

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

September 6, 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, September 6, 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. Mariann Fountain, Clinical Supervisor, ATS, COMCARE; Ms. DeAnn Konkell, Public Safety Liaison, Bureau of Public Safety; Ms. Sheena Lynch, Senior HR Project Assistant, Human Resources; Mr. Henry White, Detention Lieutenant, Sheriff's Office; Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources; Ms. Susan Wilson, Director, Health Babies Program, Health Department; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Mr. Ron Holt Assistant County Manager; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, COMCARE; Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum; Mr. Kent Koehler, Project Leader- IT, DIO; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Ms. Angela Cadieux, Community Relations Director, Girl Scouts.
Dr. Alex Reed, Clinical Psychologist, K.U. Medical School.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Pastor Rick Cline of Central Church of Christ, Wichita.

FLAG SALUTE

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioners, before we call the first item, I think we ought to just wish Tom Winters a happy birthday. You finally reached 60 years of age and still alive, still has hair, that's pretty good and just congratulations on reaching that milestone."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you very much, I appreciate that."

Chairman Sciortino said, "You're embarrassed and that's what I was trying to do. Madam Clerk, call the next item please."

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ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item."

A. PROCLAMATIONS.

1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2006 AS "NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioners, I've got a proclamation that I'll read into the record. It states:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 74 percent of all Americans say that addiction to alcohol has had some impact on them at some point in their lives, whether it was their own personal addiction, that of a friend or family member; and

WHEREAS, stigma and discrimination present obstacles and can be a mark of disgrace to those with substance abuse disorders who need access to treatment facilities, and for those who want to re-establish their place in the community; and

WHEEREAS, COMCARE Addiction Treatment Services is dedicated to educating our community about how substance abuse disorders affect children, our families, and this community and how awareness and the knowledge is essential to overcoming stigma and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, we also must recognize the achievement of those who seek out treatment services and ensure that such services are readily available to those who need assistance; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse disorders are a treatable, yet serious health care problem, and we can take steps to address it and so build a stronger, healthier community.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Ben Sciortino, Chair of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners,

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do hereby proclaim the month of September 2006 as

‘National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month’

in Sedgwick County and call upon all citizens to join me in working to improve public awareness and create a greater understanding of addiction and the benefits derived from treatment.

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

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh 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, “And I believe there’s a Ms. Fountain here to accept the proclamation.”

Ms. Mariann Fountain, Clinical Supervisor, ATS, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, “And this September we are celebrating the 17th annual Recovery Month. And on behalf of the people in this community who are in recovery from substance abuse disorders and on behalf of other local treatment providers, I want to thank you for the proclamation and for your continued support of our cause.

There are thousands of Sedgwick County citizens who have successful experiences in treatment and recovery. As the voices of the people who are in recovery begin to work together, they personify this year’s recovery month theme, Join the Voices of Recovery- Build a Stronger, Healthier Community by demonstrating the impact just one person in treatment can have on the community, we can begin to work towards a healthier society.

To accomplish these goals, it’s important to keep in mind that societal stigma still casts a negative shadow on people who are in recovery and those who have substance abuse disorders. As more

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people seek treatment and gain recovery, we must continue to acknowledge the positive influence that treatment and recovery has on our community, by educating fellow community members that substance abuse disorders should be treated as, like any other chronic illness, we can begin to eradicate the stigma placed on those with additions and on people in recovery.

Also to celebrate Recovery Month, Wichita is hosting the second annual Recovery Conference. That's going to be next week, September 13th, 14th and 15th at the Broadview Hotel. This is a workshop that's not only for professionals but especially has been designed for people in recovery. So if anybody would like to have more information about that, they can contact me at Addiction Treatment Services and the number there is 660-7550. Again, thank you very much for the proclamation and the opportunity to be here today. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well good luck in your conference. Next item please, Madam Clerk."

2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2006 AS "NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Commissioners, I'll read another proclamation for the record. It states:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security, in partnership with other federal, state and local agencies, non-profits and public partners remind us that September is National Preparedness Month; and

WHEREAS, the goal of National Preparedness Month is to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and it is the responsibility of every Sedgwick County resident to do so; and

WHEREAS, in preparing for the full spectrum of disasters, from natural to potential terrorist attacks, it is important for citizens to respond successfully and this remains a priority of Sedgwick County government; and

WHEREAS, there is a potential for disasters to occur anywhere, including Sedgwick County; and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County places a high importance on providing professional and effective emergency response systems, as well as prepared citizens.

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

‘National Preparedness Month’

in Sedgwick County and urge all residents to take the following steps: make a plan with your family; put together a disaster supply kit; and be informed about what may happen in our community. Don’t be afraid, be ‘Ready to Respond!’

Commissioners, that’s the proclamation. 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, “And I believe DeAnn Konkell is here to accept the proclamation.”

Ms. DeAnn Konkell, Public Safety Liaison, Public Safety Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I want to thank you very much for this proclamation for National Preparedness Month for September, as community around the country are preparing and doing proclamations in their community as well.

It is easy. We’re just asking everyone to make a kit, have a plan and be informed and also get involved. You can log onto www.sedgwickcounty.org, look at our Ready to Respond information and it can give you ideas on how to have a plan and what to put into your disaster kit. We encourage you to do that for a 72 hour period, to have supplies on hand in case a disaster happens,

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so you can sustain yourself for 72 hours. Be informed, know what's going on around your neighborhood and throughout the community, what hazards we have in our area, and also get involved. We have several opportunities throughout the community. We have the Community Emergency Response Team, people can take training and be involved in that. We have Medical Reserve Corps. There again, that is a volunteer organization with the Health Department, people can get involved. We have neighborhood watch, volunteers with the Reserve with Law Enforcement. So there are many avenues that you can get involved in your community and we encourage citizens in Sedgwick County to get involved.

We do have a few things going on this month, during National Preparedness Month, a couple of them we're partnering and doing a preparedness fair on September the 23rd and you can come out and get a lot of information on how to put together your kits and what to include in there. We'll talk about sheltering in place and do a Ready to Respond program. Again, that will be on September 23rd at 401 North Westlink. And then we're doing an intro to terrorism and criminal extremism, an awareness program for community members on September the 28th in the evening and again on Saturday morning, September 30th and that will be out at the county Extension Office.

We'll talk about terrorism and criminal extremism. We'll also talk about the CERT program, how people can get involved with that and discuss emergency preparedness information and opportunities for neighborhood involvement, so we have a few things going on this month. I encourage citizens to get out and get ready and be prepared. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Yeah, and DeAnn, I've been with you a lot of times when we did the preparedness things and the one thing that DeAnn tries to emphasize to groups when she's visiting is that the first responder in any disaster is the individual, because no matter how prepared our emergency services are, it's going to take some time for us to get that emergency vehicle to your home or the police, fire, whatever it may be and for the individual to be prepared to do what they can do immediately, once they get their family taken care of, you can reach out to your neighbors and try to get prepared. But there is a partnership that's necessary to take care of any disaster and the very first responder is the individual and I think that's why we continue to try to have those educational seminars."

Ms. Konkel said, "That's very true."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, all right. Thank you very much. Next item please."

