

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

January 31, 2007

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, January 31, 2007 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chair Pro Tem Thomas G. Winters, with the following present: Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Kelly Parks; Commissioner Gwen Welshimer; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Mick McBride, Risk Manager, Risk Management; Ms. Diana Mansouri, Safety Coordinator, Risk Management; Mr. Bill Meek, Register of Deeds; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Mr. David Miller, Director, Budget Department; Mr. Jim Weber, P.E., Deputy Director, Public Works; Mr. David Spears, Director, Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Mr. Greg Schuessler, Major, EMS; Mr. Bob Lamkey, Director, Public Safety; Mr. Kent Koehler, Project Manager, IT; Ms. Paula Downs, Manager, Project Services; Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. William David Cook, Member, Sedgwick County Public Building Commission.
Chief Mike McElroy, Member, Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center Advisory Board.
Dr. Ron Morford M.D., Member, Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center Advisory Board.
Dr. John Rossell, President, Medical Society.
Ms. Ann Nelson, Chief Operations Officer, Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Pastor Kim Dickerson-Oard of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Wichita.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

The Clerk reported, after calling roll, that Chairman Unruh was absent.

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Next item."

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CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, January 17, 2007

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2007.

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Commissioners, you’ve had the opportunity to review the Minutes. Are there any additions or corrections or is there a motion to approve these Minutes?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2007.

Commissioner Parks seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Next item.”

APPOINTMENTS

A. APPOINTMENTS.

- 1. RESOLUTION APPOINTING WILLIAM DAVID COOK (COMMISSIONER WELSHIMER’S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION.**

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The Public Building Commission is a five-member board and each county commissioner has one appointment. This is Commissioner Welshimer’s appointment. They serve four-year terms and I would recommend you adopt the resolution.”

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Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Commissioners, this is a resolution. Is there a motion to approve?”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “And Mr. Cook is here to be sworn in by County Clerk Don Brace.”

Mr. Don Brace, County Clerk, said, “Good morning, Mr. Cook, how are you today? Please raise your right hand.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sedgwick County Public Building Commission, so help me God.”

Mr. William David Cook, Member, Sedgwick County Public Building Commission, said, “I do.”

Mr. Brace said, “Congratulations.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Mr. Cook, on behalf of the commissioners, thank you very much. If you’d like to make a couple of remarks, please go ahead.”

Mr. Cook said, “No, I’m fine.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, well we do appreciate your willingness to serve and look

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forward to working with you.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Thanks, Dave. Look forward to working with you.”

Mr. Cook said, “Yes, ma’am, thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, next item.”

2. SEDGWICK COUNTY REGIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER ADVISORY BOARD.

- **RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHIEF MIKE MCELROY (COMMISSION AT LARGE APPOINTMENT)**
- **RESOLUTION APPOINTING RON MORFORD, M.D. (COMMISSION AT LARGE APPOINTMENT)**

Mr. Euson said, “Commissioners, again, Rich Euson. This board consists of 13 members and there are two at-large appointments. These resolutions are for those two appointments. The first would appoint Chief Mike McElroy and the second would appoint Ron Morford and I would recommend you adopt these resolutions.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to Adopt the Resolutions.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “And I believe at least one person is here.”

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Mr. Brace said, "Please raise your right hand.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Regional Forensic Science Center Advisory Board, so help me God."

Chief Mike McElroy, Member, Regional Forensic Science Center Advisory Board, said, "I do."

Mr. Brace said, "Congratulations."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Thank you again, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners and Commissioner Norton has a comment."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well I know may want to say something, but I'm just very pleased that he has taken this appointment. I've known Mike for many, many, many years. He's the Chief of Police in Haysville and I've known him up through the ranks and have worked with him and I think he'll be a great addition. We take our regional science forensic center very, very seriously and have put a lot of time and effort and money into that organization and it's good to see that we've got somebody that's willing to serve, that's got a breadth of knowledge about law enforcement and how the system works, so congratulations."

Chief McElroy said, "Thank you. I appreciate your comments and I look forward to serving. Thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you very much Mike. And as County Clerk Don Brace moves to the podium, I believe that we must have the second individual to be sworn in for this advisory board."

Mr. Brace said, "Please raise your right hand please.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Regional Forensic Science Center Advisory Board, so help me God."

Dr. Ron Morford M.D., Member, Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center Advisory Board, said, "I do."

Mr. Brace said, "Congratulations."

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Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Well Dr. Morford, I’m going to just repeat very briefly what Commissioner Norton just said. We do appreciate your willingness to serve on this board and we take all of our boards very seriously. The work of the Forensic Science Center is especially important to this entire community, so we appreciate your willingness to be part of that continuation of making that a better and better institution. If you’d like to make a couple of remarks, you’re certainly welcome to do that.”

Dr. Morford said, “Well it’s been a pleasure. I’ve been on that board for several years now and it’s a pleasure to work with the people there. They’re very professional and they’ve been very helpful to our district in carrying out our coroner responsibilities there and it’s a pleasure to serve on that board.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Well thank you very much. Were are you from?”

Dr. Morford said, “Newton, 9th District.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “From Newton, okay. All right, very good. Well we appreciate the work you’ve done and will continue to do. And for all three of citizens who were sworn in this morning, we appreciate your coming out on this very snowy morning. I wasn’t quite sure I was going to make it to work this morning, with the number of accidents on the road, but we really do appreciate your coming this morning to be in front of the commissioners and continue on or start your assignment, so thank you all very much.”

Dr. Morford said, “Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right Madam Clerk, next item please.”

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CITIZEN INQUIRY

B. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE WICHITA BLACK LEGENDS ALLIANCE.

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "I did receive a note this morning from Mary Dean, with the Black Legends Alliance, who indicated she could not be here this morning but would like to make arrangements to be here at a different time. I would just take a moment to remind those watching on television or perhaps here today that the commission does have an availability to take citizen inquiry at our meetings. What we . . . our procedure and policy is we ask that you contact the Manager's Office a week before the meeting that you wish to appear at, so you can be placed on the agenda and we allot at least five minutes for each person who would like to address the commission. So for those interested in addressing the commission, we certainly have an availability and a willingness to do that. Madam Clerk, next item."

AWARD

C. ADOPTION OF THE 2007 SAFETY SLOGAN FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY EMPLOYEES: "SAFETY! HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?" AND PRESENTATION OF A FRAMED POSTER AND OTHER SAFETY- AND HEALTH-RELATED ITEMS TO SHEILA DIEBOLD, REGISTER OF DEED'S OFFICE, WINNER OF THE 2007 SAFETY SLOGAN CONTEST.

