Next item.”
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APPOINTMENTS

A. APPOINTMENTS.

1. RESOLUTION RENOMINATING JAY SWANSON (CHAIRMAN UNRUH'S RECOMMENDATION) TO THE WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD.

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioners, this is the fifth of five appointments that you have in the Airport Advisory Board and I would recommend that you adopt the resolution.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, it’s my appointment. I don’t see Mr. Swanson here today.”

MOTION

Chairman Unruh moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton 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, “Next item.”

2. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING NELDA GUTZMAN (COMMISSIONER WINTERS’ APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING.

Mr. Euson said, “Commissioners, this reappointment is for a four-year term and I recommend that you adopt the resolution.”

MOTION
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Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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<td>Commissioner Winters</td>
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Chairman Unruh said, “There’s so many people here, I’m not sure if she’s here. Is she here?”

Chairman Unruh said, “I don’t see anyone moving. Okay, next item please.”

3. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CATHY FEEMSTER (COMMISSIONER WINTERS’ APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PHYSICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD.

Mr. Euson said, “And Commissioners, we’ve prepared this resolution, this is a reappointment also for a four-year term and I’d recommend you adopt it.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, Commissioner Winters?”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

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

Commissioner Winters said, “And Cathy is here.”

Mr. Brent Shelton, Deputy 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 Physical and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board, so help me God.”

Ms. Cathy Feemster, Member, Sedgwick County Physical and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board, said, “I do.”

Mr. Shelton said, “Congratulations.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Cathy, would you like to say anything? You’re welcome to.”

Ms. Feemster said, “Well, thanks for appointing me and I hope to do a good job for this county.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you and you have been and we appreciate your service. Thank you very much. Next item.”

4. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING JAMES DINKEL (COMMISSIONER WINTERS’ APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PHYSICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD.

Mr. Euson said, “Commissioners, this reappointment is also for a four-year term on this board and I would recommend that you adopt the resolution.”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.
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Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

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Chairman Unruh said, “And I see James coming forward to be sworn in.”

Mr. Shelton, 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 Physical and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board, so help me God."

Mr. James Dinkel, Member, Sedgwick County Physical and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board, said, “I do.”

Mr. Shelton said, “Congratulations.”

Mr. Dinkel said, “I’d just like to thank you for the opportunity to represent the disabled of this community. Thank you.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well thank you for all your work.”

Chairman Unruh said, “We appreciate your willingness to serve. Madam Clerk, next item.”

5. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING EDWARD L. KEELEY (COMMISSIONER WINTERS’ APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD.
Mr. Euson said, “Commissioners, members on this board also serve for four-year terms, and I recommend you adopt this resolution.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton 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, “Is Mr. Keeley here? Not here, okay. We will take the next item then please.”

6. **RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING LUCILLE SHIFTON (COMMISSIONER WINTERS’ APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD.**

Mr. Euson said, “Commissioners, we’ve prepared this resolution for reappointment and I recommend that you adopt it.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, thank you. Commissioner Winters, you are making a lot of appointments today.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Yep, I’ve got them all taken care of today.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.
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Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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Chairman Unruh said, “And Lucille is here to be sworn in, so if you would . . . Brent, if you would do that please.”

Mr. Shelton 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 Mental Health Advisory Board, so help me God._”

Ms. Lucille Shifton, Member, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board, said, “I do.”

Mr. Shelton said, “Congratulations.”

Ms. Shifton said, “I just also want to thank you for the reappointment. I also would like to add that I’m very pleased to serve as the Chairperson for the last two years on the COMCARE Advisory Board, because it’s given me a better understanding of the services provided to hundreds of individuals in Sedgwick County who have mental health and/ or addiction issues.

I thought that a well established organization like COMCARE would be happy patting themselves on their back for doing good things, but what I found was something different. I found an organization under the direction of Marilyn Cook that strives to provide mental health programs, while developing new services to meet the changing needs of clients.

Many of COMCARE’s programs are on the cutting edge and serve as models for other mental health centers in Kansas. Good things are happening. Hope is given to many of the residents in Sedgwick County who have had no hope in the past, and they need these services. It’s all possible because of the support and funding provided by Sedgwick County under your leadership and I want to thank you for that.”
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Chairman Unruh said, “Well thank you. Just a moment, we have a comment.”

Commissioner Winters said, “I just . . . Mr. Chairman, this concludes the folks that I’m going to appoint. We have a couple more appointments, but just to the folks that I’ve appointed, I certainly want to say thank you for the work that you’ve done. Several of you have been doing this for some time and I know Lucy has been involved in community projects for a long time, and I consider her a good friend and a supporter for my tenure as county commissioner and I certainly appreciate all the work, Lucy, that you and the other appointees that I have recommended, I certainly appreciate all of that.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you very much. Next item please.”

7. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CARL GALLER (COMMISSIONER NORTON’S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD.

Mr. Euson said, “Commissioners, this resolution of reappointment is in proper form and I recommend you adopt it.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

Chairman Unruh said, “Any discussion on the Motion. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I’m not going to let him get sworn in yet. It’s interesting that Carl became my appointee because he had served on the Mental Health Advisory Board when I became commissioner, but I was proud to roll that over, because he and I had been friends for many years, through Target. He’s an old retailer and he used to come and sit and have coffee with me and we’d talk about retailing for years and years and he certainly understands mental health because of some family conditions very, very deeply. He has served well for many years and I’m very proud to reappoint him.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Now we have already voted on this haven’t we? I can’t . . . We have a Motion? We need to vote, so I’m getting confused here in all the activity, so Madam Clerk, call the vote please.”

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Now Carl, we would be pleased to swear you in.”

Mr. Shelton 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 Mental Health Advisory Board, so help me God.”

Mr. Carl Galler, Member, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board, said, “I do.”

Mr. Shelton said, “Congratulations.”

Mr. Galler said, “I want to thank you all for appointing me. This is my sixth term as representative of COMCARE. I’ve enjoyed working as representative of COMCARE. I’ve enjoyed working with them for all these years and I’m sure that I will appreciate the next four years. Thank you so very much.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Carl, appreciate your willingness to serve. Madam Clerk, call the next item.”

8. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING NEIL GUTHRIE (COMMISSIONER NORTON’S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD.

Mr. Euson said, “And Commissioners, we’ve prepared this resolution of reappointment. It is in proper form and I recommend you adopt it.”
Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Commissioner Norton, this is your appointment. Would you like to make the Motion?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton 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, “And before we proceed to the swearing in, we have a comment. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well we’ve already voted this time, so I won’t confuse you. Well, I’m proud to re-appoint Neil. Neil worked in Haysville, in the school systems, for many years and I consider him one of the ‘good guys’ and I think he’ll serve very well, as he continues to serve our community in a lot of different capacities, so I’m proud to reappoint Neil to this position.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. Well let’s proceed to the swearing in.”

Mr. Shelton 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 Mental Health Advisory Board, so help me God.*”
Mr. Neil Guthrie, Member, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board, said, “I do.”

Mr. Shelton said, “Congratulations.”

Mr. Guthrie said, “I’d like to thank you for the reappointment and to be able to serve the community and if there’s any way we could slow these four years down, I think that’s a concern I have about life. But really, the mental health and the people that we work with on the committee is very valuable to the community. Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you very much. Madam Clerk, next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

B. LETTER DESIGNATING THE SEDGWICK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL AS THE ELIGIBLE LOCAL COUNCIL FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY FOR PURPOSES OF THE EARLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ACT DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM.

Ms. Deb Voth, Vice President, Rainbows United, Inc., greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m here today, along with Jane Eby, Lorraine Bockorny and Cayla Wasson. On behalf of the Sedgwick County Childhood Coordinating Council, asking for your approval and authorizing the Council as a designated entity to submit a grant application to the Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Children, Youth and Families.

This is an approximately $700,000 request in federal funds to the Childcare Bureau in response to the Early Learning Opportunity Act. First of all, I’d like to thank you for the county’s leadership in their support of early childhood initiatives. The Early Childhood Council has been in existence for over 20 years and the county has helped support it for almost 15 of those years.

The core of the grant application the council is submitting to the federal government comes from community’s strategic planning sessions held this past winter. During those sessions, it was expressed that families should find no wrong door in accessing any type of service. However, we know that many children and families do fall between the cracks, even though our community has wonderful resources available. Most families in need of these services do not make the connections. This grant proposal has the following components: family partners to walk side by side with the family to help them access the appropriate services for their child, along with a
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training component for the partners to help them be well equipped in working with families, an early literacy component for families and a teacher component to train teachers in pre-reading skills to implement in their classrooms.

Through the Family Partnership Program, we anticipate the grant to provide direct services to 480 families, connecting most of them to existing community services. We expect 80 to 100 of those families will not be eligible for services, and we will continue to provide in-home support for them.

Through the teacher-training component, we expect approximately 40 teachers to receive training, which will have an impact on an additional 500 children. While the budget is still being finalized, we are projecting approximately $700,000 in federal funds will be requested, which mandates a local match of 15%. Rainbows United serves as a fiscal agent for the council, is ready and willing, no behalf of the council, to commit this match through in-kind and cash supports.

There is only one grant that can be submitted from any community and the dead line is this Friday and we’re not aware, from our contacts with other partners in the community, that another grant is being submitted, which is why we’re here today before you. We’re not asking for any financial support, but only for you to designate the Sedgwick County Urban Childhood Coordinating Council as an appropriate entity to submit a grant application to the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families. I, along with others here with me today, welcome any questions you may have and we thank you for your consideration.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Well thank you very much for the presentation. This is going to be very difficult for us to not be in favor of, I think. To receive a large sum of money like that and have it so affectively applied for the benefit of our community. But we do have other comments, Deb, just a moment here. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I’m going to be very supportive of this, obviously, but you know, it washes over me that we continue to work on those issues that affect our community in the youngest populations. We keep doing that in our justice system. We do it in the education system, the literacy, mental health, all of those things we keep moving up, forward and this is just another partnership that will help our youngest succeed later in life and I think that’s been a core value that we’ve held for quite a long time and will continue to do that. Thank you, Deb.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Commissioner Winters.”
Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you very much. Well, I’ll just echo exactly what Commissioner Norton has said. That has been a strong value of ours and I’m going to be very supportive.

My only request is, would you introduce those folks who are with you here again and have them stand up, just so we can keep getting faces and names all connected.”

Ms. Voth said, “Yes, I would be glad to. Lorraine Bockorny is the CEO and President of Rainbows United. Jane Eby is a part-time researcher and grant writer for us and Cayla Wasson is a coordinator of Connecting Point, which chairs the Early Childhood Coordinating Council.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, thank you very much, Deb.”

Chairman Unruh said, “And welcome to all of you. But I think it’s remarkable that we can talk about something like this, that’s a positive benefit for our community, in light of so many times the headlines focus on negative things that happen, and so this is a really positive, ongoing thing. Appreciate your work.”

Ms. Voth said, “Thank you. We’re excited.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Burtnett moved to approve the Letter and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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<td>Chairman Unruh</td>
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Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Deb and to all your colleague who were here today to support. Appreciate you all being here. Call the next item please.”

C. PRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY MANAGER’S 2006 RECOMMENDED BUDGETS.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is the most exciting . . . this is almost like Christmas. For those of us who are policy wonks or policy geeks, this really is an exciting time for us because it is a culmination of work since January.

Before we begin this presentation, I was struck by the calendar, in looking at it today, and remembering one year ago tomorrow, on July 14th 2004 is when Sedgwick County presented its plan to the business community and to the City of Wichita and to others for creating a Sedgwick County Arena in downtown Wichita. And in that year, one year ago, we did that. And in that year’s time we refined that plan, had a bunch of community meetings, asked the voters to support increasing the taxes on themselves. We did that. We then went to the legislature, as you know, and got their approval and within two weeks we’ll present to you a recommendation of the architectural firm to hire to help us construct that building and so it has been a pretty exciting year.

You have all received, and we have available for those, the budgets. The budget will be on-line this afternoon, for those who want to get it, and these are again a recommendation about where we’ve been and what we’re up to.