3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2006 AS "SIGN UP FOR SCOUTING MONTH."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, another proclamation to read into the record. It states:

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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the purpose of both the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts is to inspire girls and boys to the highest ideals of character, conduct and patriotism and service so they may become happy and resourceful citizens. The Girl Scouts of the Golden Plains Council serves 7,500 girls and 2,500 adults in Butler, Cowley, Harvey, Sedgwick and Sumner Counties and the Quivira Boy Scout Council serves 15,000 boys in 30 counties; and

WHEREAS, participating in activities that are fun and personally challenging, girls and boys learn valuable decision-making skills and build self-confidence. Where today's girls and boys become tomorrow's leaders; through leadership and service, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts enrich the lives of those around them; and through many enriching experiences grow girls and boys that are courageous and strong; and

WHEREAS, both the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts are dedicated to making scouting available to every girl and boy and welcome all racial, ethnic, cultural, religious and socio-economic groups; and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County is committed to supporting the programs provided by the Girl Scouts of the Golden Plains Council and the Quivira Boy Scout Council and encourages our citizens to support both organizations and the 'Sign Up For Scouting' night activities on September 14, 2006.

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

'Sign Up For Scouting Month'

Commissioners, that's the proclamation. What is your will?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

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Commissioner Burtnett 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, “And I believe we have some people here to accept the proclamation. Please step forward.”

Ms. Angela Cadieux, Community Relations Director, Girl Scouts, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m joined by Sharon Bastion, Fred Miering and Brad Becktel from the Boy Scouts and we would like to thank you for your support of scouting.

On September 14th we will be in 165 elementary schools in our five county area to encourage parents to bring their sons and daughters out to sign up for scouting, both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts at the same time. We remind you that it’s such a positive and nurturing environment and we encourage, on those times to bring your children out so they can experience all they can in scouting.

A complete list of schools we’ll be in will be on our website, ilovegirlscouts.org and you can check out where you can come that evening to sign up and enjoy some time with family. Thank you commissioners.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Would any of the rest of you like to say anything? No. Yes? Sure.”

Representative of Boy Scouts said, “On behalf of the Boy Scouts of Quivira Council I want to thank you for your endorsement here today. Together, we do more to develop the character of young people than any other organizations and we really appreciate your support and endorsement. Thank you.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. Okay, thank you very much. Next item please.”

4. PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 10-16, 2006 AS “SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK.”

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Chairman Sciortino said, “Commissioners, I have one more proclamation to read into the record for your perusal. It states:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, suicide is the 11th leading cause of all deaths in the United States and ranks third as a cause of death among our youth age 15-24 years of age; and

WHEREAS, suicide is now the 11th leading cause of all deaths in the state of Kansas. One out of every six Kansans who die from suicide is from Sedgwick County; and

WHEREAS, in Sedgwick County the average suicide victim in 2005 was a white male in his mid-40s; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that every suicide leaves 6-8 ‘survivors’ grieving (those who have lost a loved one to suicide); and

WHEREAS, perhaps the most important factor is our resistance as a society to speak openly about suicide. Our lack of understanding keeps us from detecting signs, asking direct questions, and acting to get immediate help; and

WHEREAS, the Sedgwick County Suicide Prevention Task Force is dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths through education programs, research projects, intervention services and support groups.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September 10-16, 2006 as

‘SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK’

in Sedgwick County and I encourage all citizens to make themselves aware of the warning signs and risk factors associated with suicide and make suicide prevention a community effort.

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

MOTION

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

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Commissioner Unruh 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 and I believe there’s an Alex Reed, yes, to accept the proclamation.”

Dr. Alex Reed, Clinical Psychologist, Family and Community Medicine, K.U. Medical School/ Co-Chair, Suicide Prevention Task Force, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you once again for this proclamation. I’d just like to make a comment about how there’s still a lot of stigma regarding mental health and seeking treatments. We could go a long way in reducing our suicide rate by accepting people as they are, removing the social taboo, educating ourselves about suicide and helping people in crisis get help. There still is a lot of stigma and in 2005 there were 64 suicides in Sedgwick County and half of those people experienced some sort of noticeable mental health distress. That could be depression, anxiety, alcoholism, substance abuse or a combination of all of them.

I’d just like to add that as part of the activities that we will be doing for Suicide Prevention Week, we will be distributing on Friday September 15th 35,000 bookmarks that display the warning signs of suicide and where to get help. These will be distributed at Dillons, Quik Trips, as well as Walgreens pharmacies and this will be done by members of the Suicide Prevention Task Force as well as community volunteers. So thank you once again.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you sir. Any questions or comments? No, okay, Madam Clerk call the next item please.”

RETIREMENT

B. PRESENTATION OF A RETIREMENT CLOCK TO HENRY WHITE, DETENTION LIEUTENANT, SHERIFF’S OFFICE.

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Ms. Sheena Lynch, Senior HR Project Assistant, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We’re here to celebrate the retirement of Henry White, who is a detention lieutenant in the Sheriff’s Office, who will retire October 1st, 2006 after 19 years of service.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Lieutenant White, we have a certificate of recognition of your 19 years of invaluable service to Sedgwick County and we want to give you this proudly and also on behalf of all the citizens of Sedgwick County we have this retirement clock that you can now turn off, so you don’t have to worry anymore, but we’re very appreciative of all your service that you’ve given to all the citizens and please feel free to say a few words and let us know how you’re going to enjoy your retirement.”

Lieutenant Henry White, Sheriff’s Office, greeted the Commissioners and said, “First I’d like to thank you for the opportunity to be able to serve Sedgwick County and also special thanks to the Sheriff and the Sheriff’s representatives for giving me that opportunity to provide all these years I’ve been here. It’s going to be so like a going away from family and moving off but I will still be around. What I’m going to do is go out, fish, bring them around every now and then, let them smell it. Learn how to golf is going to be my next ambition. Again, I would like to thank everyone, even the county commissioners and citizens of Sedgwick County for allowing me the opportunity and the pleasure of serving Sedgwick County.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “If you finally learn how to golf, I want you to call the Sheriff and start giving him some lessons.”

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

CITIZEN INQUIRY

C. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Mayor Dee Stuart, City of Park City, Kansas, greeted the Commissioners and said, “In 2004, the citizens of Sedgwick County voted by a narrow margin to institute a one cent sales tax for a period

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of 30 months to pay the cost of acquisition of a site and constructing and equipping thereon a new regional event center, associated parking, infrastructure improvements and related appurtenances thereto to be located in the downtown area of the City of Wichita Kansas.

Since that time, the county has collected the sales tax and I believe collections are a little ahead of schedule. No project of this magnitude can be expected to proceed without problems. Having acknowledge that, I think it is becoming clear to the voting public that the problems with this particular project are growing.

Taking the latest figures from the county's website and comparing them to the 'Vote Yea' website that was instituted to provide information prior to the referendum, there are conspicuous changes in the plan the people of Sedgwick County voted in. Actual construction costs were listed at \$77,000,000 then. They are now nearly \$120,000,000. Construction costs have definitely gone up and this reflects a change of \$43,000,000 more for the building.

Site acquisition, site prep, demolition has gone from \$27,000,000 to less than \$12,000,000, a decrease of \$15,000,000 for acquisition and demolition. Design, permitting, furnishings and equipment has increased by over \$3,000,000. Infrastructure improvements have gone from \$4,000,000 to \$11,000,000. There was 10%, over 7.7 million dollars for contingencies, as is usual in a project like this one, the 'Vote Yeah' project listing of the project costs. There's no contingency listed now.

The preliminary design costs for the Kansas Coliseum has remained the same, but here's the biggest change. In the original plan that was sold to the public, \$5,000,000 was included for parking facilities and 19.4 million for additional downtown arena parking facilities and infrastructure, 23.6 million for an operational and maintenance reserve. All of this is now combined into a 7.1 million dollar allowance for parking and O & M reserve, a change of \$26,000,000.