Mr. Mick McBride, Risk Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I appreciate the opportunity this morning to share a safety moment with you. It's understood principle that safety initiatives don't work if top management won't support them or they don't support them. Thank you, commissioners, for lending your support each year since 1994 for the annual Sedgwick County safety slogan contest. This contest encourages employees to submit safety slogans for possible adoption by the county. The winner does receive a prize basket and it is sitting here behind me and I'll show that to you, a poster and some public recognition.

Once adopted by the commission, the slogan then is promoted throughout Sedgwick County. Since 2005, Risk Management has emphasized safety in Sedgwick County. The idea is for each person to do those things that will help prevent accidents and injury to our employees and our citizens.

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We have asked, since 2005, each department to establish a safety committee. At the end of 2005, ten departments have accepted that challenge and 2006 an additional ten departments joined the safety team. Additionally we have eight divisions or elected offices that have formed a safety committee: the Finance Division, Human Services Division, Community Development Division, the Appraiser's Office, Public Works, District Attorney and the Register of Deeds and the Sheriff.

I believe that there is a direct relationship between safety activities in a department and the number of preventable versus non-preventable accidents reported by the department. As a part of the Risk Management key performance indicator project, we will collect safety and claim data that should show that relationship. Simply stated, more safety activity means fewer preventable accidents. With that, I will ask that Diana Mansouri, your Safety Coordinator, present this year's safety slogan for your approval and introduce the contest winner. Thank you very much."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Thank you, Mick."

Ms. Diana Mansouri, Safety Coordinator; Risk Management, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This year we had 183 safety slogans that were submitted. This is a record high for employee participation here in Sedgwick County. I would like to thank each employee who submitted a slogan this year. Employees in almost all offices, elected offices and divisions of Sedgwick County participated. We'd like to thank the selection committee, which was comprised of employees, supervisors and managers who donated their time to help determine the winning safety slogan for 2007, which is 'Safety; How do you measure up?'

Safety; How do you measure up? Congratulations to Sheila Diebold from the Register of Deeds Office who submitted the winning slogan this year. This year's poster showcases employees in various departments demonstrating safe work habits. It's quite different from the ones that we've had in the previous years. We'd like to thank Lori Westphal in the Division of Information and Operations for taking time to go out into departments with me to take photos and to design this poster. We also want to thank the employees who volunteered to be photographed for the poster.

At this time, I'd like to ask that Bill Meek with the Register of Deeds to come forward to accept the award on behalf of Sheila Diebold. Congratulations."

Mr. Bill Meek, Register of Deeds, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Sheila informed me this morning that she thought it would be unsafe for her to come down here, therefore she asked me to come on down.

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Let me explain something about Sheila. Sheila has been working on safety and safety issues in our office for a long, long time. Sheila was instrumental in bringing in a program that would allow workers that do constant data entry by the number of strokes that they did to do a stretching and movement exercises to keep them from injuring themselves. Sheila and I, when we started this program a long time ago, main concern was is that it is not for the employee's best interest to be harmed on the job from preventable accidents. Sheila and her group have worked constantly on this issue. They have made many, many safety recommendations in our office. She's an outstanding county employee and has probably worked for the county in excess of 18 years. She's a tremendous person.

This is the second year that the Register of Deeds Office has won this program and Sheila has been charged both times. This is the first year that she has won the slogan by herself. Thank you, Commissioners."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you Bill. We appreciate your being here and please extend again the thanks from the Board of County Commissioners to Sheila. We appreciate the work that she does and we appreciate all of the actions that county employees are involved in to make this a safety workplace. I see Mick is holding the basket that Diana has won. It looks like it has some items related to safety in it. Mick, what all kinds of things are in there? Can you come back to the microphone, or Diane, will you tell us what . . . Yeah, Diane, please."

Ms. Mansouri said, "This is a basket that Sheila Diebold won. It has a notepad, safety related slogans on it from the past, it has a fire extinguisher, it has a first aid kit and a smoke alarm, all safety related items that will be very helpful."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, well again thanks to Sheila and congratulations on winning the award Bill. Thank you for coming down this morning and see that Sheila gets the basket. We do appreciate the work that Diana and Mick both do. Commissioners, just one quick story, after we had one of these several years ago talking about safety. Later that same day Diana observed me as a passenger in a county vehicle without my seatbelt on and got a very nice note from that, later that day, via an e-mail, saying Commissioner Winters, we really would appreciate it if you'd wear your seatbelt. And I want you to know that I'm usually just a 100% user but Diana was on the job, as she observed county vehicles about town. So thank you both, and Bill, for being here today."

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

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, Madam Clerk would you call the next item."

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NEW BUSINESS

D. HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

- 1. AGREEMENT WITH CENTRAL PLAINS REGIONAL HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION TO PARTNER WITH THE SEDGWICK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT UNDER THE PROJECT ACCESS PROGRAM.**

Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The agenda item before you is an agreement with the Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation, Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita to provide \$192,000 in support of Project Access for their assistance program. Project Access is administered by the Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation and is closely affiliated with the Sedgwick County Medical Society.

And I’d like to take the opportunity this morning to introduce Dr. John Rosell. Would you like to come up, John. John is the new director, he’s the new CEO of the Sedgwick County Medical Society and I’d like to give him an opportunity to say hello and introduce himself.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, welcome.”

Dr. John Rosell, Director/ CEO, Sedgwick County Medical Society, greeted the commissioners and said, “Thank you Claudia, good morning commissioners. It’s my honor to be here on behalf of the Medical Society of Sedgwick County, as well as Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation. Both entities are critically important to the community, in terms of representing healthcare issues. We certainly enjoy the close working relationship with the Health Department and Claudia and appreciate her leadership and direction and look forward to working closely with her, through both the Medical Society and Central Plains for a long time to come. Look forward to coming back in the future and communicating more about what we’re doing. Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, well thank you. Claudia, do you have more?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “Yes, I have more. First of all, I would like to say that John has been out and about and developing partnerships and I am enjoying a very close working relationship with him. Now I’d like to introduce Ann Nelson. She’s the Chief Operating Officer for the Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation and she’s going to give you a presentation on Project Access and tell you what Project Access has been up to and what plans are, so Ann.”

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POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Ms. Ann Nelson, Chief Operating Officer, Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'd like to tell you a little bit more about Project Access this morning. According to the Census Bureau, there are approximately 47 million uninsured persons living in the United States, 55,000 of which reside right here in Sedgwick County in our community. Project Access was established in 1999 to address the needs of the uninsured locally. We coordinate donated medical care for low income, uninsured residents of Sedgwick County. We have 563 local physician members of the Medical Society of Sedgwick County, providing executive leadership. They donate office space to us through the Medical Society and provide donated office visits and surgeries. We also have eight hospital systems that are providing donated in-patient and out-patient services, five safety net clinics and the Sedgwick County Health Department serve as the enrollment sites for Project Access. They provide that outreach to patients in need and provide the care coordination as the primary care provider for our patients.

