

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

March 22, 2006

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, March 22, 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; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Ms. Peggy Baker, TB Program Manager, Health Department; Mr. Renfeng Ma, Director, ERP; Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Division of Finance; Ms. Annette Graham, Executive Director, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging; Ms. Marilyn Cook, LSCSW, Executive Director, COMCARE; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Angela Duntz, Communications Coordinator, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Pastor Mark Smith, St. Paul AME Church.

Ms. Mildred Edwards, Project Director, Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Wichita.

Mr. Danny Walters, Executive Director, Regional Prevention Center.

Mr. Josh Ewy, Boy Scout, Troop #614.

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, March 1, 2006
Special Meeting, March 9, 2006

The Clerk reported that Commissioner Winters was absent at the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2006 and all Commissioners were present at the Special Meeting of March 9, 2006.

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Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Commissioners, let’s take the first one. You’ve had a chance to read the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1st, 2006. What’s the will of the Board please?”

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1st, 2006.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. And now commissioners, we’ll deal with the Minutes of the Special Meeting on March 9th. I think you’ve also seen those. So what’s the will of the Board on the Special Meeting of March 9th, 2006?”

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 9th, 2006.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

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VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Next item please, Madam Clerk."

PROCLAMATIONS

A. PROCLAMATIONS.

- 1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 21 - 26, 2006 AS "BLACK CHURCH WEEK OF PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF AIDS."**

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Commissioners, I'll read into record a proclamation. It says:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, of the estimated 40,000 new HIV infections each year, more than 50 percent occur among African Americans; and

WHEREAS, AIDS is the number one cause of death for African American adults aged 25-44, before heart disease, cancer and homicide; and

WHEREAS, sixty-two percent of children born to HIV-infected mothers were African American; and

WHEREAS, the role of religious institutions is crucial in educating communities about HIV/ AIDS and is vital to heal hearts and minds of silence, denial, and the stigma that interferes with prevention, treatment and testing in Black communities; and

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WHEREAS, the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is modeled after the groundbreaking Harlem Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS, established in 1989 by Pernessa C. Seele, and is supported by over 65 AIDS service organizations and health departments across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is a week of education and AIDS awareness that spotlights the role that churches are playing in addressing the AIDS crisis; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 21-26, 2006 as

‘Black Church Week of Prayer for the Health of AIDS’

and encourage all citizens to participate in the education and awareness of HIV/ AIDS.

That’s the proclamation, Commissioners. What is your will?”

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. I believe Pastor Mark Smith is here to accept the proclamation.”

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Pastor Mark Smith, St. Paul AME Church, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Go, Shockers. I have to say, I’m from Iowa, so I’m a Hawkeye fan, but you have the same colors, appreciate that. We accept this proclamation from the County Commissioners and I would just like to state that we do have a lot of events that are going on this week and if you would just give me 30 seconds and then I’ll be through.

But we have a prayer vigil which is going to be held on March 23rd at New Hope Baptist Church, at 7 p.m. We have a pastor’s breakfast, which will be held on March the 25th at the All Occasions Event Center. Then we’re having a musical that will be held at the church at which I’m pastor, at St. Paul AME Church, 1756 Piatt on Saturday at 6 p.m. and then we have the final program, which will be at Dellrose United Methodist Church, at 5 p.m. on March the 26th, so we’re looking forward for the entire community to come in and support us and we thank you again for this proclamation.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you, pastor. Pastor, could you go back a little bit to that breakfast thing. When is that breakfast and is there a fee and is anybody . . .?”

Pastor Smith said, “There is not a fee and it’s going to be at the All Occasions Center at 8 a.m. on March the 25th.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “And everyone is . . .”

Pastor Smith said, “Yes, everyone is welcome, yes sir.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay. Thank you very much.”

Pastor Smith said, “Go Shockers, again.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Clerk, call the next proclamation.”

2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 24, 2006 AS “SEDGWICK COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS AWARENESS DAY.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. I’ll read this proclamation into the record. It states:

PROCLAMATION

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WHEREAS, Sedgwick County is a growing part of the world community and joins the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and World Health Organization in calling attention to the global Tuberculosis (TB) problem through a World TB Day, held on the 100th anniversary of Robert Koch being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his discovery of the causal agent of Tuberculosis, and

WHEREAS, TB is one of the world's deadliest diseases and 2 billion people, one-third of the world's population, are infected with TB, and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County is proactively working to reduce the number of cases of TB through effective prevention and control efforts, and

WHEREAS, adequate treatment and management of TB is critical to assure the health of the public, and

WHEREAS, when incomplete treatment is not assured, multi-drug resistant TB can occur and such cases can then cost \$1.3 million per case to treat.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 24, 2006 as

'Sedgwick County Tuberculosis Awareness Day'

in Sedgwick County and encourage all citizens to educate themselves on how to prevent Tuberculosis.

That's the proclamation, commissioners. What is your will?"

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to adopt the Proclamation 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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Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “And I think to accept the award we have Claudia Blackburn.”

Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you, Commissioners. A couple of years ago, you supported the expansion of the TB program at Sedgwick County Health Department. We now have five staff who are devoted to taking care of 15 to 30 active TB cases and another 150 to 200 people who are infected with TB but are not contagious. All of these patients take medications at least twice a week for six to nine months.

The TB program, under the direction of Peggy Baker, is now running like a well-oiled machine. It is really one of our very best, well run programs. Staff not only assure proper treatment of their patients, but they also investigate to figure out how each person became infected with TB. Anyone who has a positive skin test got infected from somebody who is actively spreading the disease or who was actively spreading the disease at one time.

Last year, the TB program admitted a teenager who was infected, but not contagious. While investigating the case, they found that the teen had an elderly grandparent who was dying of lung cancer. Well, digging further into the situation, they found old records on the grandparent indicating that many, many years before the grandparent had been infected with TB, had a positive TB skin test and never received treatment, and now, as an elderly person, this grandparent developed active Tuberculosis.

And so they were able to identify this and correctly diagnosis the person and you’ll be happy to know that with property treatment, the grandparent is doing very, very well and just celebrated an 87th birthday.

It doesn’t stop there though. There was a caretaker involved, a person who was taking care of the grandparent, and this person was also taking care of many other people in the community, and as it turns out, this person had active tuberculosis also, so the public health staff, through this thorough investigation process, was able to identify two active cases of tuberculosis and stop what could have been a significant outbreak.

So once again I want to thank you for your support of the TB program and in turn, for the protection that you’ve provided to the citizens of Sedgwick County. And I’m going to introduce Peggy Baker,

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the TB Program Manager, to tell you about upcoming events associated with World TB Day.”

Ms. Peggy Baker, TB Program Manager, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The annual World TB Day we celebrate every year. This year we have a conference tomorrow at K.U. Med Center and the title is ‘Old Concern, New Issue Regarding TB’. We have state representatives and CDC representatives there. Our own Mr. Parnacott is going to have the afternoon session on the legal issues, helping find people who do not want to participate in treatment and that’s a new law last year, which is very helpful, and also, Dr. Minns will talk on TB and HIV infections, which is our standard of care anymore. Anybody that comes into the program gets an HIV test.

These people have a chronic illness and can succumb to active disease very easily so it’s very important. Our program in 2002 had a nurse and an outreach person and a 6.6% case rate per 100,000 people in Sedgwick County. And although these two people did a marvelous job, there was no way to keep up, so we were reacting to what was happening in our community.

With Jerry Franz and Cindy Burbach and Sedgwick County, we’ve turned that around with the program now instead of a nurse and we have three nurses, a health educator, an outreach work and support staff for our data system.

Our case rate is down to 4.55 this year, Sedgwick County being a large, urban area, carries anywhere from 25 to 33% of the state cases. Last year, we were 35%. We have a lot of foreign students, we have a lot of foreign born people and being a large, urban area, that’s where we spend a lot of our time.

TB skin tests that are positive is reportable to the local health department or the state health department and we have to follow up on all of those to make sure that they are not diseased. We had over 7,000 encountered last year, 21 cases, we saw over 500 people with infection. Out of that, we have 200 people that have consented to be treated for their infection, especially those with diabetes or rheumatoid arthritis or HIV infections, who are at greater risk to progress to disease.

We started directly observed therapy on children under the age of five. We don’t know what their future holds, and we stay very busy. And we want to thank you for your support and we have a goal of one per 100,000 for Healthy People 2010 and hope we reach it.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Commissioner Norton, you have a comment or question.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, tuberculosis is one of those diseases that is kind of out of sight, out of mind. We believe, as a society, that it has been solved through immunization and quarantine and good medicine, but the truth is, around the world it is still a very powerful disease that hurts a

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lot of people and only by this kind of diligence, by health providers and health departments in the United States do we keep it under control and I think this is evidence that, you know, we continue to work on it and improve the numbers, but it's out there and it can proliferate if you don't have these kind of programs and I think we kind of get laissez faire about tuberculosis and many other chronic illnesses that are prevalent throughout the world, but because of our health departments and our due diligence in the United States, we stay after it all the time, and this is just another example of that."

Ms. Baker said, "We have a new blood test that is going to be up and coming for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis in the future. It will replace the skin test, which we get in TB. We get tuberculosis, but we get some atypical micro-bacterium also, but this blood test is specific for micro bacteria in tuberculosis. It will cut out a lot of busywork that we do. It's expensive now, but in the future . . . and we don't have a lab that does it in our community, but in the future it's going to be very cost effective in managing tuberculosis."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I think we've learned by the dialogue of the avian flu, that within 16 hours anywhere around the world, you can have it in your community and tuberculosis is no different. It's carried by human beings and we're a very mobile society, from the smallest third-world country to the largest super power and there are no boundaries for that."