The budget, every year, says pretty much the same thing, it’s our . . . it’s your plan. It’s recommended to you, as your plan of how to spend citizens’ resources in doing what we do. Our mission continues to be to assure that quality public services that provide for the present and future well-being of citizens. We’ve been saying that and we say, as one of our goals, since 1992, to allocate and use resources for basic and essential services that are responsive to changing needs and you’ll hear that . . . how we’ve done that. I’m proud that we have been able, in this budget, to be responsive to several changing needs.

As Chris Chronis says to us, reminds us that money is not the problem, it’s priorities and I think, in
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this budget we’ve established those priorities particularly well. The 2006 recommended budget overview, we’re slowly seeing an upturn in the economy, which is a good thing. You and I have been through and you’re leadership has caused us, in recent years, to have reductions in our operations. It’s helped us, your leadership has helped us make a strong financial standing and in this 2006 budget, will help us deliver quality public services, with some additional services. The good news is that in 2006 there is no mill levy increase, no tax increase recommended. Our budget in 2006 is $345,000,000, a third of a billion dollars of services delivered to this community. Remember our good friend, Senator Durkson, who said ‘a billion here and a billion there, pretty soon that adds up to real money’. Well, we’re not even close to real money yet.

The budget is $24,500,000 more than last year and the budget has increased by 7.6%. This is the eighth year of no tax increase and we say it . . . the words are not meaningless, sound financial management. The private sector, through our bond-rating agencies, in a report that you have recently received from Fitch uses Sedgwick County . . . bond rating agencies indicate that we have, in some cases the highest or in other cases the next to the highest bond rating, very hard to achieve, very hard to sustain, we’ve done that over the last several years and Fitch uses us in their brochures about whether to bond or not as an example of how to do it and how to do it well, so the private sector is saying sound financial management, just not me.

We have identified six areas that we deliver quality public services: public safety, human services and health, public works, community development, culture and recreation and general government. The 2006 overview, we have provided in this, because of the growth we’ve seen, we increased an additional 4% for divisions to adjust, in some cases, that 4% was increased in contractual commodities and capital expenditures.

Those divisions and elected officials could chose to re-institute programs that they have had to reduce in the past. They could use it for other items, for increasing services and we allowed that flexibility and reviewed those actions of those folks who did that hard work.

We also added some supplemental requests, some requests to meet the basic needs and changing needs of our community. We have some opportunities in Public Safety, that budget in Public Safety increased by $8,000,000 and you’ll see the magnitude of how much we spend on public safety.

We are going to provide funds for the juvenile detention facility, which will open in the first of the year. A public safety center for dispatchers, we’re going to add six dispatchers who will be call takers. Currently, the dispatchers are multitasking, they have an earphone in one ears that’s on telephone and an earphone in the other ear that’s the dispatching and so they’re doing, oftentimes, two jobs at once. The most efficient and effective way to do that task is have someone take that call, enter the data into the computer, which is sent to then the dispatchers to separate those
functions. We could not have done . . . we can’t provide that service in our current facilities. It’s just not big enough in the basement. The new facility will allow us to do that, and that service will be enhanced.

The adult detention facility, we’re going to add five additional detention deputies. The Sheriff, in his willingness to be a good partner, over the last several years, in the downturn of the economy, froze some positions and didn’t fill those. We think it’s time now to un-freeze those and allow him to fill those positions and we are thankful for his cooperation in the past.

The District Attorney, we’re adding a program of $140,000 for a diversion program. This will help divert people from going into the adult diversion, into the jail. It may be a small diversion program, maybe one or two beds only, but the way to solve the overcrowding of the jail is baby steps. There’s no magic pill, there’s no one ingredient that’s going to do it. It’s going to be these kinds of programs, piled on top of each other, to assure that we are using the facility as it was meant to be used.

And the District Court improvements, we’re going to do some improvements in the courtrooms, so that the jurors and others will be . . . it will be a comfortable and safe place to be.

In Health and Human Services, we are taking care, in these two programs, basic and essential needs and, in fact, changing needs of our community. The Pediatric Medicaid Primary Care, which will start in 2006, and it’s going to take some time to gear up, will provide services to 414, we’re expecting, citizens who probably wouldn’t have pediatric medical care in the past. This would provide an opportunity for us to provide that care and assure that citizens get the kinds of services they need to have healthy children in this community.

The other exciting program that’s new, that was innovative and this is the kind of the out of the box thinking that you encourage from time to time, is that the case managers and others in the field have discovered, or have made it known, that the physically and mentally disabled often have a hard time with dental needs, for all kinds of reasons that occurs. We’re going to provide some funds through some dentists and going to do some innovative programs using some volunteers and others to assure that people who are physically and mentally disabled have an opportunity to see a dentist and get those teeth fixed. We know, from the Health Department and others, from the Health Assembly, that oral health is absolutely essential to the well-being of a human and we are going to continue to assure that those folks who need our help the most will have that help, and I’m enthused and excited about that program.
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Our opportunities in community development, we have put aside 1.1 million dollars for the Sedgwick County Technical Education and Training Authority, and that 1.1 million dollars is set aside in 2006 for that. It is because of your leadership that we’ve done that and your leadership that we have put aside a million dollars for economic development incentives. It’s not to be confused with the money that we already contribute to GWEDC and other things that we do in economic development. So we’re spending about . . . if we spend all this million dollars on incentives, it would be about 1.6 million, 1.7 million that we have set aside purposefully for that.

We have culture and . . . under Cultural Entertainment and Recreation, we’ve set aside $600,000 operating deficit for the Kansas Coliseum. The Kansas Coliseum was to be closed and we were going to be under renovations here pretty soon, so a number of events that usually come to us are not coming, and we stopped booking a while ago. Now we’re trying to catch up to the market and in case we can’t catch up, we put some new subsidy aside to do that. We are hopeful that John Nath and his staff will aggressively seek to reduce that operation subsidy.

Our other recommendations include a salary adjustment of 4%. This does not mean a 4% wage increase. We put 4% aside for new employees, we’re increasing the workforce, our costs for employees are going up. What it does mean is somewhere, because of our pay system, somewhere of a two and a half to three and a half, depending upon what category you’re in and where you might be and including pay-for-performance opportunities for some other departments. We will be bringing back to you the pay plan after the adoption of the budget in August for your approval.

In other projects, we have on our plate and in our changing needs, we have Exploration Place that we’ve been talking about. We’ve been talking about the jail expansion and the need to start thinking about hiring an architect. We are in the process of assessing both those issues and I believe we have the flexibility and opportunity to be of service in either of those cases, if and when that becomes a priority.

The 2006, the budget by categories, you can see by the large figures, 47% are personnel costs. Out of the 345,000,000, that’s $161,000,000. The big brown wedge of pie is contractual expenditures of $126,000 and you can see it drops off pretty rapidly after that. We have the debt service at 5% and commodities at 3, capital outlay at 2, inter-fund and capital improvements and you can see those for yourself.

The $345,000,000 resources, we have the big chunk on the right, the green is Ad Valorem tax, and that’s $112,000,000, it’s about $6,000,000 this year. The 32% is fees for services. Most of that comes from Medicaid and that’s $105,000,000 and you can see that sales tax, the 7%, the orange is 23.5 million dollars.

Now the sales tax for the arena is not included in that. The sales tax for the arena is included in the
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2005 CIP program, so we are separating those funds from these funds to make it clear for the tax oversight committee and for citizens that we are not co-mingling that sales tax with this sales tax that go for general operations and highways. The 2006 expenditures continue, you can see that $118,000,000 for public safety and general government looks like a lot and it is a lot, $110,000,000, that includes health cost for our employees, debt service, reserves and contingencies and then Kristi’s salary. The Human and . . . Health and Human Services are $73,000,000, Public Works is 26 and you can read those numbers yourself. Another way of presenting that is 34 cents of taxpayers’ dollars go to public safety, 32 to general government and you can read that, human services 21, public works, culture and recreation 3 and 2.

For our Capital Improvement Program, it’s $110,000,000, 2006 to 2011 Capital Improvement Program, we’re planning on spending $110,000,000. The arena is already in the 2005, it’s already dropped off from this budget. We’re paying attention to it, but it’s not included here. 2006 Capital Improvement budget is about $44,000,000, includes the juvenile court facility, forensic science complex annex, we’re going to add a little storage room on there and continue to fix the air conditioning and other. We’re adding 13th Street bridge replacement over Meridian and Northwest Bypass right-of-way.

So in summary, the Sedgwick County recommended budget was no mill levy increase, 28.7 mills, $345,000,000. It’s a responsible budget. I believe it meets the changing needs of our citizens for now and for the future.

The other budget that we pay particular attention to at this time of year is the Fire District Budget. There is a no mill levy increase. It’s still at 18.5 mills, $13,600,000 budget, and the recommendations for the Fire District, we’ll continue the high level of service to the customers in the district. We will begin the Fire District relocation process and we will add a training officer for EMSS, a system we’ve created for having a seamless first-responder service.

So, what are the next steps? The next steps, commissioners are you . . . the 2006 recommended budget will be on our website this afternoon, www.sedgwickcounty.org. We will continue to have on-line public hearings, as we have had in the past. The other public hearing will be next week at 9:00 and the final one will be August 3rd at 9 a.m. when we will adopt the budget.

So this has been an interesting and arduous process. It’s been, with your leadership we’ve gone through this, but I need to take a moment to thank some folks, certainly in the Budget Office: Lunda Moonie and Lucretia Burch, Chad Vonannon, Peter Giroux, Chris Duncan and the leadership of the Budget Director, David Miller. When we liked the things that were being said, David took credit for it. When we didn’t like it, he blamed his predecessor, and that’s a management style I like.

In Finance, Ginger Radley helped immensely, Communications and trying to make sure the organization and you and I understand that, Tony helped with the cover, his great work, Tony
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Guiliano. Angela Duntz is doing the on-line stuff and Kristi has been helpful in providing us service. Jeff Piper is doing all the on-line work, Lori Westphal and others will provide others at the Print Shop and cover.

Senior staff, these people who sat in the rooms and argued and tried to resolved issues with me were Chris Chronis, our Chief Financial Officer, and Kathy Sexton, the Assistant County Manager, Troy Brunn, the Deputy CFO and David Miller and Ron Holt, the Assistant County Manager. So appreciate their help and leadership, we appreciate the hard work that our divisions do and our elected officials and our department heads do, in crunching these numbers and coming up with innovative programs and ideas which continue to stick to our mission of providing quality public services to citizens and reviewing that every year, trying to meet the changing needs. So with that said, thank you very much and if there are any questions, I’d be happy to answer them.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Bill and there are questions. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, not so much questions, but just comments. First, I’d like to thank David for coming up with the items that were in the supplemental requests that were not recommended. We had kind of gone over that and we got a listing of the recommended, but I didn’t want to have to go back through the budget book and search for everything that was not recommended, and I appreciate that today, so that I can go back through and see if there are any of those, in comparison, that I would want to support that have kind of been left off. So, I really appreciate that.

I think the second part is that, you know, this is going to be a process. It only kind of starts . . . the clock starts ticking today. We’ve got two other times when we’ll have public hearings. One of them will set the stage so that we can’t add any money, that’s the last up-day and then we’ll of course, accept the budget or tweek in some manner, so this is just the beginning of that budget process for us although behind the scenes and for months other people have worked very, very hard.

So I appreciate the hard work from staff and now I guess it now becomes the hard work of the commission to try to figure out what we need to do with the county budget. That’s all I had, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Bill, I don’t know that
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the public understanding . . . I’ll call it the word ‘crisis’ we were in a year or two ago when we were presented that it looked like the projections, unless we did something pretty dramatic, we were going to be in a big fiscal imbalance and we’d have to look at a sizable tax increase and I just wanted to compliment you, your staff, the Finance Department.

Some of the things that were done were awesome. I mean, we made some tough calls, we had to lay-off people, we had to curtail some services, but not essential services and we were able to manage our way through those tough times, so that now we’re prepared to take on other responsibilities and go forward, now that it looks like maybe the economy has bottomed out and is to go forward.