The total costs remain the same, but I maintain that we are not getting the world-class facility with attendant parking that we voted for and now we're having problems with condemnation proceedings. There are exceptions to every rule and if the commission is determined to proceed with the problematic process an exception must be made for Episcopal Social Services. State law defines fair market value as 'the amount, in terms of money, that a well-informed buyer is justified in paying and a well-informed seller is justified in accepting for property in an open and

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competitive market assuming that the parties are acting without undue compulsion'. With all due respect commissioners, please remember that there is a committee working even now to devise a solution to the homeless situation. As elected officials, your responsibility includes insuring quality of life, as well as adhering to budgetary restrictions. This service to the less fortunate needs to be the exception to your rules regarding property acquisition.

You have until September 12th to decide what issues, if any, to put on the ballot for a referendum. I believe that the answer to this dilemma lies in asking the voters if they are actually willing to pay for what . . . if they're actually willing to continue to pay for a project that does not produce what they voted for in the first place, so I'm asking you to consider offering the voters the following choices. One is to consider with the project adapting the plan to the funds available from the 30-month sales tax period. Two, extend the sales tax period to allow collection of sufficient funds to build that world-class facility with adequate parking that we were promised. Or three, leave the sales tax period as it is and use the funds raised to renovate the Kansas Coliseum with its more than adequate parking and infrastructure to be the facility the community desires.

I don't expect an answer today but I think the voters of Sedgwick County will be watching for an answer at the polls in November and I thank you for allowing me to speak this morning."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Any questions or comments? Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, thank you. I certainly appreciate Mayor Stuart coming and visiting with us today and I know that she's part of the process that we're all involved in, as elected officials, so I do commend her for being out there and being in the fray.

But you know people continue to ask us to vote on a whole host of things. They say 'we want to vote on this, we want to vote on the jail, we want to vote on what's happening'. Well, this is one we took to the people and we did take it to the people in 2004 and we had . . . it wasn't a primary election, it wasn't an election that nobody came to. It was an election where in fact 78% of all citizens of Sedgwick County came and voted and they had an opportunity to say if this was a project that they wanted to pursue and the vote passed.

And once a vote passes, or once you make a decision, you've got to start laying plans and you've got to start working the plan and to come back and have a reaffirmation every six months when you run into a problem or two I don't think anything in this country would get done. And if citizens don't like the outcome of the vote, I appreciate that, but that's what this system was made on, was the democracy of voters having an opportunity to vote, so I'm confident that we're going to build a world-class facility. Do I think there's going to be problems and issues and things people disagree

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with? Yes. On any kind of project this size, there's going to be some disagreement, but as we continue to work with our architects and engineering team and our cost estimators, I think we're on a right track. So commissioners, for those who may be curious if we're going to act on this, I think right now I'm one commissioner that's still committed to going forward.

I know there are some communities in the northern part of Sedgwick County that feel very distressed that the mission of the Kansas Coliseum is going to change and they have a vested interest in the Kansas Coliseum, have a vested interest in seeing it being successful. We have made a commitment to remodel the pavilions at the Kansas Coliseum, so will the activities be the same? No, they will not be, but will there still be a significant presence on the policy of grounds, yes there will be and I think Park City will have an opportunity to benefit from the new pavilion renovations, but they will not have the opportunity to benefit in the same way with the operation of the rest of the Coliseum, so I understand Mayor Stuart's concern but I believe she does have a pretty vested interest in Park City, but that's what she's supposed to do. She's the mayor of their community, so again commissioners, I'm pretty committed to moving forward. So that's the only comment I have, thanks."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Any other comments? I'll make just a brief comment. First of all, let me just ask the Manager, the budget for this entire project was \$184,500,000 I believe and the last time I got a report, we're still on budget. Is that correct?"

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, said, "Yes, sir."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay. Now to say we don't have a parking plan is not quite accurate. What we are doing is working with the City of Wichita for an integrated parking plan. The only reason we're doing what we're doing inside the city limits of Wichita is because the City of Wichita requested us to put the new arena in their downtown area, so that they could generate enough activity to redevelop an area of their downtown that was deteriorating. Now we're wanting to look and find out exactly what their plans are and what parking needs they will need, so we can blend the parking for it with the arena with their other plans so we can have a truly integrated parking plan and we will have an integrated parking plan that will be sufficient for those people that are not only coming to the downtown arena for an entertainment or sports venue, but also they're going downtown for other events or other activity that the city is also planning.

The mayor was correct that right now our receipts are coming in slightly ahead of schedule and any monies that we get in, above and beyond the budget will go into the operational fund to cover any shortfalls that may happen to the arena for the next 20 years, so I'm very comfortable that we're doing exactly what we had promised the citizens that we would do and we're now going forward and the end result will be is that we will have a world-class sports and entertainment venue that the citizens of Wichita and the entire Sedgwick County will be able to point to with pride for the next

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20 to 25 years. Commissioner Norton, I believe you were next.”

Commissioner Norton said, “While I don’t think it’s prudent to stop and change course right now, I have to tell you, we have not gone blindly into the good night without challenging each other and asking questions. In fact I’m reminded of just last week, in a staff meeting, I challenged the process a little bit and I think Commissioner Winters got a little unnerved with me because I did. And you know what? That’s okay. That’s what we’re all trying to do with this project. To think that we’ve just moved ahead blindly and we’re not looking and considering every nuance of a very, very important project is to not know how this commission runs. But we’ve dedicated ourselves to challenging the system and the process. I know I’ve continued to bring up inquiries about things that I didn’t understand or I didn’t believe were a correct course of action, and we’ve dealt with them and we’ve talked about them and we’ve debated them and we dialogued them and then we moved forward, as we should on a project that the community has told us that they want us to administer and try to make as good as we possibly can.

So I’m not willing to change course right now, but that doesn’t mean that we’re not going to continue to challenge each other to understand every nuance of what we’re doing and make it the best we can for our community.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you, commissioner. Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’ll just make a comment that I would be in agreement with what the commissioners have said just previously, but I did want to clarify one thing. Mayor Stuart, are you speaking on behalf of your city council in Park City?”

Mayor Stuart said, “I am the Mayor of Park City, but I’m speaking on behalf of myself and the citizens of Sedgwick County.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay, so just as an individual citizen, you’re bringing these concerns. All right, so I appreciate that, that there are individual citizens around our community who have concerns and want things to go forward, but just wanted to clarify that this wasn’t any official group that you were representing. It’s just your sense of the community or of some people anyway. Is that right?”

Mayor Stuart said, “That’s correct.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, I appreciate that because every now and then I get an individual who will come up and say ‘Commissioner Dave’, or whatever they want to call me at that time, they say what are you doing with this program and things seem to be out of control, but the fact of the matter is things are not out of control. Things are going exactly as we had planned them to go.

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Things are on schedule, revenues are on schedule. There is new investment in downtown Wichita, compared to a year ago. I would like to repeat those numbers but I don't remember them, but it's a multiple of the activity that was down there previously, which indicates that there's a great deal of confidence from investors that things positive are going to happen in downtown Wichita and they don't spend millions of dollars to buy new property if they don't have plans for that, so I think that's a very positive thing.

And I believe, contrary to one of the statements, that we are going to have a world-class facility. As one of the lead architects has said, this plan has been blossoming, as we continue to work on it, and provide the arena that was originally intended, one that we promised and that's the arena that we're going to have and I'm fully convinced that it's going to be successful and we will be . . . at this point, there's no indication that the budget is out of control. We're going to be in budget, we're going to be on time. It's going to be something that we're proud of and it will benefit not only the center of downtown Wichita, but it will bring a benefit to Park City and to this entire region. I mean, this is a regional facility.