Mr. Baker said, "This is an example of what . . . the medicines on the top are what you get every day for at least six months at least the first two months. Then we can cut it back, and a lot of people, you know, get 14, 16, 18 pills a day, according to their weigh and we are in their lives every day and you will either love us or hate us, but most of the times they come to love us.

This is what you take for prevention down here, one pill a day with a vitamin, and it makes a lot of difference and people say 'You know, I think I'll take prevention', so . . . to avoid this and have us in their lives every day."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, thank you very much, appreciate it. Clerk, call the next item please."

3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 25 TO APRIL 3, 2006 AS "BUILDING BRIDGES OF FRIENDSHIP THROUGH COWBOY MUSIC

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DAYS.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I’ll read this proclamation into the record. It states:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the People’s Republic of China has invited some of America’s most popular cowboys to perform what is believed to be the first Cowboy concert in China, and the first concert on the Great Wall of China; and

WHEREAS, the Prairie Rose Wranglers will represent Kansas and the history of the Great American Cowboy to the people of China through this Cowboy concert, in an effort to bring the people of America and China closer together; and

WHEREAS, the Cowboy story will be told through performances by the Prairie Rose Wranglers and students of the Independent School of Wichita, as part of a historical cultural exchange; and

WHEREAS, more than 200 Kansans will travel to China in support of the Cowboy concert, in order to help ‘build bridges of friendship’ with Chinese children across China, proudly sharing our Cowboy Western heritage.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Chairman Ben Sciortino, on behalf of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the period March 25 to April 3, 2006 as

‘Building Bridges of Friendship through Cowboy Music’

and proudly lift up our western cowboy heritage for others in the world to enjoy.

Commissioners, we’re going to let our own commissioner Lucy Burnett accept this proclamation, assuming that you think it’s okay, because then I guess she’s one of the 200 that’s going to make that short, 24-hour hop over to China, so what’s the will of the board on this proclamation.”

MOTION

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Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Chairman Sciortino seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Commissioner Burtnett said, “And I do have a few words, thank you very much. I will certainly be honored to present this proclamation to the Chinese delegations in both Shanghai and Beijing, when we go with the Prairie Rose Wranglers. Being a part of this historic event is just a real thrill for me. It’s just a chance of a lifetime and I will be honored to be doing this. I also plan to bring some of the county lapel pins and give some of those to some of the Chinese delegation and I’m certainly looking forward to the trip. So thank you for the proclamation.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “And I think it also should be noted and I think it’s very commendable that you’re paying for this out of your own pocket.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Well, my husband and I love to travel anyway, like I said, it was a chance of a lifetime, and we decided to do this.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Well, if he gets sick, I’ll be happy to stand in, since you’re paying for it.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Okay, I’ll be sure and let him know that.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “At this time, commissioners, we had a request for an Off Agenda proclamation and I’d like to know if that would be okay.”

MOTION

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Commissioner Winters moved to consider an Off Agenda item.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

OFF AGENDA ITEM

PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 28, 2006 AS ‘START TALKING BEFORE THEY START DRINKING DAY’.

Chairman Sciortino said, “We normally like to keep off agenda items to a minimum, but this one was very timely and I’d like to read this into the record. It states:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, surveys have shown that among drinkers, those who drank before the age of 13 are twice as likely to engage in risky behaviors, unplanned and/ or unprotected sex and driving after drinking; and

WHEREAS, 10.2% of Sedgwick County students under the age of 18 believe ‘it’s okay for kids my age to drink alcohol’; and

WHEREAS, 3.1% of Sedgwick County youth report their parents don’t think it’s wrong at all for kids their age to drink; and

WHEREAS, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Wichita is hosting an Underage Drinking Town Hall meeting in conjunction with over 200 cities throughout the United States in response to this national crisis; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Chairman Ben Sciortino, on behalf of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 28 as

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‘Start Talking before they Start Drinking Day’

in Sedgwick County, asking that all residents become involved in this initiative.

That’s the proclamation Commissioners. What’s your will?”

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to consider an Off Agenda item.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Angie, do we have someone to accept the proclamation?”

Ms. Mildred Edwards, Executive Director, Regional Prevention Center, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you for giving us an opportunity to speak with you about this initiative today. Myself and Danny Walters, the Executive Director at the Regional Prevention Center here in Wichita. I’m Mildred Edwards. I serve as the Project Director for the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Wichita. The Coalition has been around since June of 2004. We have been working diligently to form partnerships and relationships throughout the community, in an effort to reduce alcohol and substance abuse among youth and adolescents.

We do so by initiating programs such as this town hall meeting. As stated earlier, this is a national effort. March 28th is the date that has been chosen throughout our nation to talk about this issue and to get individuals, communities, citizens engaged in this process. We would hope on this date,

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through our community partners that are going to help us to, I guess, accomplish this goal. We have 107.9 radio, the Wichita State University Trio program, Upward Bound Math/ Science, and the Read and Seed program are all collaborating with us to accomplish this. We'll have speakers that will talk about brain development and adolescence, why the age 21 is pertinent, so we'll talk about some of the legalities associated with it and we'll talk about some of the prevalence and incidence rates as it pertains to our community.

The last thing I'll state that's important is that we measure how we are impacted by substance abuse and alcoholism in the youth in our community, by the Communities that Care survey. It is administered in USD 259 and our students respond to that survey data. Unfortunately, because of how that is administered, it's site-based administered and parents have to give approval for those students to participate in that survey instrument, we only have about six to nine percent of those students responding, so if we only have six to nine percent responding and 10% of those believe it's okay to drink, and 3% of that 10% believe that their parents do not care if they drink, this is certainly alarming and we need to address the issue. Not only do we need to get a better sample, but we need to make sure that we're talking with parents, giving them the skills necessary to address the issue in talking with their students. I'll ask Danny to come now, to talk a little bit about what we're doing on a statewide level, along with the other regional prevention centers."

Mr. Danny Walters, Director, Regional Prevention Center, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We are having approximately 25 other sites in Kansas, as Mildred already mentioned, there's about 200 across the United States that are meeting on this particular day to hold the town hall meeting concerning underage drinking. One of the things that Mildred did not mention and Chairman, you might be interested in this, we are offering a free meal in the evening."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I can't be bought, but I can be borrowed for a few hours."

Mr. Walters said, "Well, if you're anything like me, I listen for that as well. We are partnering with other agencies in the cities, and of course one is Wichita State, go WSU. We're meeting at the Metroplex on Tuesday afternoon.

She did mention brain science, that we're talking about an emerging science sort of titillate us a little bit on this, shows that our brain actually does not fully develop until the mid-20s and really, that's something that we need to consider when we're talking about underage drinking. The brain develops from the back, from the cerebellum, to the front, the prefrontal cortex. Interestingly enough, the prefrontal cortex is where the seat of judgment is, and that's where the development is. And we're saying that science is now saying that that does not actually fully mature until the mid-20s, but the children who are allowed to partake in substance abuse, or if they do it on their own, we need to educate them, is what we're saying basically. We need to educate the parents, also and we certainly solicit your support to the town hall meeting and solicit the support of everybody that's

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here, everybody that's listening, to the town hall meeting at WSU next Tuesday."

Ms. Edwards said, "And to wrap this up, it will be at the Wichita State University Metroplex, Tuesday, March the 28th, 3:30 to 7, from 3:30 to 4:30 we will be giving workshops, targeting the youth and adolescents in our community, so we'll have youth programs taking place at that time. Those programs will be facilitated by Generation Rap, and they are a youth video group that works with 107.9, so we appreciate their support. They will be working with the youth, and then from 5:30 to 7 we will have some programming for the parents, and we hope that all of the Wichita and Sedgwick County residents would like to come out and learn more about this issue and become involved in this process, or at least engaged. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Now, there's a couple of questions or comments here. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "No question, but I just want to say thank you for the work you're doing on this project. It does fit very well with our commitment to working with young people and trying to be on the front end, the preventive edge, instead of dealing with the back end. So I appreciate your work very much, as I'm sure we all do, but keep up the good work."

Ms. Edwards said, "Thank you."

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

Commissioner Norton said, "I don't know a lot about brain science, but I raised five kids, and I can tell you, they don't mature until they're 21 or 22. I don't know if it has to do with brains or something else.

You do excellent work and truthfully, we found out that, you know, alcoholism and early under-aged drinking leads to other drug problems. You know, that that's not good enough, so it leads to crack, meth, all other . . . the societal ills, so I think, you know, if we start early on those kind of drugs, smoking cessation, alcohol, that leads to cutting off some of those other maladies that we have in society and I tend to believe that throughout the nation, that's one of the most onerous problems we have is youth getting involved in some kind of substance abuse, and it's debilitating to society and the more that we can catch it early in children's lives, the better our community is going to be, so thank you very much."

Ms. Edwards said, "Thank you. Thank you commissioners, for your support."

Chairman Sciortino said, "You're not done yet. Commissioner Unruh."

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Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just want to agree with my fellow commissioners, that we're very appreciative of your efforts in this area. It is a serious social problem, and it seems like the information really is out there. I mean, this new brain science, information you're bringing is something I haven't been aware of but it just seems like people understand the facts, but you've got to keep telling them over and over again finally to change behavior, so it's not a matter of the intellect, it's a matter of the will it seems like and hopefully you'll be successful in that effort. Appreciate what you're doing."

Ms. Edwards said, "Thank you. Thank you for your support."