And I think that Sedgwick County has had a tendency to manage its business as if it were bad times all the time so that when bad times hit, we could struggle our way through it, without just taking the easy course of action and raising taxes. And I think Drucker indicated, in his business book, that that’s the way businesses are supposed to operate, as if it were bad times and keep yourself lean. So, I guess I’m just complimenting you. I know the general public never sees the work that your finance department does, that your budgeting department does and the willingness to work with you that your department heads provide and I’m sure none of them ever have any complaints to you and I think they always think you’re great and will do everything that you tell them to do . . . or excuse me, request of them.

But seriously, I just want to thank you on behalf of the citizens of Sedgwick County. We’re seeing, in my opinion, how government should be run, lean and efficient, able to withstand down times, so we can better enjoy the up times.

And I’m glad you’re keeping the sales tax for the arena separate, because all the nay-sayers are looking at us with a microscope. They’re sure that money is going to be put in our general fund and used for David and my pet project, which won’t happen. They’re sure it will never come off, which will happen and I’m still confident that if we can really keep going here, we might even be able to take that tax off a couple of months early.

So anyway, congratulations, I’m very pleased with this. Naturally, we’ll be tweaking it a little bit for you, but that’s okay. That’s all I had.”

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

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Well, and Bill, this being my first time with the budget process, I did take a lot of time to go over the figures and looking long and hard at the supplemental requests, and realized just how tough it is to prioritize and make decisions, when there are so many worthwhile requests. But after comparing my notes to the notes that we were given for the
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recommendation, I feel very confident that we’re making good decisions on where the taxpayers’ money is going and I want to thank the folks in Finance. Whenever I’d call and have a question, they were more than happy to help me and answer my questions, so I really do appreciate all the help that was given to me this year, in my first year at the budget. So, thank you.”

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

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. I certainly agree with the other commissioners. I think we’ve got a very good document here. I think we agree with Commissioner Sciortino, oftentimes the public doesn’t see how we got here, to this point, but we did spend almost a week in public discussion, open meeting here in our commission chambers, working on issues on this budget, and I believe that the staff has put together a budget here that really does address the priorities of this commission and gives us yet some flexibility to still work it here, as we go into the finalization on August the 3rd. So, I really do believe that you’ve presented us a budget that has focused on the priorities you’ve heard us talking about all through the spring.

I would like to comment on just one of the issues that you highlighted and that’s the Health Department and the Pediatric Medicaid Primary Care program of addressing the needs of probably a little over 400 families, particularly mothers with children. It appears to me that this is going to have a direct impact, particularly on emergency rooms in Sedgwick County and here we’ll be at least a little over 400 families that will not need to look to the emergency room for their primary care, but they can look to our Health Department.

I think the hospitals will be very pleased with that. I hope we can continue to enhance that program and we all know that we’re trying to work on hospital costs and that’s one of the things that has a severe impact on our major hospitals here and I’m really looking forward to seeing how this works and so I want to commend those who brought forward this opportunity with the Medicaid Primary Care for mothers and their children. Mr. Chairman, that’s all I have.”

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

Commissioner Norton said, “Just real quick, Bill, talk a little bit about debt service. The pie chart said 5%. What is our ceiling and maybe you don’t have that number, but we’ve still got plenty of wiggle room in there?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Sure.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I know we do, but I’d like to talk about that, because I think the
public thinks that we have this pool of money and we spend it, all of it, every year and that’s not the truth. I mean, we set some limits and then this budget has got plenty of wiggle room in there for other things I think, as far as debt service.”

Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer, said, “On page 68 and 69 of the budget document, you’ll find some details about debt service. And among other things, you’ll find in some of the bullet points references to the targets that we’ve established for debt capacity, one of which has to do with the amount of debt service that might be represented . . . expended by total county expenditures. We are well under that limit and so, if what you’re asking is do we have capacity to issue additional debt, the answer clearly is yes.

The debt plans that are imbedded in the Capital Improvement Program that’s being recommended can be funded within these limits. Additionally, we have some residual capacity, in case there are other projects that should come along that we haven’t anticipated that require debt issues. So we feel very confident that, with the debt that we have outstanding and the debt that we are planning on issuing in the next five years, we will be able to live well within our means, well within the limits of that debt policy.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well certainly you’ve taken action every year to look at our outstanding debt and re-bid those bonds to get the debt down a little bit and that’s certainly opened up some capacity. What is our self-imposed limit on debt? Talk about that just a little bit.”

Mr. Chronis said, “We have established a series of measures, each of which represents a limit on debt. One of the measures is the amount of debt per capita that Sedgwick County has issued, and that limit is $600 per capita, for every man, woman and child in Sedgwick County. Another limit that we look at is the amount of total debt that has been issued in Sedgwick County, that’s backed by our taxpayers, whether or not that debt was issued by Sedgwick County or by some other government. That limit is $3,000 per capita. Again, we’re well under that limit.

We have a debt limitation that is based on the market value of property, the amount of debt that Sedgwick County issues cannot be more that 1% of total market value in Sedgwick County. We’re well under that limit and we have a limitation that’s based on all debt in the community. Total public debt that’s been issued in Sedgwick County, that’s backed by our taxpayers, can’t be more than 6% of total market value in the county. We’re well under that limit. And the final one has to do with the relationship of debt service expenditures with the total county budget. We cannot have total debt service more than 20% of the budget, and as Bill indicated, we’re well under that limit as well. So, we’re very confident that we can accommodate whatever plans might come along.”
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Commissioner Norton said, “Well I think it’s important that we talk about that, as we go into these discussions, that the public knows that we’ve set and imposed limits on ourselves so that we’re not going to helter skelter build facilities and spend capital money without some checks and balances that we’ve created ourselves and certainly in balance with what over governmental agencies are doing, because I think people talk about taxes and taxes are everything that’s considered taxes, and Sedgwick County is just a piece of that, but we take it into the broader perspective of how we contribute to that and what it does to people, and I think that’s an important dialogue in today’s environment, so thank you Chris for explaining that a little bit. So thank you Chris, for explaining that a little bit. That’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “That was way better than ‘sure’.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Yes it was, much more informative. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, yeah and Chris, before you leave . . . he’s already left. The other thing that I think the public needs to know, because I was reading a report from the Fitch rating services that actually took the time to point us out as to a county that knows how to bond properly and the thing that they were commenting on was that we include all of our debt. You know, we could exclude I guess the PBC type debt if we wanted to, but we don’t in keeping with our policy of being open and above board and letting everybody know exactly where we stand, and this rating service has ranked us . . . well, it picked out five communities in the country and we were one of the five in the nation that they picked as an example of how a governmental entity should bond and I think that we should be complimented on that.

But the other thing that you said that I really love to hear is that, apparently according to what Commissioner Norton just said, we’re living within our means. I mean, that’s how the average citizen within Sedgwick County has to live. They have so much coming in, they make sure their expenditures don’t exceed what they have coming in, so they can live, hopefully, live a little bit below our means, which you’ve indicated we are, so we can have a prudent reserve for the bad times that I was mentioning earlier.

So, I hope the public can understand this, not understand all these numbers, because this can make you go crazy if you want to read all of Chronis’ numbers, but we are very prudent in the way we spend our tax dollars and we have learned, painful as it is sometimes, how to say no, and that’s very important, so, thank you. I’m very proud to be here representing the citizens and I think this board can take a little bit of credit as to what our fiscal policies are, and we are trying to spend your money in a very prudent manner. Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, well Chris I just have one other question, before you get too far
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away and this would be a restatement, I think, of something that’s already been said, but we impose upon ourselves debt guidelines and limits that are in excess of what might be statutorily required.”

Mr. Chronis said, “That’s absolutely the case. The state statute that limits county debt is very low. It is tied to assessed value and it excludes any number of kinds of debt that we issue, so it, as a practical matter, it’s irrelevant as a management tool, and it serves no value with the rating agencies, the credit analysis who help to determine what interest rates we’re going to pay. And so, for that matter, for those reasons, while we certainly stay within that statutory limit, we don’t consider it a real control. We’ve established more rigid controls on ourselves that fit more in line with our financial philosophies and with what the potential investors in Sedgwick County bonds are looking for in good credit.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. That’s the way I understood it and I think it’s good management and keeps us financially strong. That, along with the measures that were taken over the last few years to correct the structural imbalance we had between revenues and potential expenses, the measures that we’ve taken have really, I think, corrected that. I mean, our revenue increase exceeds our expenditure increase through this next year, which leaves us in a healthy position.

And my comment is I’m proud of the fact that we make a very detailed plan and that’s . . . I mean, that’s what a budget is, plan what are we going to do next year, where’s it coming from, where are we going to spend it. But at the same time, we’ve been able to maintain flexibility and an ability to respond to the needs that are in the community as they come to us and as they are deemed appropriate and important to our community.

And the manager mentioned that it wasn’t too long ago we going full stream ahead to remodel Kansas Coliseum and now we switched gears and responded to the community interest and now we’re building a Sedgwick County Arena in downtown Wichita, just one example of how the budget is a plan, but it doesn’t put us in jail. We’re able to respond to the needs of our community. So . . . and that’s also a compliment to our management staff and to our CFO, and so I appreciate the work that you’ve done.

Okay, Chris can finally sit down now. Still have the Manager at the podium though, Commissioners. Are there other questions for Mr. Buchanan?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “If not, Mr. Chairman, I would recommend you receive and file.”
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**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Sciortino 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, Bill. Okay, Madam Clerk, please call the next item.”

**D. AGREEMENT WITH EXPLORATION PLACE.**

Mr. Buchanan said, “You have in front of you a simple form . . . I should not say simple form, a short form contract with Exploration Place that allows us to contribute and help with the financial problem this year. It is a simple agreement that lays out what’s going to happen. They’re going to continue in operations, as the covenants in their lease require them to do. We are going to help subsidize them, to the tune of $150,000 a month for the months June and July and this term expires end of August 31st. It has been signed, it has been approved by Rich Euson, who drew it. It’s been signed by Rob Allison, President of Exploration Place Inc., who is here today with another board member, Vera Bothner. If there are any questions, we’ll be happy to answer those questions.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you Mr. Manager and appreciate the fact that Ron and Vera are here today to respond. Commissioner Winters, did you have a question?”

Commissioner Winters said, “Mr. Buchanan, was it June and July or July and August?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “July and August.”
Commissioner Winters said, “You said June, anyway that’s what I thought. Maybe I was listening wrong.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “It terminates August 31st, the months of July and August, $150,000 a month.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Two months, $150,000 a month.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “We are, just for your information, we have retained the services of a consultant, who will be here tomorrow . . . this afternoon and working for the next several days, has some interviews with some people in the community, has begun looking at the financials and will give us some advice and some . . . her recommendations based on opportunities for revenue and expenditures and how the mission of the Exploration Place fits with the community’s needs, so we are proceeding with that. We have met yesterday with the internal team and representatives with the City of Wichita to continue to gather information to make an informed recommendation to you about how to proceed.

So we are in the process of gathering that information. Our staff, under the leadership of Kathy Sexton, was . . . has visited Exploration Place and will provide information about operations and how . . . what we might do with the facility to continue in operation or what will do, what we will be required to do if that institution, if for some reason closes and we are responsible for that building. Chris Chronis is reviewing the financial records of that institution and how that might . . . so that we have a better understanding how they work in comparison. We’re looking at governance issues of not only Exploration Place but the governance issues of other non-profits in this community that are successful, for instance the zoo and how they’re governed, and we’re looking at other science centers around the country, gathering that data and we are in discussions, or Ron Holt is in discussion with the consultant, who we’ve yet to be determined whether we need that assistance to determine if that building were to be used in other ways, what other ways that might be.

It’s an aggressive timetable. It is one that we are working several hours a day on, a number of people, and we will keep that on the front burner until we have concluded what our firm recommendation will be. This contract allows us to continue operations and to continue to gather that information in a way that I think makes sense. So, I would recommend, if you have no questions, recommend that you approve this contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.”
Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you Bill. There are some comments. I just want a clarification I guess. Now, through this process, through the consultants that we’ve retained, the implication is that everything is open for discussion and analysis, anything relative to the operation of Exploration Place.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Absolutely.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, well and then following in behind that, I guess that I would just like to say that I think not only is the facility itself, the building, just a magnificent structure, a real center point of our community, but the operation of Exploration Place, over these years since it’s opened really has been quite a benefit to our community. I think the board of directors has really done a good job in providing exhibits and opportunities for education that are hard to find anywhere else in our area, so we really appreciate their hard work and what they’ve done.