So I appreciate the comments that were made and I have heard bits and pieces of that from various individuals, but I've also heard considerable comment from folks who are saying 'can't wait till it's finished, can't wait to get in, it's going to be great'. So those are my comments, Mr. Chair."

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

Commissioner Burtnett said, "Well I really don't have anything new to say. I think you've all pretty much covered all the bases. The only thing I do want to reiterate with the citizens is this parking issue. I don't know how many times we get the issue about we're not looking at parking, and I have been to almost every single meeting that there is on the arena and at I'm guessing 90% of these meetings we discuss parking and know it's an issue and we are definitely addressing the issue. So I just want to affirm to everyone that that is not an issue that we are not looking at.

I'm proud to be a part of this and I think it is going to be a very positive thing for Sedgwick County and I think we need all the positive comments we can get and keep moving forward, so I agree with the rest of the commissioners. I think it's good that we keep moving forward on this."

Chairman Sciortino said, "And just one final thing and I'll address this to the citizens of Sedgwick County that live in Park City. Part of the entire plan was to invest close to \$10,000,000 in renovating the two pavilions and the show arena and I could be wrong and if I'm wrong I'll apologize but I would think the economic benefit to the businesses in Park City primarily are when we have those type of agricultural shows, where people come in and stay three and four days for a show, I believe that's when they would have the benefit of maybe staying at hotels and restaurants

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and what have you in Park City. When there's a concert at the arena, I don't know . . . or at the Coliseum, I don't know how many of those people leaving the concert would then spend a lot of time in Park City. I think they probably would get in their cars and try to drive home. But I do think that the amount of money we're going to invest in renovating the two pavilions and the show arena are going to make those venues more attractive and hopefully attract more shows that have a longer duration while they're there and I would think that that would be the ultimate benefit for the businesses in the Park City area."

Mayor Stuart said, "May I respond."

Chairman Sciortino said, "No ma'am, you're finish. Okay, next item please."

NEW BUSINESS

- D. APPLICATION BY ENVIROCLEAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., 3535 WEST 30TH STREET SOUTH, WICHITA, TO KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (KDHE) FOR A PERMIT TO OPERATE A MEDICAL WASTE TRANSFER STATION.**

OVERHEAD PRESENTATION

Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Enviroclean Management Services has a permit application to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for the medical waste transfer station. As part of the permit process, the Board of County Commissioners must decide if the permit application is consistent with our local solid waste management plan.

To give you some background on the Enviroclean proposal, here's a map that shows the location of the facility. It's in the southwest part of Wichita, at 3535 West 30th Street South. You'll see it's east of West Street and it's near the 235 bypass. A close up of that facility shows an existing building as well as concrete pad behind the building. Enviroclean co-leases that building with another occupant. The building will only be used for cleaning supplies and bathroom facilities. No medical waste will go inside the building.

What will happen are trucks will collect medical waste from hospitals and doctor's offices and that waste will be put in containers, such as these. The containers will be sealed and placed in a smaller transfer truck that will then take it back to this facility. The proposal then is to have those trucks move the waste material from the smaller trucks to larger, over the road semis.

So here you have the smaller trucks and then material will go directly to the larger trucks, so it's simply transferring from one vehicle to another vehicle. Then the larger trucks will take the

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medical waste to their facility in Emporia, where it will be treated prior to disposal. The company has the request in and they have gone in front of the Solid Waste Management Committee to see if it's consistent with the plan.

Our solid waste management plan does direct attention to medical waste. In one section it says that the medical waste can be treated through a waste transfer station such as this. Other options would be incineration. So the committee did review this at their July meeting. Although there was no quorum present, all of those who were present said it is consistent with our solid waste management plan.

This has also gone in front of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission and it is proper zoning and received the conditional use permit. That was unanimous and there was no discussion from neighbors, no controversy on this application. I recommend that the commission find that it is consistent with our solid waste management plan and I'll be happy to answer any questions. As well, there is a representative here from Enviroclean if you have any operations questions."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I just have a legal thing I'll ask Mr. Euson. Since there wasn't a quorum present, does that negate anything of the recommendation and what have you? It had to go before our Solid Waste Committee and they had to make a recommendation, but I believe Susan just mentioned that there wasn't a quorum present. Can that still be the recommendation of the Solid Waste Committee, since there wasn't a quorum present?"

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, said, "Well, it does seem to me initially that they would need some quorum in order to take that formal action, but I think for purposes of this application, it's the Board of County Commissioners that determines that it's consistent with the solid waste plan. So I don't know, I think the requirement is that the Board of County Commissioners do that."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, so there isn't a requirement that a formal recommendation comes from the Solid Waste Committee before we act? I mean, we can just do it on our own?"

Mr. Euson said, "Off the top of my head, I'm going to say no, but I guess I would have to look at that."

Chairman Sciortino said, "I'm not trying to throw a wrench in it, but I just picked up . . . I don't know what . . ."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Well it serves as an advisory committee. They're just giving advice and you're the official board that signs off that it's consistent with the plan."

Mr. Euson said, "I'd recommend you go ahead and take the recommended action, if you're

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prepared to do that, and if I find something in the contrary, I will let you know.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay, and I wasn’t trying to throw a wrench but I just . . . I did want to make sure we did something . . . Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well, two comments. I’ve always worked under the assumption that the Solid Waste Management team is an advisory board and we could take an action the reverse of what they recommend, so I’m perfectly comfortable in moving forward.

Susan, my only other question was I’m just trying to locate this in my mind and this is a small industrial park type area where this building is located, isn’t it?”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “That’s correct.”

Commissioner Winters said, “So there’s other industrial operations in this neighborhood where this operation is going to be?”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “That’s correct, sir.”

Commissioner Winters said, “That’s the only question I had.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “All right. Commissioners, what’s the will of the board on this item?”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to Find that the proposed Application is consistent with the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Management Plan.

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	Aye

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Next item please. Thanks, Susan."

E. DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS – HEALTH DEPT.

- 1. PRESENTATION REGARDING THE KNIGHT FOUNDATION WICHITA "CHILDREN ABLE TO READ EXCEL IN SCHOOL" PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 259 AND THE CENTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS.**

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Ms. Susan Wilson, Director, Healthy Babies Program, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here today thanking you for the opportunity to highlight the Wichita CARES program. It's a unique partnership between the Center for Health and Wellness, USD 259 and the Health Department to enhance early education opportunities in Sedgwick County and if it's okay I'd love to introduce my partners. They're going to stand when I call their names please. We have Emilie McGill, she is the coordinator for Early Childhood Development at USD 259; Terry Behrendt, executive director of Grants and Development services for 259; Nancy Rasmussen, coordinator, Parents as Teachers 259; Bev White, CEO, Center for Health and Wellness; Ann Corriston, program director for the Knight Foundation; Tami Bradley with Bothner and Bradley Incorporated and our evaluation team from the Center for Research and Evaluation Services at WSU; Randy Elsworth, Larry Gaultney and Linda Mitchell. Thank you."

Chairman Sciortino said, "You can leave when this is all over. We won't have anybody else in the audience to watch the rest of the show."

Ms. Wilson said, "What we'd like to talk about today is how early education makes a difference to our economy, to our families and to our children, really to our future. Wichita CARES is an example of how three partners, really unique partners have come together to offer early education and all the opportunities that go with that to some of the most vulnerable children in our community.