Chairman Sciortino said, "If someone is listening or someone is in the audience that's interested in maybe going, or wants some more information, what's a phone number that they could call?"

Ms. Edwards said, "They can contact myself, Mildred Edwards, or Danny Walters at the Regional Prevention Center. That number is 262-2421. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Great, good luck. Commissioners, this is the time that we usually allow for public inquiry and as you know, and maybe the public, just to educate them again, any time that you're interested in addressing the board of county commissioners, the normal procedure is 10 days before a meeting that you wish to address us, send your request in writing or call the manager's office at 268-9393 [sic] and we'll try to get you on, but we have had a request for an off agenda request that we'd like to from the Mayor of Park City and we'd like to accommodate her, if it be her will. So are you comfortable with having an off agenda request for a public hearing?"

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to consider an off agenda item.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye

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Commissioner Burtnett	Aye
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Mayor, if you’d like to know come up and address us. You have five minutes and if, for the record, you’d give us your name and address.”

OFF AGENDA ITEM

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING GAMING IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.

Ms. Dee Stuart, Mayor, City of Park City, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I appreciate your forbearance, particularly when you always know what I’m up here for. I would like to say that my brother is . . .”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Would it be a sure bet if we guessed, or would it be a gamble.”

Ms. Stuart said, “I don’t gamble myself. I can’t say that. Once in a great while. I have to tell you that my brother is at least as excited as Commissioner Burtnett to go to China. He’s been talking about singing on the Great Wall for a year now, and I think of all the things that he’s done in his life, that’s the most exciting to him, just the thought of the Great Wall. Did you know, you can see the Great Wall from the moon? I just think that’s very interesting.

I’ve urged you more than once, as a body, to allow a vote on expanded gaming. The governor’s bill was defeated this month, and the legislature still must find funding for schools. There are several bills floating around the capitol right now and one or more of them will probably be introduced this week or next week. In this session, or in an extended summer session, we believe that they’re going to have to make some kind of a decision on expanded gaming.

I would respectfully remind you of your pledge to let the people vote. The legislators who signed the letter to you, last summer, voiced certainty that we would be able to vote after the bill was passed. Guess what, there was almost nothing for south central Kansas in the bill, in the last bill that was defeated last week. There was nothing for south central Kansas, except slot machines at a failing dog track. And I have nothing against the dog track, I have nothing against slots at the dog track. I have a problem when that’s the only form of expanded gaming that we’re to be allowed.

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There was overwhelming testimony before the senate committee that the dog track race is a dying industry in the United States and in Kansas. I put it out to the committee that the plan Phil Ruffin proposed for the Wichita Greyhound Track was nothing more or less than a mini destination casino, a poor substitute for the real thing.

The true issue is allowing a democratic participation in this decision making process. If you think about it this way, the voters were grown up enough to make the decision to tax themselves to build a new arena. Shouldn't they be allowed, to make the decision to allow the possibility of tax relief that would come from the \$300,000,000 in economic development and we talk about \$300,000,000 as just the cost of a destination casino. That doesn't take into account the expanded economic development that would occur around such a facility. It would bring jobs and tax dollars to the county, along with the funding to deal with the societal problems that were already here.

I have to think that the residents of Sedgwick County would rather pay for the expanded jail with casino money, than with their own property taxes and that's just one of the many problems that I know faces you. So I thank you and hope that you will consider allowing an early vote on expanded gaming."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, and by that you mean a non-binding official poll, that has no binding action on the legislators. Is that what you're asking for?"

Ms. Stuart said, "It has no binding action on the legislators. What it does is open the door for allowing Sedgwick County to have expanded gaming, in some other form. You know, we would have had to vote to allow slots in the dog track, and I myself am not at all certain that would pass."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And that would be binding. If they voted for it, they would get the slots. If they voted against it, they wouldn't get the slots. But what you're asking us for is to spend \$165,000 of taxpayers' money, that's what it would cost for a mail-in ballot. We've already researched it, and it would be having no effect on the legislators, they're not required to adhere to whatever that poll would be. And I would remind you that Wyandotte County did that 10 years ago, and they still haven't got it. It just got defeated in the senate. Harvey County and Sumner County have spent taxpayers' money and the legislators said, 'We don't care' and I don't think

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that's a prudent spending of taxpayers' dollars, but if you'd like to do it, why don't you do it in Park City? You can do it without us. Let's find out if the citizens of Park City would be willing to have you spend that much money on a non-binding vote."

Ms. Stuart said, "Chairman, I truly, with all due respect, maintain that the people of Park City have voted. In our last election, there were five candidates that were pro-casino, four candidates for city council and one mayoral, and the only one of those five that lost was a gentleman who did not campaign. So, in my mind, the people of Park City have spoken, or I would keep on fighting this battle, because I'm tired."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well, the way that you can find out is legitimately have a vote. Okay, now I can say that there's been a kazillion polls that indicate that the majority of Sedgwick County citizens favor a casino and say, 'why bother with the vote, they all favor it'. We sent out a proclamation and I'm going to read this proclamation to you, to let you know where the board of county commissioners stood on this. It said: 'In the event the state approves expanded gambling in any form, such as but not limited to casinos, Sedgwick County citizens deserve and should be afforded the opportunity to vote on whether said expanded gambling is appropriate for Sedgwick County. The Board of County Commissioners strongly supports the citizens to vote in a binding election on the question of whether or not expanded gambling should be allowed in Sedgwick County'. Now that's a pretty strong statement. That was voted, that was approved by this board and every legislator got that.

Now I don't think, and I have the responsibility of taxing the citizens for Sedgwick County on Sedgwick County business and I don't think it's a prudent use of \$165,000 of taxpayers' money, in a non-binding referendum that our legislators in the past has said, 'We don't care about non-binding referendums, we're not obligated to follow what the will of the people is'. Harvey County tried it, Sumner County tried it, Wyandotte County tried it ten years ago. If you want to do it in Park City, do it. If you think that just because who got elected, that's the overwhelming will of the people, and they should be deserved a non-binding vote, don't vote for it, but don't be telling us to spend \$165,000 of taxpayers' money on something that the legislators in the past have said 'We don't care'. I don't think that's a prudent use of taxpayers' dollars."

Ms. Stuart said, "Chairman, with all due respect, the governor has said, the legislative leaders have said that no governmental entity that has not done a referendum vote would be allowed to have a destination casino."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, and let me tell you something on that. We've heard that from the governor's office and we've said, 'If that's the truth, send us a letter saying that, and we'll hold the vote' and we got silence. We never got anything officially, from the governor's office. We asked for that letter. Had we gotten that letter, we would have held the vote."

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Ms. Stuart said, "Would you still?"

Chairman Sciortino said, "If I get a letter from the governor that says the only way the legislature will ever consider a vote of Sedgwick County citizens is that they have to have a non-binding referendum, and you have to spend the money, I am only one commissioner, but I would support it."

Ms. Stuart said, "Thank you. Thank you, Commissioners."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Any other comments on this item? Okay. Commissioners, what I have to do now is leave. There is . . . the U.S. House Committee on Transportation is holding a subcommittee meeting up at WSU on Aviation. Todd Tiahrt is going to be there and I believe Jack Pelton from Cessna, James Schuster and Jerry Moran is going to be there, Jeff Turner, and I want to be there too, because they're going to be talking about the Jabara complex thing, and I want to be present, so I'm going to have to dump on you and ask you to finish the meeting."

Commissioner Burtnett said, "Okay."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Great, thank you very much. And I'll be back for the workshop and 1:30."

Chairman Sciortino left the meeting room at 9:45 a.m.

Commissioner Winters said, "Madam Chairman, before we get started, could I make one quick comment? I see that there is a Boy Scout out in our audience today, and sometimes they're not able to stay for the whole meeting. I hope he is, but I just wondered if our scout visitor would stand and tell us his name and what troop he's with and if he's working on a merit badge."

Mr. Josh Ewy, Boy Scout, Troop #614, "I'm working on a merit badge, Community . . . Citizenship in the Community."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, thank you very much, Madam Chairman. Just wanted to recognize him and is that . . . whose that person with you there, that brought you to the courthouse this morning."

Mr. Ewy said, "My father and our scoutmaster."

Commissioner Winters said, "All right, very good."

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Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Well, thank you for noticing that. Madam Clerk, would you please call the next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

B. PRESENTATION REGARDING THE 2007 BUDGET PROCESS.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I thought we’d spend a little bit of time this morning talking about the budget process. We had begun in earnest, this process, and we’ve asked department heads, elected officials, division directors, and the people that make this organization go to think about the budget process a little differently than we have in the past, and I wanted to make sure we took the opportunity for you to understand where we are and where we’ve been and where we’re headed. We’ve proven our ability to respond to needs and change, and this budget is about needs and change. We had a financial reality that occurred September the 11th that caused this community great concern over the aviation industry and the aviation industry drives this economy and we all know what happened, 15,000 people were out of work for a while, which caused all sorts of economic distress for this organization. Not only did the revenues drop, but the needs for social services increased, and so it was, as Commissioner Norton has referred to sometimes, a perfect storm.

We’ve addressed it by investing in Enterprise Resource Planning, which gives us the administrative tools, management tools to address some of these issues. We, with your assistance, began a program to fix and rehabilitate the Kansas Coliseum but because of the changing needs of the community, we changed our minds and produced a plan that would build a downtown and that’s what we’re proceeding on as we are today.

