

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

REGULAR MEETING

August 9, 2006

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 12:07 p.m. on Wednesday, August 9, 2006 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Ben Sciortino; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Lucy Burtnett; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor and Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, July 12, 2006

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of July 12, 2006.

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 12, 2006.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item please."

PUBLIC HEARING

A. 2007 SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1 BUDGET.

**1. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE RECOMMENDED 2007
SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1 BUDGET.**

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioners, it's time to open the public hearing on the Fire District budget. It is a budget of \$15,975,000, a tax levy at 18 mills, 18.556 mills, the same as it was last year."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. At this time, I will ask if there's anyone in the audience that would like to address us concerning the budget for 2007 with regards to Fire District #1? Seeing none, I'll close the public hearing and reserve comments to the bench. Commissioners, do you have any comments that you'd like to make on the Fire District? And if there are none, what is your will? Excuse me, Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Just a question. This represents no mill levy increase?"

Mr. Buchanan said, " said, "That is correct."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioner Winters, I believe, is next."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. I, just for the record, wanted to make note this is not a mill levy increase but one of the activities that the fire department was engaged in, for almost over a year, was obtaining new classification for much of the county that is served by the Fire District. I don't know the exact number on homes, but it was all those homes that were within a five-mile radius of a fire station received a significant reduction in the classification of their homes. Many people in the fire district experiencing \$500 and over savings in their homeowner's insurance by action of increasing some equipment and water-carrying capacity so I certainly want to commend the fire department and their staff.

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And again, we spent a little money to buy some additional water trucks that if you remember, I wasn't too excited about, but once that was put in place, we've got hundreds of homes now experiencing a significant reduction in their homeowner's insurance policies. So, I think we're doing good work here. Thank you."

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

Commissioner Norton said, "Really, to dovetail into what Commissioner Winters says and Bob Lamkey can probably speak more to this but Haysville has now been reclassified, the whole city, to a class 2 city, one of only 4 or 5 in the state and one of only two or three hundred in the whole nation that have that classification. Most municipalities are anywhere from a 4 to a 7 and a 2 is almost unheard of and that's going to make a huge difference in the commercial rates particularly, but the residential insurance rates in the whole city of Haysville and that's because of some of the adjustments, some of the equipment and this new ISO study that was done to reevaluate all that.

So, you know, there's a lot of ways to save taxpayers' money and sometimes good public policy does it in a backdoor manner and this is one of them. I mean, the whole city of Haysville is going to benefit from that class 2 rating. And I'm pretty proud because there's only I think four or five in the whole state that qualify that way and one of them is right here in Sedgwick County and I'm hoping with some of the adjustments and changes we're doing in our fire district, that maybe some more of the small municipalities will bear that same fruit. That's all I've got."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And also, just to pick up on that a little bit, there was I believe 2,100 homes around the Derby area that also had dramatic improvements in their fire district ratings and most of them are seeing somewhere upwards to \$300 to \$400 reduction in their fire insurance, which goes a lot way to offset the \$24 a year or \$29 a year that their property taxes are going to be going up. So I think the Fire District has done a tremendous job and I'm very supportive of them.

Okay commissioners, I guess it's now our determination what we want to do on this item."

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2. ADOPTION OF THE 2007 SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1 BUDGET.

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the 2007 Sedgwick County Fire District #1 Budget of \$15,975,275. The Budget includes a certified legal budget of \$15,941,584 with a \$12,055,112 property tax levy, which is approximately equivalent to 18.556 mills, subject to review and technical adjustments.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioners, thank you very much. Thank you for your diligence, thank you for your questions, thank you for your ideas. You have made us better. You have made us sharpen our pencils. Thank you for your leadership."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you, sir. Commissioners, it's up to you now. It is noon. If you would like, we could recess for a lunch, or if you'd like to continue on to see if we could finish."

Commissioner Winters said, "Did you close the fire district meeting?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "I guess I didn't. Is there anything else to come before the Fire District? I don't see that there's any, so I'll close the meeting of the Fire District."

B. OTHER

C. ADJOURNMENT TO ITEM C OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

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

BEN SCIORTINO, Chairman
Fifth District

LUCY BURTNETT, Chair Pro Tem
Fourth District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner,
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2006