The Wichita Area SRS office has repositioned six full-time eligibility specialist on a donated basis to Project Access and to the six clinic sites where they serve as enrollment staff for Medicaid, but also for Project Access. Several residency clinics also provide donated office visits and we have 80 pharmacies participating. They fill generic prescriptions at 15% below average wholesale costs. They don't charge any filling fees and recently the program has implemented a maximum allowable cost or mac-list to prevent extreme charges at any one pharmacy. That's another way to protect the pharmacy funds that we have.

We also have 12 dentist members of the Wichita District Dental Society participating. They provide donated dental services to our patients. KU School of Medicine is a partner and we also have been able to access MRI and PET imaging services, other inpatient and out-patient rehab and physical therapy and Hospice services.

Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita fund our Project Access prescription program. The city provides \$300,000 a year and the county has provided \$192,000 per year. In addition, the United Way of the Plains funds a significant portion of our operational expenses. We also have a current grant from the Sunflower Foundation, which is a statewide organization and it is funding a related data project that links five of the safety net clinics on Project Access.

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Since September 1st of 1999, when we were first established, we've enrolled 7,100 uninsured residents of Sedgwick County. We've served 1,315 patients just last year in 2006. We've tracked 56.7 million dollars in donated medical care that's been provided by hospitals and physicians, 10,000,000 of which was provided just last year in 2006. We've purchased almost \$3,000,000 in prescription medications for patients with city and county funds, \$375,757 in prescriptions were purchased in 2006. In addition to that, we've leveraged more than 1.6 million dollars in donated medications from the national pharmaceutical companies.

I'd like to tell you quickly about a patient that we had enrolled in 2006. Her first name is Lori. She's a single mother who lost her health insurance coverage upon her divorce from her husband. Her diabetes had become out of control or uncontrollable. Lori was enrolled in Project Access through Via Christi's Family Medicine program and her primary care provider. She began seeing that physician regularly, began using her diabetes medication and supplies that were all provided through Project Access. Her diabetes is now under control. She's experienced very positive health outcomes in our program. She's now able to parent her children safely and effectively. Lori, on an ongoing basis, has expressed deep gratitude for everyone related to Project Access for the care that was provided to her. She's one of many success stories that we have.

What's the return on your investment? Patients experience a clinically significant improvement in their health status when they're enrolled and we determine this through a health survey that's administered to patients pre and post enrollment. Patients and providers, physicians and others consistently report high rates of satisfaction with Project Access. We have a number of reports that are available to you, if you visit our website, projectaccess.net for more detailed information about the outcomes that we're tracking.

The county's 2006 investment of \$192,000 facilitated the purchase of patient's prescriptions and facilitated the funding of Project Access Prescription Assistance Coordinator, who happens to be here today. Her name is Fern McGehee. She was able to leverage \$469,466 dollars in donated prescriptions provided from pharmaceutical companies. Every county dollar invested in the prescription assistance coordinator's position leveraged an additional \$16 in donated medications in 2006. That's a pretty good return on the investment. The outcomes experienced in Project Access' program have led to a new initiative in partnership with the Kansas Health Policy Authority to care manage high-need Medicaid Health Connect patients. In other words, we're applying what we've learned about coordinating care for uninsured people to the Medicaid population and we're excited about where that project might head.

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I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for the partnership that you've extended to Project Access over the last seven years. The county's prescription funding is really essential for our patients, for the physicians who participate in our program and the other providers that are part of Project Access. We're here this morning to respectfully request your continued funding, support in 2007 in the amount of 192,000 and I'd be very happy to answer any questions you may have."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you very much and we have questions or comments. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I'm going to be very supportive of this, as I have for many, many years but I'd like to do a little aside to this. We talk about 55,000 people either not insured or underinsured in our community and the county has embarked on a project that I'm very supportive of, to look into access for how do we connect with those people and get them some kind of a medical home, some kind of a continuum of care. We'll be working on that through the spring. Claudia Blackburn and Charlene Stevens have taken that on as a project for the commission. We hope it will come to fruition in June, with a large group coming together to try to look at some models that have been tested and around the country and maybe develop something for our group.

But I'd like to intimate that John and Ann have both been integral in those early conversations, because they deal with that population all the time. One of the things that I've come to the conclusion on is that if you talk quality of life, healthcare access is very important. But if you just look at the economics of what 55,000 uninsured people do to our community economically, there's a big economic impact. I mean, it affects the emergency rooms of our hospitals, insurance rates go up because of that. It puts people at risk to have chronic diseases, out of control, that are much more costly than if you had caught them early on, so we're going to be work on that. Project Access, I've had the chance to go to some national conclaves with Ann to try to understand more of what they do and how it will fit into our community, on the long haul, and I'm going to be very supportive of this, but also let the public know that this is just the tip of the iceberg. There are other programs out there that we can model that we can model that are relatively cost efficient, that will serve the rest of that population. If you look at 1,600 people a year that you're touching, yet the group out there is 55,000, we're not touching enough people.

Now I know there's safety net clinics and emergency rooms and other access points, but we are just touching the tip of the iceberg and I think we can do better than that, so thank you Ann for being here. I'll be supportive of what the county gives to Project Access for your prescription. I think it's money well spent and when you get 16 times your return on investment, I think that's pretty darn good. Thank you, Mr. Chair."

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Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you Commissioner Norton. Just a brief comment, looking back, I remember back in 1998 or whenever it was we first hear about this program and I’m going to say some of us went in with some reluctance. We got in our meeting and we were there and there wasn’t much else to do. The city was really behind the project, and so we went along with this somewhat reluctantly.

The thing that has impressed me so much since then is the amount of volunteer work that physicians and other health institutions put into Project Access. I think if you . . . I don’t know how you could get a better response. If you tried to force some group of people to volunteer or whatever, it would never work like this is working with Project Access and the volunteer time that people put in who are physicians and really are dentist and are doing just a great job. From somewhat reluctance in the very beginning, I’m certainly going to continue to be supportive because this is certainly leveraging money in a terrific way.

Commissioners, are there other questions or comments? This amount was in our 2007 budget. This is the contract that we would have, which we would start dispersing those funds on a quarterly basis, so is there other comments this morning? If not, is there a motion to approve the agreement?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Thank you very much. Next item.”

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2. CONTRACT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (KDHE) TO PROVIDE FUNDING NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE IMMUNIZATION PROJECT AT HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S WOMEN, INFANT, AND CHILDREN CLINICS.