We’ve responded in a matter of hours and days to the Hurricane Katrina response, with the assistance of the City of Wichita, that was ready to go and pretty awesome to see and as we’ve heard early, we have the pan flu preparedness in. Well, you’ll be hearing more about that, and as that continues to change, we’ll continue to address issues in this community.

Our mission and goals, I would remind us, is quality public services to provide for the well being of the present and future of this community, present and future well being of citizens of this community. We have a partnership, an attitude about partnerships for delivery of service, which

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means we'll be glad to enter partnerships and have others do our work for us, if it makes sense. We recognize employees and we try to continue to do that, for their quality work and we're moving into a pay for performance for all employees, so we walk our talk in that area.

We try to build trust with you and the citizens, so that you can make informed decisions, and citizens can also make informed decisions and the last is that basic and essential services that meet the changing needs, and we continue to discuss what are basic and essential services. In the past they've been defined as public safety and you can read those: EMS, Fire, Jail Management, Sheriff, Forensic Science Center, Corrections, human and health; these are for people less fortunate than you and I, those with mental illness, those who have developed mental disabilities and aging and health issues. Public Works, the mother's milk of economic development; that really develops our infrastructure, that allows development to occur. Culture and recreation and entertainment, people would say the quality of life issues and our partners and groups that we support there. Core services, also through community development. Some of our basic services to citizens, Code Enforcement, Animal Control, Housing, Extension, Planning. In general government, the things that we're required to do, absolutely mandatory, appraiser, clerk, election commissioner, county commission, district attorney. And then the backroom operations, if you will, the support that makes the delivery of services to citizens possible, purchasing, and technology, budgeting and accounting, risk management, those sorts of things.

We've been living within our means and we've been trying to adjust to the financial realities created in 9/11 and 2001. It was a stagnant economy in 2002. We eliminated, in the middle of that year, just a little bit of operating cost, a million dollars. And the 2003, we had some real issues in that budget. This is all during 2002, this is the 2003 fiscal year. The state eliminated 6.8 million dollars in our revenues to solve their own problems. The local economic growth would remain stagnant. Sales tax revenues declined by five and a half percent, or 5.2%, one million dollars and we began taking action.

We eliminated 43 positions last year and you'll see this number continue to grow and froze 10 and a half positions, through the help of the Sheriff and others, who just would have left those positions vacant for a while, sometimes for clear up to a year, but we eliminated 41 positions, people that were in positions that are no longer here.

We reduced total funding to our partners, about \$400,000. We eliminated operating costs almost 3,000,000. Deferred some capital improvements, 1.1. We implemented new service fees, which helped us have people who have received the services, helped us pay for those, of \$800,000. The locally supported expenditures, we didn't know how to describe that, except to say it's locally

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supported. What that means, these are none-grant-supported expenditures, so these are tax supported expenditures.

Our grant programs grow. Sometimes we get more money for more services, and so we need to examine, when we're talking about the growth of government, is that the growth of local taxes or the growth of these grant programs that we're providing services and we don't want to confuse, or try not to confuse you about that. So this is a our own tax supported group grew by 1%, a little over.

We eliminated merit pay and started moving to a pay for performance and increased employees' share of health and dental benefit costs. In '04 we eliminated again another 42, almost 43 positions, froze a couple more departments base budgets, stayed at the 2002 level and we had a 2% pay adjustment. In '05, last year's budget, we're set at 4% reduction from the '04 adopted, so we continue to see the budgets ratchet down, 14 positions eliminated, so that will get you close to 100 positions over this period of time. That's a lot more people than that, that's positions, because there's several people in those positions.

We reallocated funding to meet critical needs and again, these non-grant revenues, non-grant expenditures grew only my 1.6%. So all things change and we try to change with them. Public policy has created a lot of different ways. One certainly in this community now days is through the Visioneering process. The expectations for changing needs are clearly in public safety, economic growth, the quality of life and quality of local government and so what does this all mean for the 2007 budget.

The first major issue and this chart doesn't . . . a picture is worth a thousand words and this is certainly worth lots more than that perhaps. The blue line that's going up is our daily . . . is our average daily population in the jail. We have hired consultants to help us figure that out. The consultants have indicated that there are a series of programs that may be of assistance. The Sheriff and I have come to you and said, 'that's probably right' and we need to do that to prevent building another jail again, but we have come to you together and recommend that we build another expansion of the jail.

That's about a \$50,000,000 deal. It's going to be \$4,000,000 in debt service and about another seven and a half million dollars in additional operating costs. And you'll see the new alternative costs for 2006-2007. This is a moving target, because we don't have firm numbers yet, but our

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estimates are around 7.3 million in 2007 and we believe, I believe these programs, based on what we know from around the country and what we know from our consultants, will help us certainly not have to build another addition to the jail, or at least slow that down at such a pace that it will be financially feasible. At the pace we're going now, it is no longer financially feasible.

We had 35 years between the old jail and the new. We had about 28 years between the jail in this building and the new jail. Then we had 10 years since the last expansion and now we're looking at 10 years between the original jail and the expansion and now it's about eight years between the time the new jail was on and the newest jail will be on, so the time limit is getting lower and the cost continues to increase. And you can see, it's the additional operating costs.

The new alternatives program, there are short and long term, you can see a day reporting system costs about \$2,000,000. We think that has some initial short-term impact of maybe 200, 250 people immediately. That will help immensely. We have justice collaborative, we have to re-title that. We used to call that mental health diversion, but there's a legal definition of diversion that makes law enforcement and the attorneys and the judges nervous, because we're using it in a different form, that's not in their state of art, and it is a state of art, so we're going to call it 'justice collaborative' and 'mental health corps'. You can see the estimates of those costs and estimates of the program. We will be bringing those back to you, some of those this year and some of those in 2007. But you can see the cost, the 7.3 million dollars, still significantly less than the cost of a new jail and operating a new jail.

Economic growth, and this afternoon we're going to talk about how the economic growth will happen in a different sorts of ways in Sedgwick County. We have a workshop at 1:30 to talk about the Jabara Campus, 3,100 additional skilled workers are needed. Other communities, states are willing to build factories, buy equipment and you can't expect business to stay here unless you supply them with the workforce that they need. We need to retain existing recruiting business to compete. If we can't compete, we lose jobs and so it's a \$37,000,000 project, with operating costs and about 3.1 million dollars a year for us, and we will get into the details of that this afternoon.

Visioneering group benchmarks was that by 2008 we exceed the highest annual percentage growth rate in the U.S. with our competitors: Omaha, Tulsa, Kansas City and Oklahoma City. By 2008, we want to exceed that annual percentage of growth rate. We think we can do this by supplying . . . not only continuing with GWEDC, with trying to attract new jobs and retaining the ones we have, but also supplying the aviation industry and other manufacturing, with skilled workers. They say they have the need. They say they can hire and will hire those positions and we think we can obtain that goal through this process. In the 2005 report, our employment growth rate was at less than a percent, and we were last, last compared to our peer metro cities, and so we have some work to do to catch up.

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Quality of life, it's a great place to be and we live and we know economic development also is driven by this next generation issues, Generation Xers are coming into the workforce and making decisions about where they will work, but they start making decisions about where they're going to live first, and don't worry about where they're going to work. They'll find a job when they decide where they'll live. And that has to do with quality of life and that has to do with a whole bunch of other issues. Some of this helps business and employee retention and recruitment, machinery and equipment tax may or may not be phased out, depending on what we read in the paper this morning. If it is phased out, that may be a good thing for business and industry. It's about 1.8 million dollar loss to us in revenues. We need to continue to think about affordable airfares and amenities and attractions. All those are partners that we're in.

So the quality local government to provide basic essential services, what does that mean? Core services, plus, so what we're asking our folks in our organization to do, and what you're going to hear in the next several months is what business is the county government in, and we're in a bunch of different businesses, but are they necessary, what businesses should we get out of, what other ways can we do business, so we need to re-think what and how we're doing.

We need to examine our mission and goals, the changing needs. The changing needs and priorities have to look at services differently. We've done the skimming. We've done the trimming around the edges. We've done reshaping, in some organizations, and some of it's been more than skimming, so to expect us to reach a balanced budget by just snipping around the edges is not going to work. We need to think through what's mandatory and what's discretionary and look for those discretionary things that we do, are we making a conscious decision to understand the ramifications, costs and affects of doing . . . what are the results and how effective are we in delivering this, so it's not about positions, it's really about functions and we're asking those people in this organization that make it go to examine it in this light.

Internal review of services; what are our core services? We've asked people to engage in the Manager's blueprint, this is internal support functions, if you remember. This is about consolidating some of those functions and eliminating some of the silos, so that we follow much like a corporate model, that finance people work for Finance, that communication people work for Communication, that each store manager doesn't have their own communication plans. That each store manager doesn't have their own HR or purchasing system. It is one system and to figure out how to do that more effectively.

And how do we plan for the future of a bigger organization, again not in silos? We have to be different. We're creating a preferred future, of core services and changing needs, for quality service to provide for the present and future well being. So what can we stop doing? Again, Chronis'

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corollary or whatever Chronis' laws is about priorities. It's not about money, it's about what are our priorities, and so we're going to try to help you decide that and make some hard decisions this budget year. What can we do different and what will be the needs of the future? What do we have to concentrate on? What do we continue to major in the majors and not majoring in the stuff that may not be mandatory and may be outdated?

Who can help us do that? Do we enter contracts with the private sector to help us in ways that we haven't thought of before? How do we go about using non-profits and others and we need to continue to recognize our employees who are here for the good, hard work that they do.

Creating a preferred future is to build trust and work across divisions to create solutions, so it's not going to be individual silo solutions, and changing needs will continue, and we'll continue to try to meet those.