In these difficult and uncertain times that we find ourselves in, you know, I don’t think there’s any such thing as normal any more and so now we’ve come up to the new normal, which is uncertainty, and I think the Exploration Board has done a good job in trying to contend with those unusual circumstances and continue to provide this, what’s a real asset to our community, so I want to commend them for what they’ve done to this point, and I appreciate the fact that they’ve, you know, alerted us to the fact ‘We’re at crisis, we need some help, we think you all can do it, so give us a little bit of assistance, to see how we can correct this and go forward’.

So, in light of the fact we’re going forward in trying to preserve what we’ve got there and make it a continuing, ongoing asset to our community, I don’t want that in any way to imply a . . . oh, criticism of the board that’s been in place and what’s been happening there, because it’s a wonderful asset to our community. We do have another comment from Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for clarification, so the public will know this, we have responsibility for the building, since we bonded the $20,000,000 or $2,000,000 a year for paying . . . servicing the debt. But the City of Wichita owns the land that the building is on?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “And is the $150,000, is there anyone else coming to the table to help underwrite the cost of this for the next two months?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “There’s no public entity that I know of, nor . . . and I don’t know that any private money is coming in.”
Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, so we’re taking it all on ourselves right now.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “As far as I know, sir.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “All right. And I think the public needs to understand, because oftentimes we will help cultural entertainment projects and entities, even though they may have the name ‘Wichita’ on it or something like this, but if I saw the budget right, the county expends 10.6 . . . or that’s what the budget is for next year, 10.6 million dollars of our budget is for cultural and entertainment and I oftentimes hear from citizens, ‘Well, how come you’re not helping support this or that’ what have you. We just don’t, I think, blow our horn loud enough and I think this Exploration Place is an example. They’re in trouble right now and we’re at least willing to bridge a little gap and also, I guess at our expense, for the consultant or is someone else paying for the consultant?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “No, we’re doing that sir.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, to try to see how maybe this could be run different, to minimize maybe the amount of subsidy needed or making it more attractive so more people come to it or what have you. So, I need to compliment you one more time and . . . have we already done your review for this year?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “No, but I’m marking this down.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, I’ll reserve any more compliments until after the review, but seriously, I think the public needs to know that Sedgwick County is a big player in cultural and entertainment, quality of life issues and it looks like we are making a commitment to do so again next year. So, that’s all I had.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, and I will second that, commissioner. Commissioner Burtnett.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Well, I noticed under the compensation, it says that in no event shall the monies exceed $300,000 and I’m assuming that you’re basing this on the amounts that they gave, that it costs to run Exploration Place for a month or two.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Is there any chance that that will not be $300,000, because it also says that we will be provided a written accounting of receipts, disbursements and accrued expenses?”
So is there any chance it might be less than that?"

Mr. Buchanan said, “I doubt it.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “I doubt it, with summer months, wouldn’t that be the most . . .?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “This is one of those deals, Commissioners, where we have . . . we are running as hard and as fast as we can, and so have not analyzed to the penny what the actual operating subsidy might be. We have had conversations with their people, Bill Pickard, who is CPA who is on the board, gave us the number. It appears reasonable to us and that’s the number we’re recommending. It’s possible it could be less than that.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Okay.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Any other . . . Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I think it’s critical that the public understand that this is a huge public policy decision that we are faced with, not just for Wichita/ Sedgwick County, but the region. I mean, this is one of the finest architectural buildings in our region. It is a public facility. You know, we talk about crisis, hard times, a lot of things have changed in our world in the last five years and I think everybody understands that, from their individual pocketbook, to what government can do, to what businesses had to contend with, and Exploration Place is no different than that.

But we have an obligation, as elected officials, to analyze this, to take prudent action to understand the good of the community and not let a public facility, in the heart of the region, to have less than the best use that it could possibly have. And certainly I commend the manager and the commission for stepping up and trying to understand. And yes, we do have a $20,000,000 commitment. I mean, that does put us as a player, but we could easily say, ‘You know we said seven years ago that we’d give the money to the capital improvement and we’re not doing anything for general operating’ and that’s the easy way out.

It’s real easy to just say no. It’s a little harder to really have the dialogue and the debate and the discernment of what is really, truly good public policy and I think we’re trying to do that as a county commission, and I’m pretty proud that we’ve stepped up. I mean, the truth is, it sits right on the river, in the middle of Wichita, and it’s a very important facility and the county has stepped up to try to analyze and figure out how to make that a building with the best use.

I would like to say, for public record, I am on the board of Exploration Place, so I really have two hats, and I will vote for this resolution today, but I did want a disclosure that I’m representing the
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county commission today. I’m not representing the Exploration Place Board. I had a conundrum in this, trying to be sure that I understand my role as a board member, as appointed by Sedgwick County Commission, and my role as a county commissioner, as recommendations are brought before me and I just wanted to be sure the public knew that, that today I’m wearing my county commissioner hat, I’ve analyzed this, I understand it at a deep level as a county commissioner, but there will be a day when I take that hat off and go to a board meeting and put the Exploration Board hat on and try to understand my responsibility as an appointed board member, so that’s all I had.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “And the other thing, I just want . . . because this is a key issue, it wasn’t our responsibility to try to offset any shortfalls in the operating expenses, but no one else was coming forward and the building was either going to shut down and go away, and that’s happened more than once. I’m not going to be itemizing all the other times that’s happened, but that’s happened more than once, and we have said, ‘Okay, we’ll take it on and try to figure out’. This isn’t the first time we’ve spent money to hire consultants to see how other things can be run, but it would be my hope in the future that other entities will realize, like you say, that this is a regional item, that this is something else, that they shouldn’t always just dump over on the county and say, ‘Well hey, you fix all of our problems’. I would love to see some partners come together to help, which is something that is beneficial to all citizens and give us a little bit of assistance in the future. So, that’s all I have.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, and I would echo that comment, that this is a new method, a new way of operating government, business, everything is to develop strong partnerships and that’s just the wave of how business is done in the 21st century, I think, so that would be helpful to us. However, I think our willingness to participate in this shows a kind of a philosophical posture of this commission, that we are interested in the cultural climate of our community and we are interested in quality of life issues in our community and those sort of things are not free and it does require the investment of public funds.

You know, out of the Visioneering process, the number one comment, the first thing that hit the table, was that we needed to have a climate in our region that attracted and kept young people and part of that is what is the quality of life and what is the culture in our community. So I think this has ramifications beyond just the specifics of Exploration Place. It has to do with our philosophy of what good government is and I know there are many folks, many of my friends and supporters who say ‘If it doesn’t make money, if it doesn’t break even, we don’t need to be in it’ but the fact of the matter is, is that it takes the pooled resources of a community sometimes to support these sort of venues that do provide an exceptional increase in our quality of life, and so when we have an opportunity to be supportive and when we have an opportunity to do some analysis and say, ‘Is it
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possible, can we make this happen, is it worthwhile, is it worth community investment’. We need to find out that information and go forward, and as Commissioner Sciortino said, it would be great to have partners, but without that, we’re still going to do our due diligence and come to what we think is the best decision for our community by this branch of government.

So a step we’ve got to take, we need to move forward. Any other comment, questions?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Other than inviting Rob Allison or Vera to speak, if they have anything to say. I know they came here today, and maybe they don’t but they made the effort to be here, so . . .”

Mr. Rob Allison, Chairman, Exploration Place Board of Directors, said, “And through this whole process, we’ve been looking at this from a financial standpoint, from a quality of life standpoint, but it really gets down to the numbers and when we looked at the numbers, we knew we had to step up and explain where we were. And I can’t say enough, once again, about the leadership of the county. They sat down with us, it wasn’t a matter of negotiating, they listened and they stepped up with a plan, which you’re hopefully going to approve today and without that plan, we couldn’t move forward and it’s just great to have people and community leaders listening to the problem and taking the time to support us in this time of need. So, I say that for the board and I’m saying that for the community.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Thank you very much, Ron. Well Commissioners, I see no more comments. What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton Aye
Commissioner Winters Aye
Commissioner Burtnett Aye
Commissioner Sciortino Aye
Mr. Buchanan said, “Thank you. I just want to remind us how flexible and how quick we can go to work. Jeff Piper of Division of Information and Operations, has already put the recommended budget on line, so it’s out there now.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Very good, thank you.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “They put the whole thing on line?”

Chairman Unruh said, “The whole budget? I don’t know how they do that. I’m real glad they . . .”

Mr. Buchanan said, “We will have people come and explain that. I don’t know either.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, I don’t know if I can comprehend it, but I’m proud of the technological capability of Sedgwick County government.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “When they ask how it works, just say ‘Real well’.”

Chairman Unruh said, “That’s right. Okay, back to business gentlemen. Next item please.”

Commissioner Norton left the meeting room at 10:20 a.m.

E. REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE.

1. NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS IN THE REGISTER OF DEEDS TECHNOLOGY FUND FOR TRANSFER TO THE COUNTY FUND.

Mr. Bill Meek, Register of Deeds, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is a two-part process that we’re required to do. The initial process is to initiate a letter and send it to the Chairman and the Board of County Commissioners and the second portion is for the County Commissioners to adopt a resolution.

As Sedgwick County Register of Deeds, it is my pleasure to inform the Board of County Commissioners that during the calendar year of 2004 my office received technology fees totaling $1,008,986 generated under K.S.A. 28-115a, which was deposited in the Register of Deeds technology funds.

In accordance with KSA 28-115, I have determined that the balance of the Register of Deeds’ Technology Fund at the end of the year of 2004 calendar year is greater than $50,000 and that
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$725,839 is not needed in my office at this time for technology purposes. KSA 28-115 hereby provides that the Board with the authority to transfer those funds from the Register of Deeds Technology Fund to the county fund to be used by the county offices for equipment for technological services related to land and property records filed and maintained by the county. Your recommended action on this is to receive and file.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. This action would simply say we have got notice and we’re filing it in our records.”

Mr. Meek said, “Yes, sir.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Well, are there any comments? Commissioners, questions?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Next item.”

Commissioner Norton returned to the meeting room at 10:25 a.m.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER AND USE OF MONEYS FROM THE REGISTER OF DEEDS TECHNOLOGY FUND.

Mr. Meek said, “This is a resolution for your signature and the resolution authorizes the transfer and the use of the monies from the Register of Deeds Technology Fund, pursuant to KSA 28-115 and your recommended action is to approve and sign.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioner Winters.”
Commissioner Winters said, “Mr. Chairman, I’d just like to take a brief moment to say thank you to Bill Meek and the other, Register of Deeds, in the State of Kansas. I think they were far-sighted enough to know that technological advances were going to be expensive to implement and there is so much technology that can be used in all of the land and property records of the county. Recording property deeds and land records is a huge project, is a huge assignment for counties all across the state and Bill Meek and the other Register of Deeds went to the legislature and were able to get some fees added on to those who use the service to help pay for the technology.

So I want to commend the Register of Deeds all of the State of Kansas for taking that action and then I want to thank you Register of Deeds here for making sure that funds like this go to other parts of our county to make other offices more user-friendly and more technologically advanced. So Bill, I appreciate your team spirit and team playing in this technology fund and appreciate all the work you do. Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “And I would echo those comments. In this day and age, when partnerships, cooperation, consolidation seems to advance, you know, advance the cause of good government, you’re certainly participating in that and we appreciate it and this is a significant amount of money and so we appreciate it. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, you know, you and I have known each other for a number of years and I think we all remember what was going on in your department, or more importantly, what wasn’t going on in your department before you took over that office and we were receiving complaints from everyone that had to deal with that office and the turn around that you’ve done is very commendable and not only were you able to turn it around, but you were able to continually improve upon the service that you provide for the citizens of Sedgwick County, and I just want to publicly on their behalf thank you.”

Mr. Meek said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, Commissioners, any other questions?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

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

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

F. AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA HOCKEY, INC. FOR USE OF KANSAS COLISEUM FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS DURING CENTRAL HOCKEY LEAGUE SEASONS.

Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We’re really pleased to be able to come to you today and talk about extending, for the next three years, our relationship with the Wichita Thunder Hockey. They are our major tenant and we’re pleased to have them playing at the Kansas Coliseum over the next three seasons. The next time we come to see you, it will be for a new agreement that will have the Thunder playing, hopefully for an extended period of time, at the new Sedgwick County Arena.