In addition, we work hard to connect those families to other community resources. These wrap-around services are necessary to give at-risk children an even start when they enter kindergarten. We're going to take a few minutes to give you an idea of where we are focusing our work, what we're doing and why we're doing it. Wichita CARES serves families in the mid-town and northeast Wichita neighborhoods, where the population is predominately African American and Hispanic and the poverty level is high."

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Chairman Sciortino said, “Excuse me a second, would you go back? What is that, 60.5% in labor force, what does that mean?”

Ms. Wilson said, “The working force in that area, so we have a lot of families who are on Welfare.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Oh, that means they’re not in the working force, 40% are not gainfully employed? Is that what you mean?”

Ms. Wilson said, “Right, correct.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay, all right, thank you.”

Chairman Sciortino left the meeting room at 9:58 a.m.

Ms. Wilson said, “Research reported by the Kansas Action for Children tells us that not all children enter school ready to learn. In fact, some of the children don’t even have an even start. For many low income and minority children, they start behind their peers and they spend the rest of their lives trying to catch up, showing poor performance in vocabulary, reading, letter recognition and math. We don’t believe that’s good enough for our community.

Wichita CARES serves children with a combination of wrap-around services, depending on the needs of each child. These wrap-around services include prenatal and postpartum home visitation, immunizations and well-child checks and new educational opportunities. Knight grant funding has allowed USD 259 to implement a new research-based curriculum at Little and Mid-town Early Education Centers, both located in our targeted neighborhoods. This Curiosity Corner curriculum focuses on the cognitive, language, social, physical and emotional development of four-year-olds. We have the ability and the responsibility to touch the lives of these children and their families.

As you can see, the research about the benefits of early childhood and early education is getting public attention. From the pilot pre-K program at the state level to the activities of Visioneering Wichita at the local level. Visioneering Wichita Birth Through K Alliance reads like a description of Wichita CARES, with the goal of both programs being school readiness. All of our partners are active members of the alliance and many of us serve on the leadership group for the alliance.

As the next few slides will show, there’s a growing need in Kansas to insure early education

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programs are available for all children, especially those at risk. More than 85% of a child's core brain structure is formed by the age of five, but that importance is not reflected in the amount of funding invested in education and development.

First, while research tells us we need to get children engaged in learning early, there are fewer opportunities available. From 2001 to 2005 for example, the average number of slots available for the Early Head Start Program in Sedgwick County dropped from 4.1 per 100 children to 3.6. For Head Start it dropped from 38.6 to 38.1 and this appears to be a growing trend across all early education programs, fewer slots and more children who need them.

In terms of health, low birth weight can affect a child's later development and as a county we are not showing consistent improvement in this area. According to research completed by the New York University Child Study Center, premature and low birth weight infants are at a higher risk for physical, behavior, academic and psychiatric problems including cognitive and academic problems such as math, reading and overall intellectual disabilities, language delays, fine and gross motor skills delays and poor coordination, audio and visual impairments and mental illnesses, such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. A baby's birth weight and brain size are affected by a number of variables, many of which can be corrected via early and adequate prenatal care and wraparound services.

Another surprising statistic is that the number of children living in poverty in our own county is growing and at a pace that even outdistances our state figures. Finally, this chart shows another indicator of children living in poverty, children approved for free school meals. And while the state and county trend lines are bad enough, the number of students who qualify for free school meals in our own district is quite literally off the charts. These are the families that we're trying to serve through Wichita CARES.

Well we've painted a picture of where we are and why we need to offer early education programs for the at-risk children. These resources are needed to level the playing field so all children can enter school ready to learn, but even more important that recognizing that the achievement gap begins before birth is the need for our community to act upon that knowledge. That is what CARES' partners are doing. Currently, there are 237 children and 114 families being served by Wichita CARES.

Now we have wonderful success stories, we hear them all the time but one of them centers around a

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16-year-old pregnant teen living in the mid-town area. She was referred to CARES by a school nurse at one of the high schools here and she received services from both Healthy Babies and Parents as Teachers. She came to us feeling helpless, not realizing there were any community resources to support her and her unborn child. As a result of education and encouragement from both programs, the teen mom has mended relationships with her family, she's finished high school and she's working and she's soon going to start a pharmaceutical tech program, something she felt was truly out of reach just a few months ago. Most important, she has a healthy baby and she has learned good parenting skills that she will use to foster learning and development for her child.

We are measuring our progress and success via a number of variables, such as health, home and school environments and learning assessments. Wichita State University's Center for Research and Services, CRS, is the independent evaluator for the program. While we're only halfway through our grant, we are seeing progress toward the grant objectives.

Among our early findings we've found that the partnership aspect allows us to recruit more families and stay in touch with those families, even though we have a largely mobile population. We have also found that our collaboration enhances our referrals to one another and helps us use our limited resources more wisely.

Early education is important. From an economic perspective, we know that early education has an impact on many factors. In terms of prevention, strategies such as CARES offer potentially higher returns on investment. In terms of workforce, we can realize more earning power and a competitive edge due to more educated workers. In terms of public safety and economics, we can see how early education directly reduces crime and dependence on Welfare-type programs.

In the end, we can all imagine what might happen if programs like CARES didn't exist. We all pay more in dollars and lost opportunities. In summary, we know the environment in our community is changing for the better and we know that investing in the future of our children makes good economic sense. On behalf of the CARES partners thank you for allowing us to tell our story. We'd be happy to answer any questions."

Chair Pro Tem Burnett said, "Commissioners, are there any questions? I see there is. Commissioner Winters."

Commissioner Winters said, "Thank you very much. I don't really have a question but I do have just a couple of comments and I really appreciate your coming and sharing with us what's happening now. You know, I think about the history of how Sedgwick County got involved in this and some of us, probably six or seven years ago, attended a conference in Topeka about brain development in children from birth to two years old, and it was taught. It was a half a day deal. The governor hosted it, really had scientists and medical people there and it was an eye opening

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experience for me to learn about that first years of life and the development of the brain.

And since then, I think it goes back when Charles McGruetter, was that our health director? Who was hear about that time and we started a couple of programs and one of them was the OLDS program which we all very enthusiastic about and then that has just kind of changed over time into what's going on now, so I again appreciate the update. I'm glad that the partners are working together and again I think it's important to realize that this is on Visioneering Wichita's radar screen, about the importance of this time in a child's life. So if I can be supportive or helpful or the commission needs to be more involved, we certainly do think that this fits well with our concept of what prevention is all about, but it just fits with what's the right thing to do with children at the most formative years of their life, right before birth and after birth. So I just . . . thanks very much for coming and making the presentation."

Chairman Sciortino returned to the meeting room at 10:02 a.m.

Chairman Sciortino said, "Okay, I see that there's no other comments. Have we already had a Motion? Okay, so what's the will of the board on this item?"

Commissioner Winters said, "Well, I think there's no action here, it's just a receive and file."

MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to Receive and file.

Commissioner Unruh 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. Next item."

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2. **AGREEMENT WITH KDHE TO PROVIDE A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN IN SEDGWICK COUNTY.**

Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The proposed agenda item for your consideration this morning is an agreement with Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Sedgwick County for the provision of the special supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children in Sedgwick County known as the WIC program to most of you.

The Sedgwick County Health Department has managed this program for several years and the program provides nutritional education to women and children, supplemental foods, health screenings and makes appropriate referrals to other social services and health agencies, as appropriate.

The clients that are eligible for this program are women who are pregnant, recently delivered or breastfeeding, and children under the age of five and in order to qualify you must live or work in Sedgwick County and meet income criteria and also be at some kind of nutritional risk, if you’re a child.