So, as my good friend Jerry Franz used to say, the times are a changing, and they certainly are but this is about responding and planning to serve the needs of the community and the responsibility to provide core service, the responsibility to provide core service, the responsibility for public safety and the responsibility for economic vitality of the community and the good news is you get to decide what those core services are, and what public safety and economic vitality and the changing needs and we're here to help you try to do that.

I think balance is the key this year. We have to have a solid foundation. We do have a great capacity. We have excellent and strong leadership to help define that solution, and so that's the process that we're going to be going through in the next several months and I thought this would be a good opportunity to take an overview of that. If there's any questions about this process, I'd be happy to answer those."

Chair Pro Tem Burnett said, "Okay, thank you Mr. Manager. I know we do have a lot of hard decisions on our plate this year. I know, when I speak to neighborhood associations and other groups, when we talk about the jail, when we speak about the alternative programs we're looking at, I know they're usually very receptive, and are glad that we're looking forward and outside the box and trying to keep the jail population down, but I know that also costs money so we do have a lot to think about. We do have a couple of questions or comments. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. Bill, I think that was an excellent report, and if there would be a possibility we could get hard copies of that, I think I'd kind of like to keep that with my budget material, as we go through this year, because one of things that we are, I think, in a position of this year, in crafting this budget, we probably are going to have more changing effect on community actions and community direction than perhaps we've had in a long time. And that's not

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to say we haven't been involved in the core values and the core issues, which we clearly have been, but as we begin to look at this issue of jobs and meeting the needs of the aviation industry, along with other industries such as health, and as we step up to the plate and take an initiative there, as we deal with this jail overcrowding problem, this is going to be a year where we're truly going to have, I think, some huge impacts on the community and the future of the community. So, this was a good foundation and I, again, would certainly like to have a copy of it. This was good work, in laying a foundation."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Madam Chair. I would just second what Commissioner Winters said, that this is going to be, I think, a very significant year in terms of the results of our decisions and how we impact the community and it's a logical result of just increased pressure and the speed at which things change, I think. So every decision we make is going to have an important effect, but I just wanted to compliment the manager on the fact that you've kind of established a philosophical foundation from which all our division leaders and department heads can start processing the different options that they have, the choices they have to make."

To start at the beginning, and to say 'What are our core services and what are we responsible for, what is outside of our main mission in Sedgwick County government' and then start making decisions on the basis of that, not neglecting the fact that we don't operate in a vacuum, that we're not in silos, we have to work with someone. But weighing the difference between mandatory and discretionary issues I think is going to be real critical and I'm just approving of taking the philosophical approach, what do we have to do, and then let's figure out what it's going to take to fund that.

And we know that some of the things that have already been mentioned, that we can't ignore the overcrowding problem in the jail. We can't ignore our partnership with our industry and business in the community, in trying to develop the healthy economic foundation, so those are some things that are going to drive many, many decisions, and coming from kind of a philosophical 'let's design this thing' rather than just responding to pressure I think is the appropriate way, so appreciate that.

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And that's all I had, Madam Chair."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I think it is going to be a tough year. In fact, I think the next few years are going to be tough, but one of our major charges, as elected officials, is to incubate, grow and maintain civilization. Civilization is where groups of people live together and have to coexist in harmony and have a quality of life and infrastructure and reasons to live in a neighborhood. And one of our jobs is to try to make the decisions on the money that's available to grow and maintain that civilization.

And truthfully, to maintain our civilization here, we're going to have to do what's right for our community and sometimes that's not politically expedient. In a day and in a community and in a state where it is abhorrent to say the word 'tax increase', it may come down to that and some of us may pay a political price for that, but it's not about political expedience. It's about what is right for our civilization and taking care of the jail is what is right for our civilization. Trying to create jobs and economic wealth for people that need a job, need a hand up, need to be trained and businesses that want to flourish here is part of building our civilization and putting a little bit of money into quality of life issues for our kids to maintain the ability for our educated youth to come back here and raise their families and have quality of life is part of building civilization too.

So, there's going to be some tough decisions and we're just going to have to look people in the eye and go 'You know what, we're going to be paying the same taxes you are' and if it calls for that to make good decisions to maintain what we call civilization in Wichita, Kansas and Sedgwick County, then that's what it's going to be.

Some of these issues are the elephant in the room. You know, you can keep ignoring them but they're there. We have to deal with them. It's unpleasant and sometimes you have to spend money to later make money. I mean, that's an old business axiom, but it's very true in government too. You've got to put up some money to make some other things happen, down the road, that don't cost you so darn much money.

When you talk about the jail, if we build it every seven or eight years, expansions, it costs a lot of money and maybe if we can build a little capacity, but also reduce recidivism to a very low level, then county commissioners ten years from now, which may or may not be us, won't have to make that decision again. They won't be faced with that, because we built a civilization that doesn't rely on a lot of jail space. So these are going to be tough issues, tough budget year, but when are they not. I've been here five years, and I don't think one of them have been a cakewalk exactly. You have to chose, you have to balance between what is right for our community and what will hurt people's pocketbooks and it's a tough decision, but I think we're up to that and we'll try to do it

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with great heart and great intellect, and the ability to take a risk where we need to, to maintain our civilization. That's all I have, Madam Chair."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Okay, thank you commissioners. Mr. Buchanan, anything else?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "No, ma'am."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Well, I appreciate the information and I'm sure we'll be having many more discussions over the next few months about the budget, but at this time, I would ask if we have a Motion to receive and file the report."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Thank you very much. Next item please."

C. RESOLUTION CREATING AN AD HOC TASK FORCE ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND MENTAL ILLNESS.

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said,

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“Commissioners, an issue came to my attention some weeks ago, a friend of mine, to make sure that I’m aware of this and the issues happen to be with those folks that are developmentally disabled in our community who are receiving services from our partners, and we have a partnership agreement with lots of folks in this community to deliver services, either employment opportunities or job readiness and then through living in group homes.

And what is occurring . . . we believe what is occurring is the de-institutionalization of folks at the state level, who are coming back to the community who are developmentally disabled and have some other issues that they need to deal with, some of whom have mental illness issues, some who have behaviors that what we would call in the norm, in terms of violence or sexual activity. And they are oftentimes intermingled with those who are most vulnerable in our community, and there doesn’t seem to be much of a solution to this issue.

We . . . I think it’s important for us to ask the community, in this fashion, to create a task force to begin examining what are our alternatives, first of all to identify what the issues are and secondly, to try to determine what the alternatives are and how they can advise you about how to proceed.

I think you and I can think of some solutions immediately, but I’m not so sure that the first answer to a cumbersome, difficult . . . the easy answer to a cumbersome, difficult problem is often wrong, and so I’ve suggested that we have a task force look at this.

The section two of the resolution in front of you is pretty much a reiteration of a memorandum that I sent to you a couple of weeks ago. We want the task force to investigate and document to the extent of persons are receiving appropriate services. We want to identify and document the consequences, including unintended risks to other persons in the community, and there’s more detail there, I’m just trying to highlight the issues.

And finally, the important one for us is to recommend to you actions the county can initiate or influence in order to improve services. And I think it’s important to use the word influence, because I think it’s going to take more than just Sedgwick County trying to come up with a solution. We will have, we will . . . Colin McKenney and I, and I appreciate the help of Colin with this and certainly Marilyn Cook and her folks, we all understand the need and necessity and urgency of this issue, because this issue continues to grow in our community and I think the consequences of more folks, more children being diagnosed with autism that are now coming into the system is just creating, perhaps a tidal wave if you will, of problems and perhaps opportunities that we can address now and now is the time to do it.

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We will, Marilyn Cook, Colin and I will present to you a list of names for your appointment. We are going to make some suggestions, certainly you are able to appoint whomever you want to, but part of the resolution talks about, in section three, consumers, families, advocates, professional fields including medicine, law enforcement, mental health, developmental disabilities, are some of the folks that we think and so we're going to try to help you . . . we're going to try to define for you those folks who would be helpful in this process, and I would hope to have this back to you within two weeks for those appointments, but that's the goal. If there are any questions, I'll be happy to answer them, Madam Chair. Otherwise, I would recommend you approve this resolution."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Okay, we do have a question or comment from Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Madam Chair. Bill, I'm going to be very supportive of this and approving of your initiative to get this task force set up and established. It's a genuine problem in our community and it's complex, in that the solution doesn't come just from statistical analysis. I mean, this has got a lot of human relationship input and you can't just identify a single issue, in that the problems that these folks are dealing with kind of covers a wide spectrum, from serious to maybe not quite so serious, and we have to come up with some solutions or discussion that would cover that entire spectrum.

I am appreciative of the fact that you all will bring to us the names of folks that you want to recommend and I'd hope that maybe in that list you could identify the particular piece that those folks would bring to the table, so that we can evaluate that, because I think it does need to be a very carefully selected group, so that we can make genuine progress. But I believe it is the responsibility of our government to provide for these sorts of services and we don't want to leave people at risk, and we don't want to put people in harm's way, we want to provide some sort of a service that is truly a long-term solution, a system or program that's long-term. So, at any rate, I'm glad we're doing it and I look forward to seeing the list of folks that you will suggest and I'm hopefully that we will come up with solutions that are long-term."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well certainly this . . . you know, mental health issues and disability issues are part of what I kind of talk about with building civilization. Those are populations that are very difficult to find a way to make sure that they have a part of the quality of life of our civilization that we're building. And you add to that the dilemma and the conversation we're having over

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homelessness and the population of the aged that we're trying to understand, and make sure they're part of our civilization.