Ms. Blackburn said, "This agreement is between the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Sedgwick County and the purpose is to increase the immunization rate of children enrolled in our WIC program, our Women, Infant and Children program. Our WIC program serves a large population. We have a caseload of 16,500 and about half of those are children under the age of five.

This grant supports a full-time nurse, who works to insure that WIC children are up to date on their immunizations. The program started in 2002 and the first measurements that we have, and it's not really a baseline, we actually took these measurements a little bit after we started this program, show that the immunization, the up to date immunization rate was 63%. The rate increased to 83% in 2005. In 2006, we had a vacancy of the nurse position for about six months because we had difficulty recruiting a nurse and the rate dropped again, so we think there is a definite relationship between having this case manager in place and the immunization rate for our children.

This nurse actually sends notices to patients, but also provides immunizations at our WIC sites and because it's a nurse, she's able to do more than just give immunizations. In fact, she is a consistent contact the parents can call to get reliable health information. For instance, a young mother called the other day after receiving a postcard from our program letting her know that she was behind on immunizations for her children and talked to the nurse and said she knew her children were behind, but she didn't have health insurance, she was trying to get on the state health program and she didn't know where she could go, so the nurse was able to let her know that we have a vaccine for children program, a reduced price vaccine program for children that don't have insurance. She was also able to hook her up with a provider so that she could get the services that she needs. So not only are we providing immunization services and improving the health of children, we're also connecting people to services in the community that they need.

The contract is for 28,161 for six months and we anticipate a new contract in July for one year. The state is apparently transitioning our contract to the state fiscal year. I recommend that you approve this contract and authorize the Chair to sign any associated documents. I'd be happy to answer any questions."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you Claudia. I think we have a couple of questions from Commissioner Parks."

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Commissioner Parks said, “Well, I’m familiar with the WIC program through my former job and I think it’s a great program. How many sites do we have now? You said something about WIC sites.”

Ms. Blackburn said, “We have three sites. We have the main Health Department site on East 9th. We have Stanley and Colvin, those are the other two sites.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Have those, over the years, been diminished? Did you, at one time, had more sites than that?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “Yes. And I think some of the consolidation happened before my time, but I know we closed Orchard Park in the last year and a half.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Was that just due to financial or participation or do we know?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “Mostly I think financial and just trying to create more efficiency within the program and it seems to be working well with the three sites that we have. We also had a site at Evergreen that closed and we no longer have a presence at Evergreen. Grace Med has taken over the Evergreen Clinic and expanded it and opened a children’s primary care clinic.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you. Any other questions, commissioners? Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I talk about this every year. My first year as a commissioner, we had like 8,000 participants. Now we’re at 16,000. What is the potential? Every year it just seems like we’re finding more and more people that are eligible for this program and I think, you know, we keep serving more and more, which is wonderful but what is the potential still? Are we meeting every need?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “You know, I knew you were going to ask that question. We have tried to get the information to be able to answer that question and we have not been able to get that report from the state, but we seem to be fairly stable. I think we’re, for the last couple of years, it’s been around the same. So it depends partially on the economy and if the economy is good, we may have a little bit of a decrease in WIC. If the economy is not so good, it goes up.”

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Commissioner Norton said, “Well I guess it’s good news that it’s stabilized and it’s not growing exponentially like it was, because it seemed like every year we were picking up another two or three thousand candidates and if it’s kind of leveled out, I think that’s good news that maybe we’ve started to stem the tide on this program and it won’t get a lot larger. Although if the need is out there, I don’t have a problem with it getting larger, but it’s nice that maybe it’s not getting larger.”

Ms. Blackburn said, “You know, the good thing is that if there is growth, we can accommodate that growth. We have a very efficient system. It’s a wonderful program. It’s one of the best public health programs that exist and it really provides the foundation for dealing with some of our nutrition related health issues.”

Commissioner Norton said, “And it’s really a federal program, through the Department of Agriculture, is it not?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “Yes.”

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

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you very much. Any other questions of Claudia? If not, commissioners, what’s the will of the board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Parks seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Next item.”

3. AGREEMENT WITH WESLEY MEDICAL CENTER, WICHITA CENTER

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FOR GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION, INC. AND THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE-WICHITA TO MAINTAIN A TRAINING ENVIRONMENT FOR RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN PATIENT CARE WITH NONHOSPITAL SITE TEACHING STAFF PHYSICIANS.

Ms. Blackburn said, “This agenda item is an agreement between Wesley Medical Center, Wichita Center for Graduate Medical Education, KU School of Medicine- Wichita and Sedgwick County to allow the Health Department to continue to function as a non-hospital clinical site for residents for the Wesley program. We have doctors who are completing their fourth year in residency to be OB-GYN doctors and this provides us five dollars per hour of their time at our clinic and so it’s about \$2,000 a year and the benefit is, that we in addition, we have other contracts that talk about our relationship with the physicians, and so it allows residents to come and see our prenatal patients and gives them an opportunity to learn about patients who may be uninsured and they have to think of other ways to get prescriptions filling and take care of their medical needs with an uninsured population. So it’s of benefit to both the residency program and the Health Department clients. I recommend you approve this item and authorize the Chairman to sign all related documents and I’d be happy to answer any additional questions.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Claudia, how long has this program been in place, do you know?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “For over two decades.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “A long time. All right, thank you. Are there other questions of Claudia on this item? Seeing none, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Next item."

- 4. AGREEMENT WITH KDHE TO CONTINUE DELIVERY OF AN HIV RISK REDUCTION CURRICULUM FOR WOMEN WHO RECEIVE ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT IN A RESIDENTIAL SETTING, AND TO PARTICIPATE IN AN HIV PREVENTION OUTREACH COLLABORATIVE OF LOCAL AGENCIES TO TARGET CERTAIN POPULATIONS.**

Ms. Blackburn said, "This agreement is with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for \$10,000 to deliver HIV prevention services to women undergoing treatment for alcohol and substance abuse. Our HIV prevention educator provides these services using a special curriculum that was developed by the Health Department staff that reaches . . . it reaches women who are in substance abuse treatment and recovery and it teaches risk reduction, so it's not just about HIV prevention. It's really about how you identify a high-risk behavior and what skills you need to avoid that behavior.

Women are served in small groups. It's a multi-session program and they start off learning, they increase the awareness and by the end of the program they're actually treating each other, so that they've really embraced the concepts that are needed to reduce their risk. I mean, they learn negotiation skills and other things. And so it's been a really rewarding program. This is a small grant, \$10,000. It helps to fund our already existing HIV/ STD educator and supports the overall HIV program and I recommend that you approve this agreement and authorize the Chair to sign any related documents and I'd be happy to answer any questions."