This program works with over 40 vendors in the community including: Dillons, Walgreens . . . or Walmarts, excuse me, Leekers, Sav-A-Lots, Homeland, many, many vendors and in 2005 state dollars via the WIC program totaled about eight and a half million coming into Sedgwick County.

The proposed contract amount is for \$1,498,195. It’s an increase of about two and a half percent, which helps us with inflation. That for a 12 month period and our assigned caseload is 14,007. We’re already well above that at over 16,000. We get permission to go over caseload and the caseload now is about 3% more than it was a year ago. At this time, I recommend that you approve this agreement.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thanks, Claudia. We do have a couple of comments or a question. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I’m going to be very supportive of this and it really ties in, a little bit, with what Commissioner Winters talked about on the last issue, that you know getting to young people early and even in the prenatal stages, making sure the mom is healthy and everything is so important. It seems like for the last six years I’ve pretty well asked the same question of Ted when he’s here, what is the potential if we’re at 14 and we move to 16, I can remember it when it was 10 and it moved to 12 and then it was 12 and it moved to 13 and now it’s up to 14.7 moving to 16 that were actually in it. What is the potential?”

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Ms. Blackburn said, “Your question is a great question and it’s basically what is the percentage of the target population that we’re serving and I guess historically we’ve been able to get that information from the state and we can no longer get it. So the staff anticipated your question and unfortunately I don’t have an answer. We’ll continue to try to get that from the state, but that’s a great question.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well I’ve got to believe that we’re not still reaching all the potential out there, for whatever reason. We haven’t marketed it enough, which I know we try to get to people, but there’s probably still people falling through the cracks that don’t know about this service and it’s a great, great program, obviously when you have that many people in it, it’s serving a lot but I worry about the folks that aren’t getting served.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Okay. I don’t see there’s any other questions. So Commissioners, what’s the will of the board on this item please?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Next item please. Thanks, Claudia.”

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F. AGREEMENT WITH OAKLAWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR CONTROLLED ACCESS TO CERTAIN SEDGWICK COUNTY ROADWAYS IN OAKLAWN SEPTEMBER 16, 2006 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OAKLAWN/SUNVIEW BLOCK PARTY PARADE.

Mr. Ron Holt, Assistant County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is a request for you to approve an agreement between Sedgwick County and the Oaklawn Improvement District for controlled access to certain roadways on September the 16th at their annual Oaklawn/ Sunview Block Party parade. This is an annual request and they will and have made arrangements with the Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Reserve for traffic control on the affected county roadways before the event takes place, so I would recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you. The only comment I’ll make on that, I believe it’s 47th Street that they want to block off while the parade goes north and south of 47th Street and I just want to make sure that those of us in the parade are safe and that’s what this is all about. Okay, what is the will of the board?”

MOTION

Chairman Sciortino moved to Approve the Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Thank you, Ron. I might add too that right after the parade a certain county commissioner has agreed to sit in a dunk tank and let people throw baseballs at targets. If

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you think your commissioner is all wet, here's your chance to prove it, so if you want to come, it's for a good cause so come on down and dunk me if you think you can throw one."

Commissioner Unruh said, "We wish them all good aim."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Yes, thank you very much. Next item please."

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES - COMCARE

G. AGREEMENT WITH THE MENTAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM TO PROVIDE UTILIZATION REVIEWS OF COMCARE CHARTS.

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is a renewal of an agreement with the Mental Health Consortium in Topeka for them to perform the utilization activities for COMCARE. Utilization review is systematic review of charts of patients who have Medicaid as their coverage. The reviewers check three things when they look at these charts. They make sure that medical necessity for services is present. They make sure that the level of care is correct, that our patients aren't getting any more or any less services than they need and that any alternative services that are appropriate are being recommended.

When we do this well, the quality and the quantity of services that are being provided and the accompanied documentation are better assured. And we also do this because it is a mandate of the Medicaid program that this function happen. The initial review has to be done within 30 days of the first face-to-face contact and then every 90 days afterwards and COMCARE has about 1,000 charts each month that the Consortium is reviewing for us and they do this electronically, from their offices in Topeka and we've been very happy with the service. We are recommending that you approve the agreement."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Commissioners, any comments or questions? Seeing none, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Winters 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	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you very much. Next item please."

H. KANSAS COLISEUM MONTHLY REPORT.

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr. John Nath, Director, Kansas Coliseum, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The report today is on the activities during August and in August of this year we had four events, seven individual performances, 7,337 folks through our doors and our net revenues were almost \$63,000.

Highlights, the U.S. Weapons Gun and Knife Show, with 2,500 folks in attendance. We did another Sedgwick County 4-H Horse Show with about 100 folks in attendance. And we had two performances of the Wiggles Live with nearly 4,700 folks in attendance. Little kids just really had a ball with this. This is a great show for kids and we were very lucky to get that and it worked out very well for us and they just had a great time. We also had the Park City Raceway with every other week we do go-cart racing. We had 70 folks in attendance there.

I want to take a little bit of time now, if I can get my humble assistant to help me out with my props. A year ago, we invested in a new software platform to support Select-A-Seat. The other one was an old technology. This is Windows based and it's actually Internet based. And some of the things that we can do with this is institute real-time purchasing over the Internet. We also have bar code scanning right now, which really helps out our functionality. It helps us to improve the security by blocking counterfeit tickets or duplicate tickets. It also helps us with marketing information, like for the Thunder. They will know where their group sells. They will know by the report that they will get after each event who showed up, the time that they showed up and how many folks actually did not show up.

We can do that now, but it's very labor intensive. You've got to go through each individual ticket,

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and check it and mark it down. So actually the ticket takers will probably been known as ticket scanners from now on and it's real simple. It's just like taking a PDA, scanning the ticket and it automatically goes through a wireless network and is counted that quickly.

You'll notice that each one of your tickets that you have as a sample in front of you is for the same performance, the same seat, same show. I printed eight of these so eight people cannot all sit in the same seat. Just to let you know that each one of those tickets has been printed and it has been cancelled so it's no good. That bar code is no longer effective. So when you buy the tickets, you'll get a brand new bar code and it's almost infinite the number of things you can do that way."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Don't you like Nath's assumptive technique, when you buy, not if."

Mr. Nath said, "When you buy the ticket, absolutely, positive thinking there, you are going to buy those tickets. Some of the things we can do now is print at home, which we're going to start in October. Somebody can go on-line, they can buy their tickets on the Internet and they can print them off their home computer and they don't have to wait for them to be mailed, they don't have to go and stand in line. You bring that sheet of paper, which also will have some marketing opportunities, and next month I will have an example of one of those for you, but you just bring that sheet of paper in, same bar code, it gets scanned, that lets you into the facility.

It allows for things like if you wanted to buy a set of tickets to a certain event for a friend or a relative, you can make that purchase, you can forward those tickets to somebody by e-mail, they authorize, get through on the link, they could print them on their home computer and they have them in their hand. It just allows for a lot more flexibility. It allows for a lot more customer service. It's a lot more features that we can do with these kind of things. We're looking forward to it. It's going to be a lot of fun and it's real simple. Just like a PDA, the wireless network is already set up in the Coliseum. This will certainly transfer quite easily to the downtown arena and any of the other clients that are on our system can invest in the wireless network, get the PDAs and they can use this functionality too.

If for whatever happens, the system is down, we go back to the old style and instead of becoming the ticket scanner, the ticket taker reverts to being a ticket taker and it's real simple. We still get

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that accountability on coming into the building.