This agreement is similar to the agreements we’ve had in the past. Basically, our rent structure, it just covers our expenses to put on the event. There is a reward system. The more people or the more tickets that the sports teams sell, the less they pay for the facility and it’s a win/win situation. We certainly recommend approval.

I have the brand new general manager of the Thunder, Chris Presson here with me, if you have any questions for him, I’m sure Chris will be more than happy to answer them at this time.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Bring him up to the podium.”
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Chairman Unruh said, “This is really quite a turn around from some of the discussions we were having early, about when we thought we were having earlier about when we thought we were going to be closing the Coliseum for a while and trying to work out those agreements, and so this is a much more pleasant opportunity for both of us right now. So anyway, welcome Chris. Would you like to make a comment before I let Commissioner Winters talk?”

Mr. Chris Presson, General Manager, Wichita Thunder Hockey, Inc., greeted the Commissioners and said, “I just wanted to say it’s great to be here. I’m obviously new in the community, been here about two months. My wife and I have three little girls and we’re certainly appreciative also of operating in a county facility, looking forward to the new building as well and all the work that John and our previous management has done to get us to where we are.

We had a pretty good year, off the ice, in terms of our revenue generation, and we had a very good year on the ice as well, with wins and losses and we’re looking forward to the coming season and hoping to open around the third week in October. So, thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. Well, we do have a comment. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well I just wanted to again welcome you to the community and tell you we appreciate your business in our Kansas Coliseum very much and we look forward to working with you, as we develop what we think is going to be a world-class downtown arena, which we hope will certainly benefit the citizens but we hope it makes a great venue for programs and businesses like yours to participate and reap a reward, a profit, a benefit. So we really appreciate all the work that you’ve done and want you to know that, just as a manager for Wichita Hockey, that we have a great deal of confidence in John Nath and Ron Holt, but also commissioners are certainly available that, if there’s times where you think that you need to discuss opportunities with us, we’re always open and ready to visit.

We found out a year or so ago, whenever we were having a little difficulty negotiating, that there are a lot of hockey fans out there that know how to call their commissioner, and so we’ve talked to a lot of hockey fans and we’re just glad that we’ve got this agreement ready to go, so welcome to the community and good luck.”

Mr. Presson said, “Thanks for the kind words and thanks for the opportunity.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Is there any other comment or question? What’s the will of the board?”

MOTION

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Commissioner Sciortino 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

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, John. Thank you, Chris. Next item please.”

Commissioner Norton left the meeting room at 10:33 a.m.

G. DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS.

1. AGREEMENT WITH NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC FOR INSTALLATION OF ANTENNAS ON THE SEDGWICK COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS GREYHOUND PARK TOWER.

Mr. Richard Vogt, Chief Information Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “For five years the county has had an agreement with Telecom Marketing LLC to work with wireless providers and encourage those wishing to expand coverage in the Greyhound Park/Coliseum area to lease space on our 9-1-1 tower there, rather than build new towers. The contract I am bringing today is the second fruit to be reaped from the relationship. The first one was with AT&T about a year ago.

This agreement will allow Cingular room on the Greyhound Tower to locate as many as nine antennas there and has over it’s maximum timeframe of 25 years, the potential to generate $390,000 in revenue for the county. However, the primary benefit is that there will be one less tower in the area. I recommend that you approve the contract and authorize the Chair to sign. I’m available for questions.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you, Richard. How many antennas can you put on one tower?”
Mr. Vogt said, “I’m not exactly sure. I know that we have room for four or five more agreements like this, so the potential is quite large.”

Chairman Unruh said, “I see, quite a few. All right, and in order to accomplish our goal of having few towers, do we just kind of stay alert to the market, when we have an opportunity we just go try to negotiate an agreement.”

Mr. Vogt said, “Well, with the . . . Telecom Marketing does that for us. That’s the relationship. They’re our recruiter, they go out and do that and then we share the benefits.”

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

Commissioner Winters said, “Richard, I’m going to be supportive. The only question I’d have is, I mean, we’re confident that the county is receiving fair market value for our tower, etcetera. I mean, someone has investigated the fact and thinks that this compensation is fair in the market today.”

Mr. Vogt said, “Yes, and this is in line with our previous contract with AT&T. I mean, it’s not exactly the same, but it’s in the ballpark.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. Did you have a question?”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “No, I just said it was a good question.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay.”

**MOTION**

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

Chairman Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Richard. Call the next item please.”

DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS – HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2. AMENDMENT TO GRANT AWARD AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES (SRS) PROVIDING FUNDING FOR TREATMENT SERVICES TO FOURTH-TIME DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OFFENDERS.

Mr. Ted Jobst, Director, Integrated Family Health, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This grant amendment does provide for services between SRS and Sedgwick County for the treatment of fourth-time DUI offenders through our Behavioral Health Center. It’s an amendment that takes our grant award from $12,000 in fiscal year 2006 to a net award of $34,315. If you have any questions, I’ll be glad to address them.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioner Burtnett.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Actually, I do have quite a few questions. I notice that on the background information that it’s February of ’03 that the Board of County Commissioners approved this initial agreement, but it looks like it went from July to July, is when the funding . . .”

Mr. Jobst said, “Yeah, this is a somewhat confusing situation. Originally, this date was set by SRS, set this up so they funded five clients at a time and at the time you were providing services to that fourth DUI client, then you would received additional services for five of our clients and that’s
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the agreement that was originally made with SRS. However, that wasn’t a workable agreement and in fact, services were provided by us and we were serving six or seven clients by the time we got around to being reimbursed. And so the state decided to handle this differently and amended the agreement, along the lines that I just mentioned earlier, where instead of funding it gradually, they’re funding it at a net amount for this fiscal year 2006.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Okay. So this has been going on for a couple of year, this program?”

Mr. Jobst said, “Yes.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Well my question is, on the outcomes, it says one of the outcomes is the participants will not be arrested for any charges. Do we have any documentation that shows that this program is working, because fourth-time DUI, I mean that’s . . .”

Mr. Jobst said, “Yes, this is . . . of course, when you’re getting . . . when this kind of behavior is being shown by clients, all of us are concerned and so I think the Department of Corrections, through Senate Bill 67, basically what we know about this is that we are serving these clients. I don’t have any data that shows whether or not these clients have committed a fifth or sixth DUI following their treatment. They are required to be in treatment for 12 months. That is a report and reports are given to the assessment center, as well as the Department of Corrections as to the progress of these clients during that time. But I don’t have any data as to the effectiveness of the program, as it relates to whether or not these particular clients have committed a fifth or sixth DUI.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Can we get that data?”

Mr. Jobst said, “If that data is available, I certainly can see whether we have that, yes. I mean, if that data is available.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “I would kind of like to know if we’re going to fifth-time DUI people, if we have a program for that.”

Mr. Jobst said, “Okay, I don’t know that we have a specific program for fifth-time DUI individuals, but certainly if you’re wanting to know have these particular patients or clients committed a fifth DUI, I can certainly see if that data is available.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “I would like to have that information.”
Mr. Jobst said, “Okay, I will seek that out for you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, is that all Commissioner? Okay. The services that we provide, are they provided in the county jail?”

Mr. Jobst said, “No, they’re provided through, in this case, the Behavioral Health Center. The clients are required to participate in a program there and there’s follow-up through there, the counseling staff, over this 12-month period that the clients are involved in the program. Reports are then given to, as I say, the assessment center and the Department of Corrections. And I believe this is under the penalty, if they do not participate, of jail, so they either are spending time in jail or they’re spending time in this program.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, all right, thank you Ted. Commissioners, any other questions? What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Amendment to Grant Award Agreement, authorize the Chairman to sign all necessary documents, and approve establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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<td>Commissioner Norton</td>
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Chairman Unruh said, “Next item please.”

Commissioner Norton returned to the meeting room at 10:41 a.m.
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3. AMENDMENT TO GRANT AWARD AGREEMENT WITH SRS PROVIDING FUNDING FOR CONTINUED DRUG AND ALCOHOL COUNSELING SERVICES OFFERED BY THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER.

Mr. Jobst said, “Commissioners, this is a renewal grant with SRS and Sedgwick County through the Addiction and Prevention Services of SRS to the Behavioral Health Center. The fiscal year on this particular year is July of ’05 through June of ’06 in the amount of $98,000 and provides services for the court-referred clients to this program, family members and also the services provided by Behavioral Health to the pregnant women and the mothers that are served by our division Integrated Family Health in the Sedgwick County Health Department. If there are any questions, I’d be glad to address them.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yeah, I have just one.”

Chairman Unruh said, “We have a question. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Thank you. The background, it says that we’re getting $98,000 or are we getting $196,000?”

Mr. Jobst said, “We’re getting $98,000 for this coming fiscal year.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay, and that’s been flat for ten years, right?”

Mr. Jobst said, “Yes, that’s right.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “So, as inflation takes over, we’re worried that we’re having to provide less services, because the services cost more money or does the county have to assume more responsibility for the services?”

Mr. Jobst said, “Well, we are flat-funded and it is not unusual for this grant and some other grants to be flat-funded. Usually, what we try to do is provide greater staff efficiencies in terms of serving the amount of clients that we serve. Sometimes, for instance, that can take the form of instead of providing individual counseling, we might go to a group format where you’re able to provide more clients counseling and still stay within the budget on this.

This is a fee for service agreement with SRS. In other words, when we provide the services to these clients, we are reimbursed accordingly and this is a $98,000 cap, so we do often, most often actually provide services to more clients than we’re getting reimbursed for, and what we do is we try to do
that in just a more efficient manner and also look for other funding sources to provide that kind of service, usually other grant sources.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well then what does that mean, under amendment one, it said the new award amount $196,000. What did that mean?”

Mr. Jobst said, “That, I have to say, I’m not quite sure actually what that is referring too. I just know that we are operating on that $98,000 amount. The median award amount of 196 might cover two fiscal years. I have to say, I’m not familiar with that particular . . . why that is occurring there, actually, I’m sorry.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well, I didn’t mean to . . . It was just confusing to me, so okay, thank you. If you find out, let me know.”

Mr. Jobst said, “Okay, thank you, we’ll do that.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Any other questions? Well, I have one. These clients are court referred, all of them?”

Mr. Jobst said, “They’re referred through the assessment center. They’re not all court-referred clients, but they’re referred mostly through the assessment center that SRS funds here in Sedgwick County. These are clients that are eligible for services under the income guidelines and guidelines that SRS has set up for this particular client population. And so, when we serve, as I said, when we serve these clients, then we bill accordingly, up to the amount of this cap.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Well, I noticed in the back up it said 68% successfully complete the treatment and this particular population, I think that indicates a pretty strong completion percentage. I mean, the folks have to want to change their life for these things to work. You don’t have to comment if you don’t want to.”

Mr. Jobst said, “Okay. Well, I think it is a good percentage. I think, certainly that over the years, I think the staff of the center has really developed a program that is an effective program and I think it also speak to that.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. Any other comments?”

**MOTION**
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Commissioner Sciortino moved to approve the Amendment to Grant Award Agreement, authorize the Chairman to sign all necessary documents, and approve establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

Commissioner Burtnett 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, “Next item.”

4. **CONTRACT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR THE WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN PROGRAM.**

Mr. Jobst said, “Commissioners, this is, as mentioned the funding from KDHE, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to Sedgwick County for our Women, Infant and Children program or WIC program for a three-month grant period, July, August and September, in the amount of $351,193.

This is a 6% increase over our previous grant funding and helps up provide services, even though we have an assigned caseload of 13,312, we’re currently serving over 16,000 clients and so this 6% increase, that is included in this amount, helps us provide services to that additional client population. If you have any questions . . . I might mention, the coming grant year, this will feed into a 12-month contract year that will run from October of ’05 through September of ’06. If you have any questions, I’ll be glad to answer them.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, any questions, comment? What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Burtnett moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.
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Commissioner Sciortino 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, “Next item.”