MOTION

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

Commissioner Parks seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Next item."

5. AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT WITH KDHE FOR BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING.

Ms. Blackburn said, "This is my last item, commissioners, Claudia Blackburn again. The item before you is an amendment to the Bio-Terrorism Preparedness Response contract with KDHE to provide an additional \$177,258 to the existing contract for pandemic influenza planning. This increases the award for federal fiscal year 2007 from \$427,744 to \$605,002 and there's no match required for this program.

In the last year, we have made great strides on pandemic influenza planning. We convened a task force of 122 members, representing 48 different agencies that helped us with the planning process for pan flu. We worked with the county review team to make sure that we were thinking of everything that we needed to think of related to pan flu. We completed a business continuity guide that was sent out to 9,000 businesses and we've made lots of presentations in the community, we've done many exercises, including a mass vaccination exercise at the Coliseum a couple of months ago.

So we have done a lot of work in the last year. With this money, we plan to continue to recruit

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members for the local task force, continue to convene ongoing meetings of the task force, conduct a tabletop exercise of the community disease containment standard operating guide and provide an after action report and a corrective action plan and complete the pandemic influenza, local self-assessment survey to measure our progress and a number of other things that are outlined in our grant requirements, so we will continue to keep you updated on what we're doing and involve you and make sure that you have the most up to date training, so that you know what your role is as well. I'd be happy to answer any questions and I do recommend that you approve this contract."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you. Claudia, I just have one. Does your planning and your department's planning for pandemic flu go beyond the borders of Sedgwick County, or is it basically a county planning study?"

Ms. Blackburn said, "Our planning goes beyond the borders, but not so much with this money. We have another grant, a city's readiness initiative grant that addresses that. We are working with South Central Metro Region neighboring counties to help with that expanded plan."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Okay, thank you. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I think this is a perfect time to maybe do an update on pandemic influenza. I know you continue to get information out to the public and talk about that and we plan and plan and prepare and prepare and it looks like maybe nothing is happening, but we know worldwide that we're still at risk, so maybe this is a perfect time to give just a little snippet of an update."

Ms. Blackburn said, "Would it be possible to schedule that? I would like to schedule that for you and do it right and . . ."

Commissioner Norton said, "Sure, yeah."

Commissioner Winters said, "I didn't mean to put you on the spot, but you know it is something that is continuing on people's minds, yet it kind of goes away if nothing is happening."

Ms. Blackburn said, "I will tell you that this week you will receive an update and that will tell you what all of the different committees from the Pandemic Influenza work group have been up to and the progress that they're making and it's quite a long list, so we tried to pare it down and you'll be getting that electronically in the next couple of days."

Commissioner Norton said, "I think it would be appropriate to maybe come back and give us an

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update on pandemic flu and what it looks like through the World Health Organization, what's really happening in other countries that is going to end up affecting the United States and maybe our south central Kansas locations."

Ms. Blackburn said, "Be happy to do that."

Commissioner Norton said, "That's all I have, Mr. Chair."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you. Good suggestion. Commissioners, you've heard Claudia's report on this item. Are there other questions? If not, what's the will of the board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Parks moved to approve the Amendment to Contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Thank you very much, Claudia. Next item."

E. ALLOCATION AND INTERFUND TRANSFER OF UNEXPENDED 2006 BUDGET

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AUTHORITY TO THE EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Mr. David Miller, Director, Budget Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Before you this morning is a request to reallocate unexpended 2006 budget authority to the equipment fund established under KSA 19-119 and the Capital Improvement fund established under KSA 19-120. The allocations include, for the general fund, \$6,000 requested from EMSS for training equipment, \$20,000 requested by the Regional Forensic Science Center for lab equipment, \$115,548 requested by the Sheriff’s Office for an upgrade to their jail management system, \$105,506 requested by the Sedgwick County Park to connect the park to the City of Wichita’s sanitary sewer system, \$20,105 requested by Sedgwick County Park for construction of a restroom near the new boundless playground, \$32,300 requested by the Sedgwick County Appraiser for adjustments to the new CAMA Mass Appraisal System that will be going live later this year, \$12,281 requested by Human Resources for the implementation of a new imaging system, \$28,000 requested by DIO for sidewalk and parking repairs, \$12,500 requested by the Health Department to purchase ten new examining table in its clinical services. For the 9-1-1 telephone fund, \$829,197 to create a reserve for the potential replacement of the 800 megahertz radio system in the future, and \$45,076 from the Special Parks and Recreations fund to set aside money for reconstruction of the Plum Shelter. I recommend that you approve these adjustments and I’ll stand for any questions.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you David. A quick question about the 9-1-1 and the radio fund and I realize that someday the 800 system, the megahertz system will be replaced. Will everyone in the county, I mean all jurisdictions, the smaller city police forces, the City of Wichita, and maybe you’re not the right guy to ask about radios, you’re the budget guy, but I guess I was curious and I see Bob Lamkey coming. Bob, this may be the wrong question in the wrong item here, but I guess I’d be curious to know about that in some more detail later maybe, but do you have a quick answer for that or not?”

Mr. Bob Lamkey, Director, Public Safety, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Yes, it’s our intent that the county and the 9-1-1 system maintain the backbone and architecture, ad infinitum, so as we make changes to the 800 megahertz system, we will work with those who use the current system to make sure they continue to communication in an operable way in our community. That’s our plan.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “And that’s a change over that’s going to happen that we don’t have much control over and is going to cost a lot of money.”

Mr. Lamkey said, “The digital revolution is here and sometime in the next . . . between now and

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2013, we're working on a plan, an opportunity to do that, so that's coming in the future."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "But we're talking about several millions of dollars to make that trade-out."

Mr. Lamkey said, "That's correct."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Okay, thank you very much. Are there other questions, commissioners, about any of these budget transfers? Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well I think the public needs to know that even though we're doing some budget transfers, there were many, many more requests that aren't being fulfilled. We had staff, the budget department look at it, analyze it, make sure this was money that needed to be encumbered and then made this recommendation, but there were many, many more requests that were not being dealt with, that we didn't think was prudent to move forward on at this time so this is just the ones that you're moving forward to us, is that correct?"

Mr. Miller said, "That's correct, commissioner. In the sense of the general fund, we received 1.7 million dollars in requests and the recommendations before you today total \$352,000, so it's considerably lower than the total request that we received."

Commissioner Norton said, "Right. Now the \$829 is just moving money into the fund and it will start building up, because the actual ticket for that is much more than \$800,000. Is that correct?"