And then children in need of services, whether it's education or foster care, whatever, all of those entities and believe me, I believe mental health and folks with disabilities are those populations that we have an acknowledged charge to work on. And I applaud you for trying to put together a task force to understand this, maybe at a deeper level. You know, sometimes as commissioners, we get a 30,000 foot viewpoint of some of these issues, and they're not very simple to absorb, and hopefully a task force will come to some understandings, can dig a little deeper and give us some guidance on how we really take care of that population.

And as we understand, on recidivism of jail populations, mental health and drug problems are a big part of the recidivism, and if we can dig down and figure out how to work with that population, it is certainly going to help us in our charge to build a civilization of Sedgwick County. Thanks."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Any other comments from commissioners?"

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Thank you, Bill. Next item, please."

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**D. PRESENTATION OF ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING (ERP)
DEPARTMENT STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND RETENTION PLAN.**

Mr. Buchanan said, “We’d like to withdraw that, postpone this item.”

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Okay, do we have a motion to postpone . . . defer this item?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Defer, that’s the word I’m looking for.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to defer indefinitely.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Okay, we’ll go on to the next item.”

**E. GRANT APPLICATION TO BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FOR STATE
CRIMINAL ALIEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUNDS.**

Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Division of Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It’s time again for the state criminal alien assistance program application period. This year, the on-line application system will be open from February 24th through April 4th. The Bureau of Public Assistance has announced that there will be a total of \$376,000,000 available for distribution this

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year, which is up from the \$300,000,000 that was available last year.

As with past years, these funds are distributed to governmental jurisdictions that operate detention facilities that house alien inmates that have committed a minimum of one felon or two misdemeanors and are incarcerated for a minimum of four consecutive days during the reporting period, and this year's reporting period is July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.

The Sheriff's Office, DIO, ERP and Finance staff have been gathering data to forward to Maximus, Incorporated to analyze the information and format it for submission to the Justice Department for processing.

The Justice Department receives the data from all jurisdictions, and forwards it to the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Bureau of ICE verifies the eligibility of inmates included in the data that we submit, and that eligible data is returned to the Justice Department, where it becomes part of the total allowable data for the allocation of the funding.

For its involvement in this process, Maximus is guaranteed a payment of 15% of the grant award or a minimum of \$3,000 and that's based on the contract that we have with Maximus that we entered into last year. Over the ten-year history of the program, we received a total of \$1,426,000 to help offset the cost of housing these inmates, these alien inmates. I'll be glad to try to answer any questions you might have at this time and would recommend you approve the action line for this item."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Okay, we do have a question or comment from Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. Marty, you answered one of the questions, is how much have we collected in the past, and that is a significant number, \$1,400,000 or so. The other one, and again this is an ongoing program that we've been doing now for . . .?"

Mr. Hughes said, "Ten years."

Commissioner Winters said, "Ten years, and I guess my last question is, are we still sure everyone, Sheriff, Finance and Maximus, we're getting benefit for that dollar? I mean, they are

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providing work that we could or could not do, and save that money?”

Mr. Hughes said, “Right. We went through a procurement process last year. We had been using Justice Benefits to do that service prior to this, and at that time, all the departments involved felt that it was a needed service that we all could benefit from and they do a real fine job of going through . . . basically, what they do is go through the data files. We have to send them the data files for all inmates, and so they go through all those files, determine which ones are eligible, based on the criteria that we have and then put that into the data file that we submit to the Justice Department.

And last year, for . . . and you know, I don’t know how many . . . you know thousands of data that we send them for all the inmates in the jail over that 12-month period, but last year out of all that data that Maximus went through and we submitted to Justice Department, we did not have any, not one file or one inmate that was taken out by ICE, so I think they’re doing a real fine job and we appreciate their work.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Okay. Well, as long as somebody is just paying attention and we don’t just keep using them. I mean, pretty soon you collect a million dollars or two million dollars and you’re giving away 15% of it, real money. But if they’re bringing value to the system and somebody is thinking about that, then I’m okay with it.”

Mr. Hughes said, “Okay, thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Burnett said, “Are there any other comments from the commission? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the Grant Application and authorize the Chairman or his designee to submit the on-line application; accept a grant award containing substantially the same terms and conditions as this Application; and approve establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh

Aye

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Thank you, Marty. Next item please.”

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES- AGING DEPARTMENT

F. GRANT APPLICATION TO THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT ON AGING FOR PEANE SPECIAL PROJECT GRANT FUNDING.

Ms. Annette Graham, Executive Director, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The purpose of this grant application proposal is to fund the development of the Central Plains Hoarding Task Force. This task force will be an ongoing, inner-agency team, whose mission is to coordinate the actions related to hoarding cases in Sedgwick County that are self-neglect related.

The Central Plain Area Agency on Aging is in the process of developing a hoarding task force to address the issues of self-neglect as it relates to hoarding. Incidents of compulsive hoarding are on the increase and are now being recognized as a mental health disorder. It is apparent that these cases are on the rise in our community and hoarding, in case you don’t know, is a situation where an individual hoards stuff at their home and this includes papers, personal belongings, clothes, trash and animals. It is . . . we see a lot of incidents. We’ve seen this over the years. It’s probably been within the last five to ten years that it has actually been named as hoarding. And then now recently, in the literature, within the last few years, they’ve identified a mental health disorder that a lot of the people who experience compulsive hoarding are diagnosed with.

But it’s apparent in our community that this is an issue that no one agency can deal with and that there really is no affective, coordinated efforts or solution to this problem, but it does impact not only the individuals, their families and the safety in our community. We’ve seen incidents where people have hoarded to the point they can no longer get in their homes, that they are living out of their cars. They start hoarding in their cars. I mean, it is piled up this high and you barely have a path. It’s a fire hazard. It’s a health hazard. It becomes a health . . . due to bugs or infestation of rodents and then of course that impacts the neighborhood and the rest of the community.

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So what we have done is put together a grant application to the Kansas Department on Aging to request funding to develop and coordinate this task force, to have some training and to train not only the community members we've identified to be on the task force, but to also bring in some experts and some other people to train other people in the community about this issue.

We have already contacted several organizations, healthcare professionals, mental health professionals, aging professionals, city and county code, code inspection, animal control, housing organizations and law enforcement to be involved and there's a lot of interest in this because so many people are confronted with this, so to many organizations it's a very difficult issue to address.

So we are requesting that we will get you to sign off and authorize the submission of this grant application, as we pursue this endeavor. I'll be happy to answer any questions."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Thank you, Annette. Actually, I did have a question on that. I would assume that these folks are identified mainly through relatives or neighbors, maybe that see trash piling up and do they usually call Code Enforcement? Is that usually . . .?"

Ms. Graham said, "It comes in through several different avenues. It can come in through Code Enforcement, through law enforcement, through community policing, through the Adult Protective Services Unit and sometimes through our office, through the Information and Assistance."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "I think the more people find out about this, the more they'll know where to go. We do have another comment from Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you. Well, first of all I'll say I'm going to be supportive of this. If we can have grant money to help us address a problem in the community and, you know, broaden our service capability and help folks, well, got to be in favor of that. But you answered one of my questions. I was going to ask 'what does it hurt?' and you went through that, so I guess that is a problem, but my next question is how prevalent is this? You said it is growing, but I don't know anybody that's a hoarder, except some people that keep sports memorabilia. But I mean, my first reaction to this is that, first of all what do they hurt and who cares and secondly, how big of a problem is it and I'm still going to be . . . if we can get grant money and study it, I'm in favor, but can you respond to that at all?"

Ms. Graham said, "We have, probably at any given time, at least one case, one or two cases we're working on. I don't really have statistical information with me today, but it is becoming more and more common. And it gets so bad, that in fact people will have to be moved out of their homes, because the actual foundation of their home begins to rot. And we've seen people that hoard animals. I mean, you can go into homes and find 20, 30 cats or dogs living in the home, so you can

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imagine the impact of that, health-wise. And that begins to kind of go out through the neighborhood, the smell and the rodents and the roaches, it can be really a health hazard.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, I’ve heard some of those cases, hoarding cats or something like that, but we should probably go ahead with that, so that’s all I had.”

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Okay. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, unfortunately as people age, there’s more despair and loneliness and separation from community than I think we realize and it’s out there. I know, in my own church, we dealt with it a couple of times where we’ve almost had to have interventions with folks that have somehow become separated from the community, don’t have a loved one to call on and starts to develop kind of that mental health issue.

I think it’s wonderful that we’re kind of digging down. I think we’d be surprised that we found maybe not people that are at the level that their home is caving in, but how many people are isolated from society, or starting into this issue of hoarding, which sometimes takes many, many years to become a major problem, but I think it’s out there and the more and more people that are isolated from society and are at poverty level and don’t have trash service and for whatever reason, get into this cycle, it’s wonderful that we’re going to deal with it. Thanks.”

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Just one last question before we take action. How do you pronounce the name of this special grant project?”

Ms. Graham said, “The Peane grant.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Peanne grant, okay. Thank you. Commissioners, what is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the Grant Application and authorize the Chairman to sign all necessary documents, including a grant award agreement containing substantially the same terms and conditions as this Application; and approve establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

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VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Thank you. Okay Madam Clerk, would you call the next item please.”

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES- COMCARE

G. COMCARE.

- 1. AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA CHILD GUIDANCE CENTER, INC. TO PROVIDE CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY SUPERVISION SERVICES.**

Ms. Marilyn Cook, LSCSW, Executive Director, Comprehensive Community Care (COMCARE), greeted the Commissioners and said, “Boy, our National Association, a couple of years ago, had the slogan ‘Mental Health Matters Every Day’. That’s certainly been true of every agenda item in here this morning.