Coming up we have the Kansas Paint Horse Show, 9th and 10th. The Park City State Barbeque Championship 15th and 16th. Mid-America Flea Market returns on Sunday the 17th. Kansas Junior Livestock Show, big event for us, September 22nd to the 25th. The Fall Circuit Futurity September 28th to October 1st. WWE Smackdown, which is the first event that's going to be scanned, on October 1st. Disney on Ice, the 5th through the 8th. Chisholm Trail Gun Show, the 7th and 8th. Worldwide Paint Horse Congress, now that is one of our bigger horse shows of the year and this year it's expanding into the Britt Brown Arena. We're going to load the arena with dirt, just like we do for the rodeo and they're going to have the big house as the show arena this year. And Thunder opening day is October 20th.

Commissioners, if you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them at this time."

Chairman Sciortino said, "John, I don't see any at this time. So Commissioners, what's the will of the board on John's report?"

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

Chairman Sciortino said, "I have a second. Now we have a comment from Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I'd like to go back to that last screen, John. Just make a comment, as we move forward towards the downtown arena, how many of those events would stay out at the pavilions or the Britt Brown, haul in dirt and keep it out there at the Britt Brown. Talk about some of those events."

Mr. Nath said, "I would say, out of those list of events that would transfer downtown would be the WWE Smackdown, Disney on Ice and the Wichita Thunder. The other ones are all equestrian related events over in the pavilions. They would stay in place."

Commissioner Norton said, "So many of the events that we've got going on in September would end up being out in the new pavilions anyway."

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Mr. Nath said, "That's where they would traditionally and historically have played and that's where they would stay."

Chairman Sciortino said, "So it's seven out of ten, 70% of those events are going to stay out there."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. And are those events break even events, or do they create some revenue?"

Mr. Nath said, "Oh they create some revenue, commissioner, generally through stall rentals, horse stall rentals. Actually, on a yearly basis, on average, 40% of our total yearly business takes place in the pavilions, if you look at the yearly event calendar."

Chairman Sciortino said, "What percentage was that?"

Mr. Nath said, "40%."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Well it's just part of the thought process, as we start moving towards this dialogue of what to do with the Coliseum pavilions and what transfers over and what doesn't. Some of the talks that Mayor Stuart talked about today, there's going to be a wonderful need for the Coliseum, Britt Brown Arena and the pavilions and that right there kind of tells part of the story. That's all I have, Mr. Chair."

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

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. John, I saw a note that I just need you to verify, but we have secured the 5-A and 6-A state high school wrestling tournament again."

Mr. Nath said, "Yes commissioner, we have, for 2007. Now the facility is not available in 2008 and the High School Activities Association realizes that and are looking for an alternative site those years, but we're going to try to get it back again in 2009."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay, very good. Thanks for your hard work on that. Appreciate it."

Mr. Nath said, "Well, we're struggling on that one, but we really got after it and it came through for us. We were really happy with it."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Very good. Thank you. That's all I had, Mr. Chair."

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. All right. We haven't voted yet. We have a Motion and a second so if there's no other comments, let's call the vote."

VOTE

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you, John. Next item please."

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 31, 2006.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The meeting of August 31st results in four items for consideration today."

**1) ANNUAL SYMANTEC ANTIVIRUS MAINTENANCE RENEWAL & NEW LICENSES- DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS
FUNDING: DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS**

The first item, annual Symantec antivirus maintenance renewal and new licenses for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommendation is low bid of Zones, Incorporated in the amount of \$32,763.

**2) COURTROOM PEWS & INSTALLATION- DISTRICT COURT
FUNDING: DISTRICT COURT**

Item two, courtroom pews and installation for the District Court. The recommendation is the low proposal from Sauder Manufacturing for the veneer option for an initial purchase of \$9,435 and to establish and execute contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

**3) LOCKBOX SERVICES- TREASURER/ DIVISION OF FINANCE
FUNDING: TREASURER/ DIVISION OF FINANCE**

Item three, lockbox services for the Treasurer and Division of Finance. Recommendation is the low proposal from Intrust Bank for an estimated annual cost of \$47,111 and execute a two-year

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contract with four one-year options to renew.

**4) 911 DISPATCH SYSTEM MOVE, UPGRADE AND ADDITIONAL
INSTALLATION- FACILITIES DEPARTMENT
FUNDING: PLANNING 911 DISPATCH: 911 DISPATCH/ EOC-03:
CONSTRUCTION 911 DISPATCH**

And item five . . . excuse me, item four, 9-1-1 dispatch system move, upgrade and additional installation for Facilities Department and the recommendation is the sole source proposal from Motorola and the negotiated cost of \$999,543.

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

Chairman Sciortino said, “Commissioners, any questions or comments? Commissioner Burtnett.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Well I hate to micro-manage this but on number two, the courtroom pews, the solid oak pews were going to be ten thousand two and veneer pews were nine thousand four, are these veneer pews going to work as long as a solid oak pew would?”

Ms. Baker said, “Yes, and we have tested and they work very, very well.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Just out of curiosity, do you know what the live expectancy is?”

Ms. Baker said, “It was comparable to the oak.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “Okay.”

Ms. Baker said, “There were many conversations along those lines and staff looking at the different options, the solid oak versus the veneer, feel that the veneer will hold up even better than the oak.”

Commissioner Burtnett said, “All right, learn something new every day.”

Chairman Sciortino said, “I think Commissioner Norton was next.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, item number four is the 9-1-1 dispatch center and that’s the move, the reinstallation to the new center. That’s a lot of money and is it in the budget for the 9-1-1 center, number one? And I’d just like a little explanation of what we’re buying and I saw Kent here so . . . I’m sure he showed up knowing that I was going to ask this question and give

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us some kind of explanation because there is a lot of new technology, it is going to expand our capabilities in the new facility, so a lot of money, I'd like to hear a little more detail on what this is."

Mr. Kent Koehler, Project Leader, IT, DIO, greeted the Commissioners and said, "On your first question, yes the moving of the hardware and software, moving all that equipment and adding to the numbers was included as part of the planning for the new public safety facility project, so all that, this is just one of the big chunks of what was planned, things we'd have to move and put in that facility.

This package includes first of all, moving some of the systems that are downstairs in the basement. Some of that hardware has to be replaced. Other parts of it are simply going to be moved to the new facility and to coordinate between the new facility and the old, so we don't lose any capabilities during that move.

We are adding some other pieces. There are some equipment that we have now that won't work in the new facility. For example, in the emergency operations center we're adding . . . some of the radios we have there won't work, we have to do it in a different way partially due to the size of the facility. We can't run some of the cables as long as we will need to in that facility.

Other things that are going to be changing is adding additional backup that if the radio system itself fails, the dispatchers will still have a way to communicate with units in the field from hardware that we'll install at some of the workstations, so even if we lose the radio system in this building, we lose our backup radio system, we still have the ability to communicate."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. How will this integrate with some of the new GIS systems, GPS systems and everything else that we've spent money on? Is that all going to be finely coordinated as we get into the new systems?"

Mr. Koehler said, "It will be more well coordinated and some of that moving and connecting of the new facility to some of the hardware and infrastructure in this facility is part of this. We have several systems other than voice radio systems that are included. We have a paging system, we have a fire station alerting system. All those things have to be moved, but kept operational during this time and that's part of what adds to this and makes this such a large project."

Commissioner Norton said, "This is a single source and that's because it's Motorola equipment and to be sure that it transitions well. They're really the only company that can take of all this

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because it is a lot of their equipment. Is that correct?"

Mr. Koehler said, "That is correct and to maintain that the fact that they'll still continue to support it that when we need assistance with support, they'll still provide it and it's their engineering that build it and their engineering that adds value to this."