5. **ADJUSTMENT TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFFING TABLE TO INCLUDE THREE CASE MANAGER POSITIONS, B216.**

**Mr. Jobst** said, “Commissioners, as I mentioned a moment ago, we received a 6% percent increase in our funding for this current grant period and we were assured by the State WIC agency that in the coming 12 month contract period, the 6% increase will be continued in that funding amount.

With this increase, we are requesting that we be allowed to add three additional full-time employees to the WIC staffing table. These employees would provide some case management, in terms of working with our WIC clientele and providing clerical duties and collecting medical data from our WIC clients, but primarily we would like to use these individuals to provide a WIC call center for the four sites that WIC is involved in.

We serve over 390 phone calls a day, approximately and oftentimes these phone calls interrupt direct service staff providing services to our WIC clients. We’re tightly scheduled in the WIC program at all four of these centers, and so this interruption does interfere to some degree with quality of services and also the amount of services we can provide.

We’ve been planning for some time to provide a WIC call center and this 6% increase in our budget is something that now allows us to do that, with your approval. So we’re hoping that this call center will help us provide uninterrupted services, as well as be able to meet the increased demand for WIC services that we’ve been experiencing over these past several years. If you have any questions, I’ll be glad to address them.”
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Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I’m going to be supportive of this, but I’ve asked this question every year of what the potential is and it just seems like it’s growing and I think there’s a time where we need to maybe take this on and get a little more information about it. I mean, now we’re up to 16,000 people that is the community or the population. There’s maybe more potential, up to 20,000. I think we need to revisit this. I mean, if we’re starting to talk about more staff and call centers and I mean, this program is taking on a life of its own, 390 calls a day, to me that’s scary. Tom just leaned over and said, ‘That’s 50 calls an hour’. That’s pretty amazing. I don’t know where else we get that much volume, so I think we’re to the point where maybe we need to understand this a little more, as a public policy kind of an issue and maybe get a little deeper than just the reports we get here at the bench, just a thought, because this thing is growing pretty exponentially every year.

It also fits in with our thoughts that the earlier we can help families, the infants and children, certainly the better off they’re going to be education-wise, health-wise, everything else and maybe this is a place where we engage in that a little deeper or at least understand it a little bit better.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. Any other questions or comments, Commissioners? What is the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the adjustment to the Health Department Staffing Table.

Commissioner Winters seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Ted. Next item please.”

H. DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES.

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES – DEPARTMENT ON AGING

1. AGREEMENTS (THREE) TO PROVIDE RIDE COORDINATION SERVICES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION BROKERAGE’S NEW VOLUNTEER TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.

• MOUNT HOPE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
• X.Y.Z. CLUB OF BENTLEY
• GARDEN PLAIN SENIOR CLUB

Ms. Valerhy Powers, Director, Transportation Brokerage, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, “These agreements are with Mount Hope, Bentley and Garden Plain Senior Centers to provide ride coordination for a new volunteer transportation program. And this would be paying them $7.00 per ride that they would coordinate and the transportation would be provided by retired and senior volunteer program volunteers in their own vehicles. This would provide over 3,000 rides at an average cost of $8.27 per ride. If there’s any questions, I’d be happy to answer them.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Is that enough transportation to satisfy all the need, or is there demand beyond that?”

Ms. Powers said, “Well, we’re just getting this up and piloted, so we will see. We did do some questionnaires, some surveys, found that there are current needs out there for this type of service and I think, as people hear about it, it will continue to grow.”

Chairman Unruh said, “And those folks that are receiving the ride, do they have any expense associated with their benefit?”

Ms. Powers said, “No they don’t.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Okay, we have another question. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I think it’s a great program and I love the R.S.V.P. folks are getting involved in this. Is there any liability issues? They’re using their own car. We’re not restricted in
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any way with liability issues.”

Ms. Powers said, “No, they’re insured through the R.S.V.P. program.”

Commissioner Norton said, “That’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Are there other questions? Seeing none, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to approve the Agreements and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton 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, “Next item.”

2. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT ON AGING FOR CENTRAL PLAINS AREA AGENCY ON AGING TO PROVIDE CLIENT ASSESSMENT REFERRAL EVALUATIONS.

Ms. Graham said, “This is a renewal contract. C.P.A.A.A. has operated the Care program since January 1, 1995. Under this program, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging is responsible for
performing all nursing home pre-assessments in Sedgwick, Harvey and Butler Counties in accordance with the Kansas Department on Aging agreement and state and federal laws.

This agreement establishes the rate that C.P.A.A.A. is reimbursed for each reassessment and offers the program expenses for three full-time employees. The program is fully funded through reimbursement from the state, at a unit cost per contracted assessment of $18.82 in per hospital assessment of 55.71. There are no financial obligations for the county.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, well this is pretty straightforward here. We provide a service, we get reimbursed, and everyone is happy I hope.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Next item.”

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES – COMCARE

3. CONTRACT WITH FAMILY CONSULTATION SERVICE OF WICHITA, INC. TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY-BASED THERAPY SERVICES.

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This first document is a contract with Family Consultation Services. It’s a renewal of a long-
standing contract that we’ve had with them as our affiliate agency. The contract spells out the
services that Family Consultation is to provide in general, and then specifically it outlines the
provisions for half of the funding for our therapists that’s housed at the Wichita Child Guidance
Center, has been for a number of years . . . Not the Child Guidance Center, the Wichita’s Children’s
Home sorry, and provides funding to support Family Consultation Service in their efforts to provide
therapy and medication management to children and their parents, who are less severely ill than
some of the children that COMCARE services. We recommend that you approve this agreement.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, Marilyn thank you. Commissioners, are there any questions?”

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton 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, “Next item.”

4. AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY CONSULTATION SERVICE OF WICHITA,
   INC. TO PROVIDE EVALUATION AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES,
   INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY AND GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICES,
   MEDICATION SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION
   SERVICES.

Ms. Cook said, “Commissioners, this is also a renewal of our affiliation agreement with Family
Consultation Service. This agreement must be in place for Family Consultation Services to bill for
the Medicaid Services that they provide to their clients. It spells out, in detail, how those services are to be coordinated, how referrals are to be made and the conditions of those services and it also provides Family Consultation Services with a portion of the state aid and certified match that comes to this community.

All the affiliation agreements that we have this year are just a bit longer and thicker, because we got some feedback from our licensing visit that we were to spell out precisely the definition of the services, so they’re a little bit thicker than they were in the past. We recommend that you approve this agreement.”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Burtnett 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, “Next item.”

5. AGREEMENT WITH BREAKTHROUGH CLUB OF SEDGWICK COUNTY TO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS AND CHILDREN WITH SERIOUS EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCES.

Ms. Cook said, “This is also a renewal agreement. It is an affiliation agreement with the Breakthrough Club, a longstanding agreement that we’ve had with them. Essentially, the same terms as we’ve had in the past. Breakthrough Club is a clubhouse model agency that’s focused on
enhancing social skills of the clients that attend there and helping them find meaningful employment. Again, this agreement must be in place for the Breakthrough Club to bill Medicaid for services that they provide for adults and children. They primarily serve adults, but they do also serve specifically transition age children is what we call them, who are transition from the children service system into the adult service system. We recommend that you approve this agreement.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. This is . . . we have several things here to approve that you’re going to be presenting to us. All these are just component pieces of all the COMCARE’s involvement in mental health services.”

Ms. Cook said, “Right, the state contracts renew with us. They’re July to July, so we have negotiated with all our community partners and now it’s time for the formal approval on those, yes.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. Commissioners, any comment or question? What’s the will of the board?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Burtnett 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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Chairman Unruh said, “Next item.”

6. **CONTRACT WITH SRS ESTABLISHING COMCARE AS A PARTICIPATING MENTAL HEALTH CENTER.**
Ms. Cook said, “Okay, now this one is an agreement between COMCARE and the state SRS and it’s a large contract as well, because it encompasses all the conditions of our agreement with SRS and provides for money for services that we provide to the target population and other populations that we serve.

I was on the negotiating committee for this one and again, we worked several months to make sure that the language in here is one that the community mental health centers could agree with and one that followed the intent of SRS and the state.

It spells out things like the number of bed days that are allocated to this community for state hospital beds, spells out outcome measures, data reporting requirements and then it does also spell out, in sections, the consequences for non-compliance in any of those areas and those consequences can range from an action plan and report writing to actually withholding of quarterly payments, which has never happen to us, thank goodness.

The contract is $48,000 less than it was last year, and that’s because the state ended all of their special program kind of funding and we had a $48,000 grant for Latino outreach and that ended June 30th of this year. We are recommending that you approve the contract.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Marilyn, how many mental health centers are there in this state?”

Ms. Cook said, “There are 29 mental health centers in the state.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, so we have then a region of responsibility? Does it exceed the limits of Sedgwick County?”

Ms. Cook said, “No, it’s Sedgwick County. Now we do contract for some work, like after-hours call and so forth, but our responsibility is Sedgwick County.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. And the negotiating that you indicated that you had to go through, establish not only our responsibility, but it’s also negotiating as best you could to get a higher level of reimbursement. Is that all part of it?”

Ms. Cook said, “We always ask for additional reimbursement in this contract. We haven’t gotten it for the last many years, which is hard, because we continue to increase the number of people that we are serving.”

Chairman Unruh said, “And we don’t have the privilege, the luxury, whatever the right word is, we don’t turn anybody down. We don’t have the right to select who we work with.”
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Ms. Cook said, “That’s correct. Our licensing standard says that we cannot turn anyone away, regardless of their ability to pay.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Thank you for those answers. Commissioners, are there any other questions? What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton 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, “Next item.”

7. CONTRACT WITH SRS FOR COMCARE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEDICAID MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIMING PROGRAM.

Ms. Cook said, “This . . . for three years I’ve been coming to you with approval for this contract and I’ve been doing it kind of sheepishly, because we haven’t received a penny from the feds on this contract, yet we were promised that money from the federal government. It’s a very long process.

Administrative claiming is basically a program that provides a method of federal reimbursement for non-billable work that is done by community mental health centers that is associated with Medicaid in providing those services, so they are outreach kinds of activities and administrative activities that are non-billable.

And essentially, to make it be more real for you, we have these random moment forms, we identify staff who are involved in those activities and then we get notice from the state of how many of these
we need to administer and our staff will have a random moment on a particular day, they’ll indicate what they’re doing and then we turn this in.

And I am pleased to say that last week the State of Kansas finally did get official approval from the federal government on this program and the SRS actually put a check in the mail to us on Tuesday of this week for just that first quarter, October, November and December of 2002 and that payment was $107,000 and we started the program in . . . almost into November, so we are anticipating now payments for all of 2003, 2004 and 2005.

So despite the fact that it was kind of hard to explain and almost seemed too good to be true, have to say that I’m glad we participated and when I looked at the spreadsheets of the mental health centers that didn’t participate and they saw the part that we got this week, all of them are going to be on board. We are recommending that you approve this agreement.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Well, our success, if you’d call it that, in getting reimbursed, has attracted other folks into the program. Does that mean that the pie gets cut in smaller pieces?”

Ms. Cook said, “Actually no, the formula is a pretty sophisticated one and it’s based on the amount of Medicaid business that you do in your area, which is high. We have almost 25% of the Medicaid population here in Sedgwick County. It’s based on the salaries of the staff that are involved in the program and other expenses that are associated with them doing the work, so SRS does keep 25% of this money and it’s not yet determined what they’re going to do with their 25%. The mental health centers don’t want those centers that didn’t participate in this program to benefit from this 25% that SRS is holding onto, so I don’t know what SRS will decide to do with that, but it should impact, it should only make it bigger.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, it sounds kind of like it’s a work in progress or something, trying to find out exactly where we end up. I appreciate the fact that you’ve tried to acquire some of those funds for our benefit and programs we have in our county. So, any other comment or question? What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Next item.”

8. AGREEMENT WITH SRS PROVIDING CERTIFIED MATCH ALLOCATIONS TO COMCARE.

Ms. Cook said, “This is also a renewal of our certified match agreement with SRS. The 4.9 million dollar contract is given to us from SRS’s general fund to match federal financial participation through the Medicaid program. The amount again is based on a formula that is complicated and has been in place for a long time, and actual billing. We are requesting and recommending that you renew this agreement.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Any questions, Commissioners?”