This item is having to do with the Wichita Child Guidance Center. COMCARE is fortunate enough to have one of the very few board-certified child psychiatrist in the area and her name is Dr. Deann Jenkins. She came to us a year ago, after having been with Prairie View for ten years, so she’s very experienced as well.

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This is a renewal of a contract with the Wichita Child Guidance Center to purchase three hours a week of Dr. Jenkins' time and she uses this time to consult with the Advanced Nurse Practitioners that work in the Wichita Child Guidance Center and focuses on difficult cases that involve medication management and as kids grow and mature and gain weight, it is hard to successfully subscribe meds to children sometimes because of that, so she helps with that. She advises the Advanced Nurse Practitioners when they're working with challenging families, as can be common and she helps diagnosis complicated cases, as well.

She also is available then if they so chose to use her time that way to see some of these children that were there that are difficult. So, this is a renewal to a contract with no essential changes from the previous one and we're recommending that you approve the contract."

Chair Pro Tem Burnett said, "Thank you, Marilyn. Are there any questions or comments from the commissioners?"

MOTION

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

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Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Thank you. Call the next item please."

2. AGREEMENT WITH THE CONSORTIUM, INC. TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO OTHER MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS IMPLEMENTING THE ASKESIS PSYCH CONSULT PRODUCT.

Ms. Cook said, "COMCARE started using Psych Consult as an electronic medical record in 2002, a very big transition for us. Roger Clark was the contracted project manager at the time of that project and he has since become a full-time employee of COMCARE and helps us manage that software.

The Mental Health Consortium of all 29 mental health centers recently purchased Psych Consult itself and is functioning as a host system for the small centers who can't afford to convert to electronic medical record. They had an IT manager that was working on that who left fairly suddenly to go work for a much higher paying job, and so as a result of that, they made a plea to us to contract with us to request some of Roger's time and his expertise in Psych Consult, to help them implement this system that they have now purchased.

He's doing that primarily by phone, helping facilitate status meetings by phone, monitoring progress and suggesting ways to configure this product for particular centers, because how that gets configured really depends on the business decisions each of these centers make. And we would also agree, in this contract, that when possible, that he would be present for the first day of implementation at centers that go live with this software. That's a difficult day, at best, and in those cases they will reimburse us for his travel expenses as well. We recommend that you approve the contract."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Commissioners, are there any comments, questions? What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Thank you, Marilyn. Next item please."

H. KANSAS COLISEUM.

1. AGREEMENT WITH THE WICHITA EAGLE PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC. FOR ADVERTISING SPACE.

Mr. John Nath, Director, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is a standard agreement that we have for advertising rights at the Coliseum. The Eagle has been a sponsor of ours for almost ten years now. This is another renewal. It will be for a three-year term. The terms of the agreement are partial cash, partial trade. When we do trade, we use those column inches in The Eagle to support those events that we have an equity stake in, such as some of the concerts, obviously the rodeo, Sesame Street, which helps us generate revenue through less expense through the event. I recommend approval."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Okay."

MOTION

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Thank you, John. Next item."

2. AGREEMENT WITH CLEAR CHANNEL BROADCASTING, INC. FOR ADVERTISING SPACE.

Mr. Nath said, "Clear Channel is another long-term client of ours. In addition to sponsoring the back of the Select-A-Seat tickets and the ticket envelopes, another sponsor of the Coliseum itself. We also use this to fortify those events which we have an equity stake in, such as the rodeo and Sesame Street. We recommend approval."

MOTION

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

Commissioner Winters 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	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “And it looks like we have another agreement to look at.”

3. AGREEMENT WITH UNIFIRST CORPORATION FOR ADVERTISING SPACE.

Mr. Nath said, “Unifirst, this is our second go around with Unifirst. It is another extension of an agreement for three years, which just has advertising space in the Coliseum, so they can advertise their services and products. We, in turn, have designated them the official uniform source. They supply the uniforms for our workers, and we recommend approval.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “And one more item.”

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4. KANSAS COLISEUM MONTHLY REPORT.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. Nath said, “One more, Commissioners, and I’ll get out of your hair for the day. This is my report for the activities for the month of February. The month of February, we had almost 90,000 people through our doors, 13 events and 31 individual performances. Net revenues for the month were in excess of \$328,000. As you are well aware, February is our most . . . is our busiest month, even though it is the shortest month, it’s the most popular month of the year.

Highlights, we had the annual Model-A Swap Meet, we had slightly over 23,000 people in attendance this year, over the two days and it’s a great event if you’re a car buff. You can get any part you want. You can actually buy a whole car, if you’d like and it’s one of my favorite events.

The Nickelback concert, Nickelback is one of the top touring acts in the country right now. We had over 9,000 people in attendance. It was technically a sellout, based upon the number of seats we were able to sell, based upon their production requirements. We were an equity stakeholder in this event. We were partners with AEG Live. Maybe you’re aware that AEG is the company that is developing the Sprint Arena in Kansas City. These relationships are very important to us, to continue to put more entertainment in our programming calendar. Most of our concerts now have been partnerships with the promoters.

Sports, Boat and Travel Show was again a good success this year, with over 9,000 people in attendance. Obviously, people love going hunting. They love going fishing and that’s one of our most popular shows. We had the state wrestling tournament. We just hosted the 5-A and 6-A schools this year. The 4-A schools went to Salina and I understand they had a very nice tournament there. The kids certainly enjoyed the tournament here. It’s always great to participate in the state championship. The results of splitting the 4-A from the 5-A and 6-A unfortunately were that they only had half the attendance that they had been enjoying in the previous years and half of the ticket sales, but we’re looking to possibly do some things to change that for them next year.

We had the Equifest, which is an event that started about six years ago. This thing, we are bursting at the seams right now. All of the other buildings, outside of the Britt Brown, are full. It’s really popular. Everything about the horse and about horsemanship and training and you know, you name it, is taking part in this event. It’s sponsored by the Kansas Horse Council, it’s a great show and people just have a wonderful time with it.

Then we had five hockey games with almost 22,500 people in attendance. The Thunder is doing extremely well this year. They are in a neck and neck race with Oklahoma City for the number two-seat in the playoffs and they’ve been playing awfully well.

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Coming up, Thunder plays Lubbock tonight. The Fenton Auto Group currently has a car sale in our Pavilion I and that's going to run through Sunday. We had the 93.9 Freaknic Jam, urban music, hip-hop in the Coliseum this Saturday. Yappy Days, Saturday in Pavilion II. Smashpaws Flyball Tournament Sunday in Pavilion II. Now Smashpaws are great. It's basically a relay race, with teams of four dogs to a team, and they're all different sizes and it is hilarious to watch. These little pups just have a wonderful time.

Then we go right back to Sunday, with the Thunder playing Oklahoma City. Now that this is the last regular season game of the season. Then we're into the playoffs and the playoffs will be announced. We have a Nine Inch Nails concert on Monday. That's selling quite well. Tornado Alley is back with another paintball tournament the week after and then we have the Sunflower Cluster Dog Show the weekend after that. Now keep in mind, the Sunflower Cluster Dog Show is one of the top ten dog shows in the country and we are the hosts. Commissioners, that completes my report today. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them at this time."

Chair Pro Tem Burnett said, "Okay. The only thing that I was noticing is on the picture with the wrestling, it looked like the stands were really full. That seems like that's a very well attended . . ."

Mr. Nath said, "Well quite frankly I cheated. That's last year's picture."

Chair Pro Tem Burnett said, "Oh, okay. Ha, ha. I caught you. Commissioner Winters has something."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you. John, just perhaps a comment. You mentioned, at one event, you were getting close to capacity. We had an organization in the community this past week or so that had some difficulty in the number of people in their facility and arena. What controls do you have in place to make sure that, out at the Coliseum, we wouldn't have that same difficulty of getting more people in the facility than police, or fire, public safety people would think was the right number? Do you have a plan?"

Mr. Nath said, "We have several checks in place, to make sure that doesn't happen. Number one, for every event that we sell tickets to, and we do all the ticket sales to the events at our facility, we have a capacity set in the Select-A-Seat computer. We cannot sell any more tickets than we have authorization to do so. There just aren't any others available. We also use the turn styles, every ticket is torn when we come in. We use the turn styles and we also count those tickets by hand, so we actually have three ways to make sure that we are not above our capacity."

Commissioner Winters said, "So on any given event, within a matter of moments, you can actually

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check and you know how many people are in a facility.”

Mr. Nath said, “Absolutely. Part of our plans, with the new software with Select-A-Seat, if we do the bar coding where we just scan with a handheld scanner, as people come through, rather than tearing the ticket, you can get an up to the second count on how many people were in your facility, just by looking at the computer screen. That technology is there, but we do it the old fashion way. Turn styles and count the tickets, as well as we have a set capacity, and that’s the only set number of tickets we will sell for that event.”

Commissioner Winters said, “All right, well that’s good to know. Thank you. That’s the only question I had.”

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Do you have any other questions of Mr. Nath? If not, I would entertain a Motion to receive and file the report.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Thank you, John.”

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Commissioner Winters said, "Wear a yellow shirt next time."

Mr. Nath said, "My wife bought me this."

Chair Pro Tem Burnett said, "Madam Clerk, will you call the next item please."