Commissioner Norton said, "One of the hitches around the county and even regionally is that all systems don't talk to each other. That there's been federal money and state money to try to get everybody on the same system and a lot of that's Motorola system I know. Do we have the capability of connecting with all of the police and fire and not just Sedgwick County and City of Wichita, but some rest of the community now?"

Mr. Koehler said, "We are fortunate here in this county, due to some very wise decisions that were made many years ago by predecessors and department heads, we're fortunate here. Everyone can talk. Some people may still have their own radio systems that they can always talk. I do know that there's some cooperation with some of our public safety departments. They've worked with surrounding counties to make sure they at least have radios that can talk to us. And yes I know inoperability is a big piece right now. That's, nation-wide, I was just reading an article this morning saying you know there's still issues out there. I know that's things our region is looking at, as well as we are state-wide, how can we all communicate?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I think that's critical every day, but I think it's real critical in times of disaster and I know that was one of the problems they had in Louisiana, Katrina, that government agencies lost all control of being able to interface and understand what each other was doing during the times of disaster and I think it's important that in our community and in our region that we have that capability and ability for those times, not just every day, but when we have a major disaster. That's all I have, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. I see that there's nothing else, nobody else wants to make a comment, so what's the will of the board on this item please?"

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.

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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 very much, Iris. Next item."

CONSENT AGENDA

J. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Notice of public hearing October 18, 2006 regarding Sedgwick County Housing Authority's 2007 Annual Plan.**
- 2. Order dated August 29, 2006 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 3. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of August 30 – September 5, 2006.**

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

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Commissioners, any comments on the consent agenda? If not, what's the will of the board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to Approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye

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Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burnett	Aye
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

Chairman Sciortino said, “Commissioners, is there anything else under ‘other’ that we’d like to talk about? Commissioner Winters.”

K. OTHER

Commissioner Winters said, “Well I’d just like to mention that this is the time when fall festivals around the county are starting and this coming weekend, September 8th, 9th and 10th there will be a fall festival out at Clearwater. There will be a carnival, parade, arts and crafts, live entertainment. They’re going to give away two Rolling Stones tickets, a drawing giveaway, motorcycle show, car show, a lot of activities in Clearwater this coming weekend. That’s it.”

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

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I won’t comment a lot of Zoobilee, other than it is this Saturday and I’ll defer to Commissioner Unruh on that, since he’s the zoo man.

But I would like to talk about Exploration Place. We did have a T-Rex Named Sue for the last few days and it’s going to go until October 29th and I wanted to give you some numbers because as the public has wondered about so many of our public spaces like Exploration Place and Cowtown and public investment that we put into it and how are we going to get the numbers up and what’s going to happen to their future, I think these are pretty exciting numbers.

Total attendance for Friday through Monday, which is the Labor Day Weekend, to see Sue and go to Exploration Place this year, 5,646, last year, 1,100 so a pretty dramatic increase in the numbers. They Cyberdome attendance last year for the days was 263, this year 1,100. Ticket revenue was 26,000 as opposed to 5,500 last . . . the three-day period last year. The store revenue, the Explorer Store \$1,800 for that period last year, \$12,120 this year. That’s a 10,306% increase, pretty dramatic.

One thing very encouraging that the dollar of passport sales was less than \$1,000 last year and it was \$7,700 worth of passport sales, which would indicate that people are willing to now invest in a passport for their families so they can go back many more times, so very encouraging numbers for Exploration Place and yesterday, the last few days even after Labor Day have been very, very good. I was over there yesterday and it was still very active with families and grandparents and their kids

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and young families and just individuals, some seniors that wanted to see the T-Rex. So I think we've . . . I can't say we've turned the corner, but with these kind of exhibits that freshen up Exploration Place for our community I think we've turned the corner and are going the right direction. We've got the Cosmic Collision is being shown in the simulation center and it's a wonderful talk about meteorites and Kansas skies and everything. After the first of the year, Titanic will be coming to Exploration Place, so stay tuned. I think we've moved off of plumb and hopefully our investment in Exploration Place is going to be good for the citizenry of Sedgwick County. That's all I've got."

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

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I will mention, just a reminder about Zoobilee this weekend. It's the zoo's annual fundraising event. It starts at 6:00 and goes well into the evening. A lot of food and refreshments, silent auction, live auction, a band will be out there, usually a very good turnout and it's very beneficial to the Sedgwick County Zoo, so I'd encourage anybody that's inclined to get a ticket and show up because I'll guarantee it, you'll have a lot of fun. It's rain or shine, this thing goes on, so make your plans."

Also would want to mention though that on Friday night, the night before the Zoobilee, the Komen Foundation is hosting an event at City Arts where there's going to be art on display that depicts different folk's experience with cancer and specifically breast cancer. Karen and I are honored to be honorary chairs again of the Race For The Cure so we're going to be there and Karen will tell a little bit about her story, so we'd invite anybody that's interested and wants to promote early detection to come out to that event on Friday night at City Arts.

A lot of other things going on around the community. McConnell Air Force Base, I believe their air show is this weekend, so lots of things for the citizens to do. Sedgwick County is a great place to live. That's all I have Mr. Chair."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Thank you. Well, just as another plug for the Oaklawn Block Party, that's this weekend, Saturday. It starts with a parade around Oaklawn. The parade ends at the Oaklawn Senior Center and there's going to be a lot of activities, fun activities for the entire family. I did agree to be in the dunk tank, so don't let anybody know that so maybe they won't come and dunk me, but it's a fun activity. In the community, I'm very proud of Oaklawn. They've done a tremendous amount of work of just taking back their community from where it was seven or eight years ago. We're starting to see for the first time in 50 years new homes actually being built down there and sold. The ratio between home ownership and rentals are starting to move up and I've always contended that if you get a higher percentage of people actually owning their homes, the propensity is you'll keep it up a little better and what have you and the whole neighborhood is elevated by that ratio being more in balance. With everything else that's going on, if you don't have anything, it's not very far from Haysville, if you want to come up, I'll buy you a hotdog or

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something. So anyway, I don't think if a person wants to do something with their family they're at a shortage of opportunities this weekend. What does it cost to go to Exploration Place for the T-Rex thing?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Well it's a general admission and it's a sliding scale. I think kids under two are free and two to five is like a certain price and then teenagers are a certain price and then adults are a certain price. I can't quote it exactly but very reasonable for that kind of nationwide exhibit."

Chairman Sciortino said, "Well and there was a really neat show on History Channel or something last week about T-Rex in general. The big argument archeologists . . . not archeologists, anthropologists as to whether they were a carnivore or a scavenger and now they've decided maybe they were both. If they found something dead, they'd eat it. If not, they'd kill it and eat it. Anyway it was interesting story. Okay, well that's it. Is there anything else to come before the board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Burtnett moved to recess into Executive Session for 45 minutes to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney/client relationship relating to potential litigation and legal advice, preliminary discussions relating to the acquisition of real property for public purposes and that the Board of County Commissioners return to this room from executive session no sooner than 11:20 a.m.

Commissioner Unruh 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, "We are now recessed into Executive Session."

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed into executive session at 10:25 a.m. and returned at 11:43 a.m.

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Chairman Sciortino said, "Let the record show that there was no binding action taken during Executive Session. Mr. Euson, Is there anything else to come before the board? Mr. Manager? This meeting is adjourned."

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

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

BEN SCIORTINO, Chairman
Fifth District

LUCY BURTNETT, Chair Pro Tem

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Fourth District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner,
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2006