Mr. Miller said, "That's correct, commissioner. The estimates we've received so far from staff is that replacement of the radio system could reach as high as \$16,000,000 by 2013, so we want to be prudent in our actions and start setting aside money, as we start to approach that date."

Commissioner Norton said, "This really starts to push money into a rainy day fund, is that correct?"

Mr. Miller said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Norton said, "So that hopefully there won't be as much of a budget impact in the year that we have to replace it or buy it."

Mr. Miller said, "That's our hope."

Commissioner Norton said, "The other part of it is that several of these projects, the Sedgwick

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County Park is over \$100,000 but that has to do with hooking onto the sewer system in the Sedgwick County Park that is situated right in the City of Wichita, it's surrounded, even though it's county property and the septic system there is starting to fail and will create groundwater problems and other problems and it just seems prudent to hook onto city sewer and make sure that park is safe for many more years. Is that correct?"

Mr. Miller said, "That's correct, commissioner."

Commissioner Norton said, "Along with that, we're also putting a . . . hooking a bathroom to that sewer system, next to the boundless playground. We've got one out there that's out of date and with the kind of private money that's going into the boundless playground by the Rotary Club, it only makes sense to have good facilities next to that. Is that a fair statement?"

Mr. Miller said, "I concur."

Commissioner Norton said, "That's all the questions I have right now."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you commissioner. I apologize, I didn't see who was first here. Commissioner Welshimer."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "One question. This is moving money from the current estimated budget? This is not new revenue that we're going to have to come up with."

Mr. Miller said, "That's correct. It's moving unexpended budget authority from 2006 into these reserve funds, the equipment reserve fund and the Capital Improvements fund that we're allowed to do by state statute for projects that often reach over multiple years."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you. Commissioner Parks."

Commissioner Parks said, "And I talked a little bit with David about this yesterday also. Some of

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the money for the 9-1-1 center, there's going to be 9-1-1 tax money available for some of that equipment and then there's a Nextel court case, something coming up with that also and I believe there's going to be some money from that. I think we should move into the digital age just as soon as we can. 2013 may be a little bit too far out for what I would like to see. The cost may escalate during that time and this needs to happen. Also, when I was talking with David, in our next workshop I think we need to have, with Division of Finance, that maybe we could get a review of the policies that we have with this money that's in the case carryover. It's somewhat different than I'm accustomed to and I'd just like to . . . Mr. Miller told me yesterday that there's been some commission policies and I think maybe we need to go and review those in the next workshop. That's all I have."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "all right, thank you very much. Are there other questions or comments of David? If not, what's the will of the board?"

MOTION

Chair Pro Tem Winters moved to Approve the allocation and transfer and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Thank you, David. Next item."

F. PUBLIC WORKS.

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1. LETTER OF AGREEMENT AND REQUEST FOR PROVISIONALLY ACCREDITED LEVEE DESIGNATION FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY. ALL DISTRICTS.

Mr. Jim Weber, P.E., Deputy Director, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The good news is, I’ll only have one item for you today. In Item F-1 we’re requesting that you authorize the Chair Pro Tem to sign a request that the Federal Emergency Management Agency designate the levees in the Wichita- Valley Center Flood Control Project as provisionally accredited levees.

New countywide floodplain maps are due to become effective this Friday, February 2nd. Approximately 60 days ago, FEMA informed local officials that the maps would be rescinded unless all of the communities in Sedgwick County that are protected by levees submit this kind of request and agree to complete the accreditation process within two years.

Haysville, Valley Center, Park City, Wichita and unincorporated areas of the county all have property that is protected by the levee system and all of those communities must sign these agreements. A failure by any one of those communities to sign the agreement would cause FEMA to rescind the maps for all of the communities in the county.

Design and construction of the levee system in Sedgwick County was begun approximately 50 years ago. The US Army Corps of Engineers designed and constructed the levees. Wichita and Sedgwick County acquired the right-of-way and are responsible for maintenance of the system through a jointly funded flood control department that’s managed by the City of Wichita. The system is inspected annually by the Corps of Engineers staff in Tulsa. It includes approximately 100 miles of levees and protects properties along the Big Arkansas River, Little Arkansas River, Middle Branch of Chisholm Creek, Main Branch of Chisholm Creek and the West Branch of Chisholm Creek. The most well know portion of the project is what we commonly know of as the Big Ditch.

The current flood plain maps for Sedgwick County became effective 20 years ago and about ten years ago FEMA began the process of remapping the entire county into a single set of maps. FEMA implemented a new requirement for levee accreditation in late 2005 as a response to levee failures during Hurricane Katrina. The local officials here were told repeatedly that these requirements would not be placed on the communities in Sedgwick County because our maps had been in process for such a long time.

As I told you earlier, everything changed two months ago. FEMA has taken a very strong position

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in requiring the accreditation. In order to allow our maps to become effective, they have offered to modify the maps with provisionally accredited levee designation as long as we agree to complete the full accreditation process in the next two years.

We are unable to tell you what it will cost to accomplish this task. It may be necessary to hire consulting engineers to perform settlement analysis, seepage analysis, do field surveys, soil borings and a complete hydrological and hydraulic analysis of the system could be applied to all or just some of the system. We can tell you that a failure to make this commitment will result in FEMA removing the levees from the maps. In effect, FEMA will act as though the levees do not exist. Many of the property owners who are not in floodplains will be required to purchase flood insurance policies that they do not need. Some of the affected areas would include Riverside, downtown Wichita, any area that's adjacent to the Big Ditch, probably the whole city of Haysville.

We recommend that you authorize the Chair Pro Tem to sign the letter agreement. Since the levees are maintained by funding from both Wichita and Sedgwick County, the letter has been prepared as a joint document. The City of Wichita has already signed. As soon as we can get the Chair to sign, we will fax it to FEMA in order to insure that the new maps become effective on Friday.

This will give us time to work with FEMA and the US Army Corps of Engineers on the accreditation process and seek out other funding sources for the work and most importantly, properties that are already protected by the levees will continue to receive insurance credit for that protection.

Finally, I want to assure you and the public that the levee system is well maintained and providing the flood protection that it was intended to provide. FEMA is simply requiring us to provide it. I would be happy to try to answer any questions that you might have.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, Jim. Commissioner Parks.”

Commissioner Parks said, “What does the corps do during these inspections? Is the corps going to be commissioned now to have another inspection or a more intense inspection and how long does that process take?”

Mr. Weber said, “I'll start with the current inspection process is an on the ground field inspection to make sure that it's properly maintained, that there's not something, some evidence that there's a failure occurring. The new work would require, essentially, going back and looking at the original design of the projects and looking at the field conditions that are out there to make sure that they meet current Corps of Engineers design standards.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Okay, so when the corps comes out to inspect these things, is it a two-week project or is it a three-week project?”