MOTION

Commissioner Sciortino 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

Commissioner Norton       Aye
Commissioner Winters      Aye
Commissioner Burtnett     Aye
Commissioner Sciortino    Aye
Chairman Unruh said, “Next item.”

9. AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER FOR COMCARE TO PROVIDE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SERVICES.

Ms. Cook said, “Commissioners, this is a renewal of an agreement with Johnson County, who gets money from the state that they distribute throughout the state and it partially funds therapy and case management services to COMCARE clients who are deaf or hard of hearing. In 2004, COMCARE staff provided services to deaf and hard of hearing clients, 13 of them, throughout the year in 2004 and we did this with the use of interpreting services. Currently, there are four out-patient clients who are receiving medication management services with the aid of this sign language interpreting service and two of these also attend individual therapy, through the use of that service. Six of these clients has a more severe and persistent mental illness, on top of the deafness, and use interpreting services and part of this funding to be able to benefit from medication appointments or crisis appointments that may come up for them and one is also receiving support employment services, so that was a wonderful thing.

I do want to tell you that the Telecommunication Device for the Deaf, or the TDD, which we used to have, we still have in our centers, have virtually been replaced by voice-carry-over phone operators. These are people that will call and tell you that they’re from that service, and they are gradually eliminating all the TDD machines, because there have been a lot of mechanical difficulties with those, so this is working very smoothly for us. We recommend that you approve this agreement.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Is there a reason that this comes through Johnson County Mental Health Center?”

Ms. Cook said, “I’m not sure of the history, but I do know that there was an individual at Johnson County who was a Masters level clinician that came from a family of deaf parents and she started coordinating this service through the state and it just never changed. She has long since left Johnson County, but the funding stream continues to go through them.”

Chairman Unruh said, “And you don’t see any administrative difficulty with that? You’re happy with the fact that it comes through them and we don’t have to apply to get ourselves established.”

Ms. Cook said, “No, we have a conversation with them every year and say, ‘How’s it going’ and they look at how . . . what we’re providing and say if that’s adequate or not for the money.”
Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. Any other questions, Commissioners? What’s the will of the Board?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

**VOTE**

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Chairman Unruh said, “Next item.”

10. ADJUSTMENT TO THE COMCARE STAFFING TABLE TO EXCLUDE ONE LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN POSITION, BAND 115, AND INCLUDE ONE PSYCHIATRIC NURSE POSITION, B321.

Ms. Cook said, “This is a request to delete an LMHT, or a Licensed Mental Health Technician position that we’ve had at COMCARE for a while, which is band 115, and to upgrade the position to that of a psychiatric nurse, or band 321, and add that to our staffing table. The LMHT program that was provided by Vo Tech ended a number of years ago and there are fewer and fewer individuals in this community that have those credentials.

It was a 12-month training program specifically focused on people with mental illness, as opposed to a 9-month program for LPNs that was more generic and medical in nature, so it’s real hard to get these folks at this point. They were trained specifically in medication management, so what we are asking to do, in this case, is to upgrade the position to an RN position that we would like to place in our children’s program. We have gone from serving about 600 children with severe or serious emotional disturbances to nearly 1,000 in our children’s program and almost all of those children are on medications and this position will be used to call in prescriptions to the pharmacy, to address
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any questions about medications that the clients would have and would act like a nurse that you’d find in a doctor’s office.

To this point, Advanced Nurse Practitioners and our psychiatrists in our children’s program have been taking those calls and calling in those scripts and it’s just not good use of their time, and it should enable them then to schedule more appointments, without having to do those duties each day or stay very late trying to get those scripts called in. We are recommending that you approve this addition, or change, adjustment to our staffing table.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioners, are there any questions about this agenda item? What’s the will of the board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the adjustment to the COMCARE Staffing Table.

Commissioner Sciortino 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, Marilyn. Next item please.”

I. AMENDMENTS (THREE) TO THE 2005 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP).

1. INCREASE DESIGN PHASE, CIP# R-282, WIDENING OF RIDGE ROAD

2. INCLUDE CIP# B-373, REPLACEMENT OF A BRIDGE ON 55TH STREET SOUTH

3. INCLUDE CIP# R-310, REPAIR OF SINKHOLE ACTIVITY ON 135TH STREET WEST

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POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. Pete Giroux, Senior Management Analyst, Budget Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We have three requests to amend the Capital Improvement Program from Public Works. It’s sort of a mid-year set of adjustments.

The first of these is to increase the funding for the design phase of R-282, which is widening Ridge Road and the design consultant, Public Works determined that we needed to add a pump station. There is apparently standing water up there around on nearly a continuous basis. Here’s the original project. It widens Ridge Road to four-lane, constructs it to urban standards. This is the approximate location of the pump station and excess water will be moved to the Little Slough, which is to the west. The good news about all three of these CIP amendments is that they’re from existing resources within the 2005 CIP and in this case, these are savings from these two named projects.

The second project is one that some of you have seen earlier. This was originally in the 2003 CIP and we chose to . . . you chose to defer it, due to some funding issues and low traffic count. It’s just to the west of K-15 and now there’s some development happening in the area. There’s the location. These are pictures from early winter of 2003, and you can see what the condition of the bridge is. It’s an older bridge and the sufficiency rating is 19.9 on a scale of 100, so it’s clear at the top of the list on the considered replacement. It doesn’t look quite as bad from the top side and it’s posted, it’s got posted weight limits. Here are fund sources for this project. R-239, which is at the top of those refund sources, is a . . . the city is requesting that we move that into the 2006 budget, so that freed up money in this year for this construction and the other two were available funds within those projects, savings.

The final project is repair of what we’d comprise as a sinkhole type activity. It’s north of Clearwater and we’ve got a couple of pictures. If you look closely, you can see some dips in the road and they’re uneven and here you can see this car beginning to disappear behind the second dip and you can see that it tilts to the right, so it makes it fairly interesting. There’s a possibility of standing water in the area too, when there’s rain, so the right choice of course is to fix it. The cost is estimated at $275,000 and again we have funding available within the existing 2005 CIP from those sources. The staff and the CIP committee have reviewed all three projects in considerable detail and recommend approval. Do you have any questions?”
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Chairman Unruh said, “Yes we do, Pete. Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Pete, that one sinkhole thing, that road was level and then all of the sudden . . . that dip wasn’t designed into it?”

Mr. Giroux said, “That’s correct and Mr. Spears can probably speak in a little more detail than I can.”

Mr. David Spears, P.E., Director/County Engineer, Public Works Department, said, “I think we’ve been taking some survey records over. My recollection is it’s sunk six feet over the last 20 years.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Is that common in some of those county roads that we have?”

Mr. Spears said, “No, it’s uncommon but that is a location that continues to do that. There’s another up on 53rd Street and there’s one over on the turnpike, the turnpike has a problem, so there’s only three in the county that I’m aware of.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Okay. Well that’s pretty dangerous. I mean, that one . . . the asphalt isn’t all split up and everything? It just sort of expanded down, so it looks like a nice little roller coaster road. Yeah, it’s dangerous as heck. Okay, thanks.”

Mr. Giroux said, “So this would restore it to a constant level surface.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. I just wanted to follow up. David, what’s the intension of how you’re going to . . . what are you going to do at that sinkhole on the Clearwater Road?”

Mr. Spears said, “At this point, it’s . . . I don’t want to say temporary repairs, but it’s not a full scale project, because it wasn’t in the CIP and we had to find the money to do this. Basically, it’s a safety problem and we want to correct it. In a few years, we have a project to do that entire stretch of the Clearwater Road, 135th Street, and at that time we will do more, but we are going to have to buy a little bit of right-of-way because when you build this asphalt up, then you can’t just let it slide off the side. The slope would be too steep, so we’re going to have to buy a little bit of right-of-way now and bring down the slope gently.”
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Commissioner Winters said, “So this will solve the safety problems temporarily, but then we’ll have to decide if we’re going to bridge over it or some other major project, when we do that entire road.”

Mr. Spears said, “That’s right.”

Commissioner Winters said, “All right. Well, I’ve been working with David on this problem for several months, so I certainly would appreciate Commissioners’ support in this realignment of some CIP funds, but David, in anticipation that we will approve this, would you please send a letter to the city manager at Clearwater, because I know he has some council members who are concerned about this and that will let him report to his city council there at Clearwater what our intentions are and then you might also include what our plans are for 135th long-term are.”

Mr. Spears said, “Yes, sir. We’ll certainly do that.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, any other questions?”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the CIP amendments.

Commissioner Sciortino 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, Pete. Next item please.”

J. PUBLIC WORKS.

1. AGREEMENT WITH CERTIFIED ENGINEERING DESIGN, P.A., FOR DESIGN OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS FOR GREEN ACRES (UNPLATTED). DISTRICT #5.

Mr. Jim Weber, P.E., Deputy Director, Public Works Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “On Item J-1, we’re requesting your approval of an agreement with Certified Engineering Design, for engineering design services and construction staking on the Green Acres street project. You might recall, that’s an un-platted subdivision that’s located off of Greenwich Road, between 79th and 87th Street South. The cost of this work will not exceed $20,655. All costs of the project will be paid by the benefited properties through special assessments and we request your approval of the recommended action.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right thank you, Jim. Commissioner Sciortino, I think this is in your district.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Burtnett seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton  Aye
Regular Meeting, July 13, 2005

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Jim. Next item.”

2. AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF WICHITA FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 13TH STREET NORTH BETWEEN AZURE LANE AND 135TH STREET WEST. DISTRICT #3.

Mr. Spears said, “We are requesting your approval of an agreement with the City of Wichita for construction of 13th Street North, between Azure Lane, which is west of the Cowskin Creek and 135th Street West. This project was included in the 2005 CIP. However, the City has adjusted their schedule and requested that we participate in the project in 2006.

The 2006 through 2010 CIP has been adjusted to reflect this schedule change and under this agreement, Sedgwick County will make a $300,000 cash contribution to the project, which will then be administered by the City of Wichita. We recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. And I might mention that this is similar to the type of partnership we had with the City on Hydraulic, down on the south end.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. There is a question David. Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “And I just wanted to share with some of the commissioners, especially those of you who weren’t here when we originally talked about this project and this has been budgeted . . . it was budgeted for this year, so we’ve know and it’s been in our CIP for some time and in fact it was an agreement that was kind of hammered out between then councilmen Greg Farris and myself, Steve Lackey and David Spears, back in the mid-90s, about how we were going to solve this rather tricky problem at the Cowskin Creek and 13th Street and we agreed to participate with them in solving this problem.

So even though this looks like it’s something brand new, this is something that we had anticipated and that has in fact been in past CIPs.”

MOTION
Regular Meeting, July 13, 2005

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

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Next item.”


Mr. Spears said, “We are requesting your approval of a supplemental agreement with Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade and Douglas for the design of Ridge Road, from K-96 to 53rd Street North. During design of the project, it was determined that a rural-type road could not be properly drained and that the project would need to utilize a storm sewer and storm water pumping station. The supplemental agreement will modify the scope of the contract and increase the amount of the design contract by $216,000. Funding for this increase was provided by your approval of the CIP amendment that Pete just presented in I-1. We recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right. So this basically completes the action of the modification that we approved a little while ago.”

Mr. Spears said, “Yes sir.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay. Any comment or questions, Commissioners?”
MOTION

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

Commissioner Sciortino seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, David. Please call the next item.”


Mr. Jerry Phipps, Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “You have the Minutes of the July 7th meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts and there are four items for your consideration.

1) OFFICE SUPPLIES- VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS
FUNDING: VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

Item one is office supplies for various county departments. It was moved to accept the low proposal from Corporate Express and establish contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

2) CHANGE ORDER FOR RADIO SHOP RELOCATION- FACILITY PROJECT SERVICES
FUNDING: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Item two, a change order for the radio shop relocation for Facility Project Services. It was recommended to accept the change order of C. Smith and Company for $2,413.

3) ON-CALL ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY SERVICES- CODE
Regular Meeting, July 13, 2005

ENFORCEMENT
FUNDING: CODE ENFORCEMENT

Item three, on-call environmental laboratory services for Code Enforcement. It was moved to accept the proposal of SDK Laboratories and establish contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

4) PUBLIC SAFETY AVL INFRASTRUCTURE- EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS FUNDING: 911 EQUIPMENT RESERVE

Item four, public safety AVL infrastructure for Emergency Communications. It was moved to accept the quote from Dataradio Corporation for $270,564.46.