I. MODIFICATION OF PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION REQUEST NUMBER SEVEN AND FINAL FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT 636-25, 26, RAILROAD GRADE SEPARATION AT 71ST STREET SOUTH (GRAND AVENUE IN HAYSVILLE) AND THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD. CIP# I-78. DISTRICT #2.

Mr. David Spears, P.E., Director, County Engineer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Item I is approval of modification of plans and construction number seven and final for the Haysville railroad grade separation project, designated as I-78 in the Capital Improvement Program. There are sixteen items on the final punch list.

The working days were increased from 210 to 273. This modification, in the amount of \$41,309.27, was due primarily to embankment repairs, erosion control measures such as rip rap placed on a drainage ditch near the Cowskin Creek and pavement marking on both 79th Street South and Seneca after hauling operations were complete. There was also additional seeding and an erosion control mat placed on the mainline embankment. I recommend that you approve the modification and authorize the chairman to sign."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Modification of Plans and Construction and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Winters 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	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “It looks like we do have a comment though from Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, it’s just that I’ve got to tell you, people on the south side, particularly in Haysville, will be glad to know that this is finally paid for and it’s finally, totally over with but it’s been a great project and if you hadn’t been to Haysville recently, run through there and see what’s happened to the development of the downtown since the railroad project has been completed. It’s starting to look pretty amazing down there. So great project and I think, Dave, you and your folks did a wonderful job on it, even though that was not an easy project.”

Mr. Spears said, “Very difficult.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Very tough, expensive project, but the end result is pretty darn good. So thanks, that’s all I have. That’s all I had, Madam Chair.”

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Thank you. Thank you, David. Madam Clerk, call the next item.”

J. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS’ REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2006.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The meeting of March 16th results in five items for consideration today.

**1) ROAD IMPROVEMENTS- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: SALES TAX**

First item is road improvements for Public Works. Recommendation is to accept the bid from Cutler Repaving Incorporated in the amount of \$711,105.38.

**2) AB-3 ROCK
FUNDING: AGGREGATE MATERIAL**

Item two, AB-3 rock for Public Works. Recommendation is to accept the low bid of Southwest

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Butler Quarry in the amount of \$45,200.

**3) WEED CHEMICALS- NOXIOUS WEEDS DEPARTMENT
FUNDING: NOXIOUS WEED DEPARTMENT**

Item three, weed chemicals for Noxious Weed Department. Recommendation is to accept the low bid of item one from UAP Timberland LLC in the amount of \$30,060. Low bid of item two from Carso Incorporated in the amount of \$10,350. Low bid for items three, four, five, six, seven and eight from Farm Kan, LLC in the amount of \$34,504.55 for a grand total of \$74,914.55.

**4) OUTSOURCED PRINTING SERVICES- VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS
FUNDING: ALL DEPARTMENTS**

Item four, outsourced printing services for various county departments. Recommendation is to accept the proposal from Contemporary Communications, Incorporated for virgin and recycled stock, and execute contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

**5) TIME CLOCK SYSTEM FOR THE NEW JDF- FACILITIES DEPARTMENT
FUNDING- JUVENILE COMPLEX IMPROVEMENTS**

And item five, time clock system for the new JDF for Facilities Department. Recommendation is to accept the low proposal meeting requirements from Data Management, Incorporated and execute a contract for \$21,148 and establish second and third year maintenance costs at a rate of \$1,888.80 per year for a total three year cost of \$24,926.40.

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Commissioners, are there any questions? Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Just a comment and maybe Dave Spears would want to respond, but there’s only one bid on Item #1, it’s Cutler Repaving. I think I’ve asked this every year, but that’s a process that we’ve used for quite a few years and there’s just very few people in this region that does it. There’s people around the country, but to get their equipment here to do it, I think is onerous on them but you might want to comment on that Dave, just because it is a great process but it’s a lot of money to only have one bid on.”

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Mr. Spears said, “And Iris did put a note below that, kind of explaining that a little bit, after Item #1 in your backup, on page 96. But it is a regional type thing and there’s several people across the country that do it, but your word was correct, ‘regional’. And we like this process. We use it on preventive maintenance. It recycles one inch of what we have, and then plus adds one inch of virgin material over that, and it lasts longer than your normal preventive maintenance. It’s a little more expensive, but it lasts longer, so we’re satisfied with the process and we select the roads that that goes on according to the process. We have about four or five processes that we use of different things, and this one applies to a certain number of roads this year.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Thanks, Dave. That’s all I have, Madam Chair.”

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Any other comments or questions? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, “Next item please.”

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CONSENT AGENDA

K. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Two Easements for Drainage, two Permanent Drainage Easements and one Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project 634-32, 33, 34, 35, 36, widen 63rd Street South between Rock Road and the Butler County Line. CIP# R-275. District #5.**
- 2. One Temporary Construction Easement and one Easement for Right-of-Way for Sedgwick County Project 628-22-140, bridge replacement on MacArthur Road between Hoover and Ridge Road. CIP# B-426. District #2.**
- 3. 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.**
- 4. Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project 588-25, 26, recondition roadbed plus 6" bituminous surfacing and replace bridge 588-26-574 on 125th Street North between Meridian and Broadway. CIP# R-255. District #4.**
- 5. Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project 821-AA, Cowskin Creek Drainage. District #2.**
- 6. Plats.**

Approved by Public Works. The County Treasurer has certified that taxes for the year 2005 and prior years have been paid for the following plats:

Furley United Methodist Church Addition
Marie's Meadow North Addition
Midland Baptist Church 2nd Addition

- 7. Payroll Check Register of March 10, 2006.**

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8. General Bills Check Register(s) for week of March 15-21, 2006.

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

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "And Commissioner Winters, did you have a comment on that?"

Commissioner Winters said, "Nope."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Well, we've come to the end of our agenda and it is time now . . . we have no executive session and no fire meeting, as far as I know, so we're to the other part of our agenda, if anybody has anything and I see Commissioner Winters."

L. OTHER

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you very much. I just wanted to make a couple of quick comments. I was absent from the meeting last week. Our granddaughter did have kind of delicate surgery on her hand and it was very successful, so we've got everything good to go there, so that's good news.

We did have a Scout in our meeting earlier today, working on his merit badge and I would report that I spent, a couple of Saturdays ago, back on March the 11th, over at the Wichita Area Technical College, which just allowed their facilities to be used for Scout merit badge college for the day. And a year ago, they had about 100 Scouts sign up to do the merit badge. This year, they had 450

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Scouts sign up, so with them, plus all the volunteers that it takes to pull that off. I've acted as one of the volunteers in the communications, where they needed to have a conversation with a person in the community and have a dialogue and it was really very interesting. But again, you're just pleased to see that we end up in this business so much dealing with kids on the problem side of the world. It's just great to go to someplace like this and see 400 Scouts being really very well behaved and disciple and they got there at 7 and we didn't get done until 4:30, almost 5:00, so it was a great day.

So then, the only other thing is we're dressed in yellow today, so it's 'Go Shock' time. We're all wishing the Shockers the very best. Appreciate the spirit of everybody on the bench, to have on a Shocker support. They've done some great things this year and are bringing a lot of great publicity to Wichita/ Sedgwick County and so we wish them the very best this coming weekend. That's all I have."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Okay. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you. I would also say Go Shocks and so want everybody to get the spirit and support our Shockers and really express congratulations for a great season, to Coach Turgeon and those men. It's a lot of hard work, just to play the game, but to be very successful at their level, it's a lot of effort, a lot of work, a lot of commitment, so we're real proud of them.

The second thing then I wanted to say is next Friday they're going to have the groundbreaking ceremony for the penguin exhibit out at the zoo, and it's open for everybody to come by that wants to kind of celebrate that event. We're real thankful for our great community partner, Cessna Aircraft, who is helping . . . primary funder of this new exhibit and it's a popular, popular exhibit to have a penguin exhibit at your zoo. So we're looking forward, by the spring of '07, of having a really . . . another outstanding attraction at Sedgwick County Zoo and the plans that they're going to be developing. I haven't seen it on paper, but hear them talking about it, it's going to be something that will have a lot of people able to get up close and personal with the penguins, so looking forward to that. So congratulations to the folks at the zoo, and Madam Chair, that's all I had."

Commissioner Norton said, "They're a certain kind of penguin too, are they not commissioner?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "They're Humbolt."

Commissioner Norton said, "Humbolt."

Commissioner Unruh said, "And it's like little guys in tuxedos, I think."

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Commissioner Norton said, "Let's see, you were a flamingo expert, and then you were a gorilla expert and now you're going to be a penguin expert. Is that correct?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "Yeah, and I can tell you about eating monkey food too, if you want me to."

Commissioner Winters said, "No."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Monkey food, good, I'm glad it was the food."

Commissioner Unruh said, "That's all I've got."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Any other comments? Yes, Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I'd be remiss without saying, you know, that I'm supportive of the Shockers too. They have had an amazing season and I saw in the paper today where they're going to be on the cover . . . some of them are going to be on the cover of Sports Illustrated. Sean Ogirri was on there to represent this region and what the Mid Majors have done in this tournament and I have to tell you that the NCAA Tournament is, for me, you know that athletic event at its purest. Every year, you just can't guess at who is going to be in there, regardless of how big their school is or how large their program is or how well-funded it is. And I'm really proud that, you know, Wichita State is there and hopefully next year the final will be K.U. and Wichita State, so that David will quit whining, but not for this year."

Chair Pro Tem Burtnett said, "Okay, commissioners, if there's nothing else, I will adjourn this meeting and thank you for your attention today."

M. ADJOURNMENT

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There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.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

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TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

, 2006