I’d be happy to take questions and recommend approval of the Minutes of the Board of Bids and Contracts.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, are there any questions for Jerry? Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Just a little more explanation on Item #4. That’s over a quarter of a million dollars, that’s a big expenditure and I know it’s an upgrade, it’s a sole source, but I think we just need a little more public dialogue about that because that is a very big expenditure and it ties in with the new 9-1-1 center that we’re building and how that all integrates together.”

Mr. Phipps said, “And Mr. Koehler is here who has been in that project can address this.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I think we need just a little more explanation, because that is a lot of money.”

Mr. Kent Koehler, Project Manager, IT Developer, Division of Information and Operations, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is the first piece actually. The approval . . . we came before you a few weeks ago to talk about Intelligent Transportation. This is the first piece that we’re actually buying for that project. This is to upgrade the current mobile data infrastructure. It will allow us to both track the units and increase the speed and capabilities of the system and this is something we’ll do now.

This is the first piece to order and it takes eight to twelve weeks for it to be on-line. That’s why we want to get this piece going and this is part of the joint project with the City, the County and KDOT and Federal Highway.”
Commissioner Norton said, “What vehicles will be rigged with this capability?”

Mr. Koehler said, “There are either 400 or 401 vehicles for the county vehicles and it is county Fire, EMS, Sheriff and for City of Wichita it’s Wichita Police and Wichita Fire.”

Commissioner Norton said, “And explain exactly what this will . . . what capability this will give us.”

Mr. Koehler said, “It will give us a couple of different things. Currently, most of the vehicles out there, other than law enforcement, do not have mobile data terminals or computers in their vehicles. For them to communicate with a dispatcher is done with a voice radio system. This will give them the capability to get their information about a call on a computer in the vehicle. It will also allow the dispatchers and other folks to see where they’re at in any given time and see where they’re headed, their speed. Also then, another piece that will come to you later is an upgrade to the current computer-aided dispatch system that will allow them to take this current information and determine who is actually closest, not based on where we think they are, but where we know they are.”

Commissioner Norton said, “So this will integrate GPS mapping and all of that technology together to make a seamless system of where all the emergency vehicles are and who can be the best first responder.”

Mr. Koehler said, “Exactly. Not just maybe whose agency or whose jurisdiction, but who is actually closer, especially for EMS, who is always on the move and the fire folks too. But the EMS ambulances are always on the move and so if we know really who is closest, we can get the care to them there the quickest.”

Commissioner Norton said, “This also will give us advanced computer capabilities in the vehicles. Is that correct?”

Mr. Koehler said, “That is correct. The plan currently is all the vehicles will have laptops that do not have computers now and they can use these for other uses, but their primary use is indeed for the computer-aided dispatch access, but they’ll be able to store things, such as for fire pre-plans and information such as that, about locations, things that are now in books will be on a computer screen right there in front of them.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Certainly, information they may need at the scene of a crime, at the scene of a fire, at the scene of an emergency situation could be downloaded and sent to them if they
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Mr. Koehler said, “Exactly, seeing safety information or something that the dispatcher now can put into the system, they’ll be able to see what information a dispatcher sees, not relying on a voice radio system. It will reduce . . . it can reduce and probably will reduce the amount of radio traffic. It will just make it more clear, you may make a mistake when you say it over the radio, but you don’t when you enter it into the computer.”

Commissioner Norton said, “If you have some kind of a disaster, like a tornado, and they needed to download some plans for the water lines and sewer and all that kind of stuff, that can be downloaded and sent to scenes where the capability is there?”

Mr. Koehler said, “There’s some of that capability. I mean, it would have the laptops. We don’t want to overload this infrastructure, but yes, that capability does exist.”

Commissioner Norton said, “And finally, as this infrastructure gets built, what is the capacity to serve not only just our county, but the region? You know, as we start to talk about collaborations and partnerships and making government work better, it seems to me that this infrastructure, built in, has the capability of serving a larger community, because of technology.”

Mr. Koehler said, “Right. Even currently, on the mobile data system as it stands today, it’s operating at about 20% capacity and granted, we’re adding a lot of users to it, but the users will include everyone throughout the county, even some of those that are not . . . you know, like Wichita State police has mobile data. There are some other people on the system and it’s going to be available to everyone and as we issue contracts, we’re making sure those contracts will include the ability for all those suburban agencies to buy at our pricing, because they just don’t have that advantage a lot of times.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay. How does this integrate with State Troopers, other entities like Butler County, I mean are there integrations there?”

Mr. Koehler said, “There are possibilities of integrating, for example Butler County would probably be an easier one, if that’s so desired in the future. This system does have very good coverage. We start stretching too far, then we’d have to add additional infrastructure, find tower space, but as it stands, it covers our county very well and then reaches outside of the county, around the borders.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Thanks. That’s all I had, Mr. Chairman.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Commissioner Winters.”
Regular Meeting, July 13, 2005

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. Just a couple of quick questions. Kent, good explanation there to Commissioner Norton’s request. Glad he called you up. I would certainly, knowing really not a whole lot about it, but it would encourage us to explore the highway patrol particularly, those troopers that are stationed in Sedgwick County, somehow maybe we need to get some of their vehicles tagged up with this deal.

The second thing, and I think I’ve already asked this question when you were here before, but we are going to go ahead and implement all of this in our current 9-1-1 center, not waiting for the new facility down the street, but this is going to be something that happens in our current center?”

Mr. Koehler said, “That is correct. We will add some other capabilities with the CAD system that we don’t want to add yet, just because it’s a not necessary expense or complication, but yes we plan to do this. Once we get final approval that we can spend money, we will get purchase orders issued and go get things moving.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay, very good. Well I think the Commissioners would probably like to see a demonstration on how this works, once we get her up and running.”

Mr. Koehler said, “I’d love to be there to get it up and running. I spent too much time on this, been waiting a long time.”

Commissioner Winters said, “All right, well you did a great job explaining it, off the cuff. Thank you, Kent.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Just one more comment and I think it’s important to note that as we work on intelligent transportation systems and that gets integrated in our county and in the city and it controls not only traffic through crisis but traffic at rush hours and traffic for emergency vehicles, this will give us capability, long-term, to control stop lights, to moving a vehicle through the system much faster and know exactly where they’re at and how fast they’re going, so huge capabilities, as we grow this technology. Is that not correct?”

Mr. Koehler said, “That is correct. It’s going to be exciting, as technology has changed and made it easier for us to do some of these things. It’s kind of an exciting field. I never thought I’d say that about transportation and technology, but it’s actually pretty exciting seeing . . . it kind of shows you what kind of life I have, I guess, but it is exciting seeing what technology can do for us.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, very good. We appreciate the explanation. Thank you. Commissioners, any other questions about the Board of Bids and Contracts.”
Commissioner Norton said, “I had none. I just wanted to be sure that we had a little more dialogue about $200,000 being spent. I don’t know that the general public really understands the capability of that system, as far as public safety and all that.”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Burtnett 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, “Next item please.”

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**L. CONSENT AGENDA.**

1. **Right-of-Way Easements.**

   a. Easement for Right-of-Way for Sedgwick County Project 634-32, 33, 34, 35, 36; widening of 63rd Street South between Rock Road and the Butler County line. CIP# R-275. District #5.

   b. Easement for Right-of-Way for Sedgwick County Project 616-3 through 36; widening of 13th Street North between K-96 and 159th Street East. CIP# R-253. District #1.
Regular Meeting, July 13, 2005

2. Order dated July 6, 2005 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.

3. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of July 6 – July 12, 2005.

4. Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Contracts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract Number</th>
<th>Rent</th>
<th>Subsidy</th>
<th>District Number</th>
<th>Landlord</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V05029</td>
<td>$358.00</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Hearth Hollow Apartments</td>
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<tr>
<td>V05035</td>
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<td>Bridgewater Apartments</td>
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<tr>
<td>V05039</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Jannifer and Monte Helms</td>
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<tr>
<td>V05040</td>
<td>$195.00</td>
<td>Butler</td>
<td>Brookside Cottages</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Mary Porter</td>
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<tr>
<td>V05042</td>
<td>$248.00</td>
<td>Butler</td>
<td>Savannah Park Apartments</td>
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</table>

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

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<tr>
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<th>New Amount</th>
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<tr>
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</table>
Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, you have the consent agenda before you and I’d recommend you approve it.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino 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 Norton  Aye  
Commissioner Winters  Aye  
Commissioner Burtnett  Aye  
Commissioner Sciortino  Aye  
Chairman Unruh  Aye
Regular Meeting, July 13, 2005

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, I think we need to have an Executive Session, but are there ‘Other’ items that you’d want to speak about at this time, before we recess?”

M. OTHER

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Well yes, there is one.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioner Sciortino.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I want everybody to come out and if you’re ailing or anything wrong with you, come to Cowtown this weekend and we’ll have a snake oil salesman that will sell you exactly what you need for whatever ails you. That’s all I have.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Very good. All right. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I did want to let the commission know that I made it out to the county fair last Thursday night and walked the fairgrounds at the invitation of the mayor and John Meese out there, and Susan and I had a great time and it was a wonderful evening and I kind of represented the county.

I also was invited to come out to the new Cherry Oaks Golf Course. They’re opening the back nine. I’m sure they’d like a little free advertisement, as Cheney opens their back nine, so they had nine holes, now they’ve got 18 and they have taken it over as a city public entity, so it is their public golf course and they’ve done a pretty nice job with it. I’m sure Mayor Tatge would like to promote it as much as he could, as it starts to open up.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “You going to be there tomorrow?”

Commissioner Norton said, “I haven’t decided whether I’m going to go out, but I really . . . you know, I’ve been out to that course when it was nine holes and they’re pretty proud. Cheney is pretty proud that they’ve, number one, taken it over as a public courses, but improved it to 18-holes.”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “I’m going to be out there. I think I know one other person that, should you want to put together a team, might be willing to be a member of your team.”
Regular Meeting, July 13, 2005

Commissioner Burtnett said, “He takes my place.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Is he a transportation guy?”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “He is great on roads and bridges, roughs, sand. He does all that.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Would he say something like ‘Golf is the mother’s milk of entertainment’?”

Commissioner Sciortino said, “Yes, he might say that.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, well thank you, Commissioners. I just want to mention that . . . mention that Lieutenant Greg Etter and Sheriff Gary Steed and the fact that they were published in the American Jails magazine as having an outstanding training for our detention deputies. It was . . . the verbage that was used is they had extensive and progressive training, so I just want to compliment the Sheriff and Lieutenant Etter for the job they’re doing at the Sedgwick County Jail.

With that, we’re ready for a motion to recess to executive session.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Sciortino moved to recess into Executive Session for 20 minutes to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney client relationship relating to pending claims and litigation and legal advice and further that the Board of County Commissioners return to this room from executive session no sooner than 11:55 a.m.

Commissioner Burtnett 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 said, “Thank you. We will be recessed.”

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into executive session at 11:35 a.m. and returned at 12:00 p.m.
Chairman Unruh said, “The only item of business left is we need a report from Mr. Euson.”

Mr. Euson said, “Yes Commissioners, while in Executive Session, we discussed several wage payments, overtime payments involving current and former COMCARE case managers and RNs and there are 17 of those cases involving overtime, totally the amount of $44,899.83 that we would recommend that you approve for payment through a settlement with the Department of Labor, so I would recommend that for your approval.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioners, are there any questions? Seeing none, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the settlement as presented by counsel.
Commissioner Norton 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, Mr. Euson. Is there any other business? Mr. Manager? Okay, seeing none, we are adjourned.”

N. ADJOURNMENT
Regular Meeting, July 13, 2005

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

_____________________________
DAVID M. UNRUH, Chairman,
First District

_____________________________
BEN SCIORTINO, Chair Pro Tem
Fifth District

_____________________________
TOM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

_____________________________
THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

_____________________________
LUCY BURTNETT, Commissioner
Fourth District

ATTEST:

_________________________
Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_________________________, 2005