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Mr. Weber said, "I don't think it's probably even a week-long project. I don't know for sure, because that's handled by the flood control department and we don't . . . as county Public Works, we're not involved in the inspection process."

Commissioner Parks said, "Well I just have a little problem with saying that we're going to sign something and I know we have to. It's kind of a . . . oh, I guess I'll use the word blackmail, from that and it really rubs me the wrong way that they can't give us a cost figure on this and we're signing something that we don't know what the cost is going to be."

Mr. Weber said, "I assure you that the staff feels the same way and we've had this discussion with them on more than one occasion."

Commissioner Parks said, "If I could ask Rich Euson, what happens if the cost that comes through are astronomical and we can't meet that burden and is there a contract, some way that . . . legally, that we can get out of that?"

Mr. Euson said, "I think at that point in time, we would just have to go to FEMA and negotiate other arrangements with them."

Commissioner Parks said, "Well I think this is an important project and I do live along the Big Ditch, so it's important to me not to get my roof wet, you know, if it does fail. But when they can't tell us how much it's going to cost or give us any of the other specs on this thing, I think they've really overstepped their authority and whether it's that or whether they've just had some planning errors or something, I don't know. I'm prepared to vote for this and vote in favor of it, but with high reservation that we're going to spend a lot of money on it."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you very much. Well I think this is probably one more way where we can feel how Hurricane Katrina and the failures of the levees in that event are going to have an effect on all of us. Jim, am I correct that all of the other local governments that you mentioned that needed to sign this letter, have they all done that?"

Mr. Weber said, "I believe so but I'm not been able to confirm that everyone has done them yet, but I think so."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "But . . . and it's my understanding that this letter needs to be signed today. Is that correct?"

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Mr. Weber said, “If I can get you to sign it today and get it back from you, so I can get it on the fax machine, I’d love it.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Okay, good. Well, if we are ready to proceed, and I share Commissioner Parks’ concern that it really is kind of an issue where we’ve got no chance, but we’re still not sure we can see what the result is going to be, but we’ve got no really alternative, except the sign the letter. We need to have a motion and I think the motion should allow the Chairman Pro Tem to sign, since our chairman is out of the city.”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Letter of Agreement and authorize the Chairman Pro Tem to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Thank you, Jim. Next item.”

2. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING BRIDGE WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL BRIDGES WITHIN SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS; PROVIDING

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**PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS; AND
RESCINDING ALL PREVIOUS DESIGNATIONS OF BRIDGE WEIGHT
POSTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL COUNTY BRIDGES WITHIN
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS. ALL DISTRICTS.**

Mr. David Spears, P.E., Director/County Engineer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This resolution updates the bridge weight posting requirements for all county maintained bridges. We have a total of 652 bridges, of which 123 are posted, four are closed and 525 are open. Open road limit bridges are defined as those bridges that can handle any Kansas legal load.

As far as posted bridges are concerned, in 1985 we had 318 and as of this date we have 123, which is a significant reduction over a time period of 22 years. This resolution designates bridge weight posting requirements for all of our bridges, in accordance with procedures outlined by the Kansas Department of Transportation. Therefore, we will remain eligible for federal funds. I recommend that you adopt the resolution.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Thank you. Commissioners, are there questions of David? If not, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Parks moved to Adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Next item.”

**3. MODIFICATION OF FLEET INVENTORY TO CHANGE CLASS OF
THREE SINGLE-AXLE DUMP TRUCKS TO TANDEM-AXLE DUMP**

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TRUCKS.

Mr. Spears said, "In Item F-3 we are requesting that you approve a change in class for three dump trucks in the fleet. Vehicles 0034, 0066 and 0078 are currently class 316, single-axle dump trucks. We have been working with Fleet Management to replace these trucks with class 322 tandem axle dump trucks. Over a period of years, we have replaced most of our single-axle trucks with tandems. The primary benefits from the switch are: tandem-axle trucks will haul 40 to 50% more material. There will be a reduced number of trips needed to complete projects, increased productivity for the truck and the driver, lower operating cost in fleet billings despite higher capacities.

Purchasing and Fleet Management have incorporated the addition of three tandem trucks to a bid package to replace six existing tandem axle trucks. The bid price for each tandem axle truck was \$108,386.06. Fleet Management estimated the replacement cost for single-axle trucks at \$87,300 and has agreed to provide fleet funding in that amount for each upgraded vehicle. Public Works will provide the additional \$24,686.07 per vehicle from the Special Highway Equipment fund for a total of \$74,058.18. Since the upgrades are timed to occur with a larger buy, we believe that the economies of scale will allow this change to be made for the least possible cost. We recommend that you approve the class change."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you. Are there questions of County Engineer David Spears? Commissioner Welshimer."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "So you're trading in the older trucks?"

Mr. Spears said, "Yes, they will be sold, I think, on govdeals.com or something like that. The county gets a better deal that way than actually trading it in, but yes, we will not have those any more."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "So the \$74,000 is the difference."

Mr. Spears said, "That's the difference, yes ma'am."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "If you get what you're looking for on the Internet."

Mr. Spears said, "If we get what we're requesting."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Is this a new appropriation, or is this budgeted? Is this coming out of the 2008 estimated budget?"

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Mr. Spears said, “No, this will come out of the special equipment fund that we have and that’s by separate statute for Public Works for equipment and what goes into that is like when we save money at the end of the year of any budget year, any money that we have left in the budget can be put in that special equipment fund, so it’s money from the past that we have that’s sitting there that can be used for this.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Commissioner Parks.”

Commissioner Parks said, “I guess not a question, but a comment. I did talk with Mr. Spears on this and definitely the tandem axles are a more hardy unit and I’m familiar with some of those that have been the single-axle and they’ll cost you in maintenance, three or four years down the line more than this and I think this is a good thing. And I do want to commend the bid process on this for staying local and using a inside Sedgwick County vendor for this trucks. Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you very much. Just David, one more comment, this is not increasing the number in the fleet, just increasing the size of these particular units.”

Mr. Spears said, “That’s correct.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right. Are there any other questions of David? If not, what’s the will of the commission?”

MOTION

Chair Pro Tem Winters moved to Approve the modification to Fleet inventory.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Thank you, David. Next item."

G. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 25, 2007.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The meeting of January 25th results in ten items for consideration today.

1) CHANGE ORDER #3 FOR NEW 9-1-1 FACILITY- FACILITIES DEPARTMENT FUNDING: CONSTRUCT 9-1-1 DISPATCH/ EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER- 04

The first item is change order number three for the new 9-1-1 facility for Facilities Department. Recommendation is to accept the change order with Walz Harman Huffman for a net cost of \$132,278.

2) CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW FIRE STATION #32 FUNDING: RELOCATE FIRE STATION #32

Item two, construction of the new Fire Station #32. The recommendation is to accept the low bid from Compton Construction Corporation for an amount of \$2,580,000.

3) FURNITURE/ WORKSTATIONS FOR THE NEW 9-1-1 CENTER- FACILITIES DEPARTMENT FUNDING: CONSTRUCTION 9-1-1 DISPATCH/ EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Item three, workstation furniture for the new 9-1-1 Center for Facilities Department. Recommendation is to accept the quote from John A. Marshall in the amount of \$198,711.47.

4) UNITY AND CALL MANAGER UPGRADE- DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS

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FUNDING: DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS

Item four, unity and call manager upgrade for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommendation is to accept the low bid from SKT in the amount of \$46,351.75.

**5) DIGITAL CAMERAS- SHERIFF'S OFFICE
FUNDING: JAG GRANT**

Item five, digital cameras for the Sheriff's Office. Recommendation is to accept the low bid on item one, low bid meeting specifications on item two, eight and nine, and item seven from Best Buy for an initial purchase of \$30,049.60 and to establish and execute contract pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

**6) PARENT TRAINING- DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
FUNDING: GRANT FUNDED**

Item six, parent training services for the Department of Corrections. Recommendation is to accept the proposal from Kansas Children's Service League for a cost of \$91,515.

**7) JUVENILE INTAKE & ASSESSMENT CENTER (JIAC) CASE MANAGEMENT-
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
FUNDING: GRANT FUNDED**

Item seven, juvenile intake and assessment center, which is JIAC case management. Recommendation is to accept the proposal from Kansas Children's Service League for a cost of \$135,135.

**8) SOFTWARE & EQUIPMENT SERVICE AGREEMENT- FORENSIC SCIENCE
CENTER
FUNDING: TIXICOLOGY/ CRIMINALISTICS**

Item eight, software and equipment service agreement for the Forensic Science Center. Recommendation is to accept the quote from Agilent Technologies in the amount of \$54,923.79.

**9) TANDEM AXLE DUMP TRUCKS- FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: FLEET MANAGEMENT**

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Item nine, tandem axle dump trucks for Fleet Management. Recommendation is to accept the low bid meeting specifications from Doonan Truck, option four, for a cost of \$975,474.54.

10) DEFIBRILLATORS- EMS DEPARTMENT
FUNDING: EMS OPERATIONS

And item ten, defibrillators for EMS Department. Recommendation is to accept the quote from Medtronic Emergency Response Systems in the amount of \$266,446.39.

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

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you Iris. Commissioners, quite a lengthy list from the Bid Board. Are there any questions concerning any of these items? Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I’ll kick it off. On item ten, talk a little bit, I mean it’s \$266,000, pretty hefty sum and are we replacing some defibrillators that are out of date, don’t work properly or are these new defibrillators?”

Ms. Baker said, “It is a replacement and EMS is here and they can speak to the product and the need for it if you’d like.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, let’s have EMS come forward please.”

Mr. Greg Schuessler, Major, EMS, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is replacement of 16 LifeVac 12s that are seven years old now and it’s to replace the existing equipment with new upgraded equipment.”

Commissioner Norton said, “What will we do with the old defibrillators. Do they go into other use, other places? Are they donated to some other entities like small towns or churches?”

Mr. Schuessler said, “These will be traded in. They’re FDA regulated, so we’re real careful about putting those on govdeals.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay. That’s all I had on that item. I just wanted to be sure. That’s a pretty expensive item and I know we need them.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “And I would assume that these are better, newer. In this kind of business, it probably has some improvements and reliability?”

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Mr. Schuessler said, "This is about the same price that we paid in 1999 for the product. It's improved with more integration into it, more features that we didn't have in 1999 when we bought the last lifepacks."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Will that supply all the needs for all the EMS vehicles? Is that comprehensive, or are there still others?"

Mr. Schuessler said, "This is supplemental, from the Department of Homeland Security, the ODP money we received last year when we bought eight and we're just about one short of completely replacing all the units."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay, good. That's all I have on that subject. Thanks."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Are there any other questions of the EMS folks?"

Commissioner Parks said, "No, that answered the one that I had."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Okay. Tim, continue on."

Commissioner Norton said, "On item number two, this is on the construction of the new fire station, I just have one question. Under Alcon and Associates, they are like \$16,000 difference in the bid, but the days are significantly different. And I wondered, you know, that is, I think, an important item that we should look at, if we can get that project done 90 to 100 days sooner, that takes our project managers and our time down considerably. And I just wondered why we didn't consider that, because \$16,000 to get . . . to pick up over 100 days is pretty significant."

Ms. Baker said, "It was considered as part of the evaluation. Some of the things we looked at, when we put out or bids we determine, we pre-determine liquidated damages on a daily basis, based on effect to the project, staff time, and a whole slew of other factors. When the bids came in and we compared the days to do the job to what the architects had estimated. All of these fall within that range."

In looking at the cost factor, by the time we compare that to the liquidated damage, there was not a significant cost difference in \$16,000 more to go with a fewer number of days. So staff felt, after that evaluation, we're better off going with the low bid and the 365 days, but it was a factor in the evaluation."

Commissioner Norton said, "I'm no expert on this, but 100 days just seems like a lot of days to pick up and \$16,000 can go away pretty fast."

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Ms. Baker said, "I will tell you, in discussions with the vendors and looking at all of the rest of bids received, the 270 days from Alcon is significantly lower than anybody else had offered on this project, 365 days actually is more in line with, so you know while the burden could be on them, because of liquidated damage language, there just wasn't enough cost differential for us to say it's worth spending \$16,000 more on."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, you would have to have the understanding that Alcon couldn't meet that and we've dealt with them before. I think they certainly have the ability to do the work and if they say 270, that's what we'd hold them to and if there's liquidated damage. I guess that's the debate, if the liquidated damages don't come to \$16,000 at the worst level, then it's not worth it. I'm not smart enough to know that. I guess I'll have to defer, but that's something I'd certainly look at. In all the projects I've ever looked at over the years, with the City of Haysville and even with the county that seems significant to me, and we are trying to get those stations built as quickly as we possibly can. Just a topic of discussion, something to talk about."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Okay, do you have any other . . .?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I wanted to talk about item number one."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Does anyone else have a comment about the fire station bid, item number two? All right, Tim, you might as well continue."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. I know, you know, we've had discussions about change orders and a little creep in all the projects that we've had, so I think we're going to always . . . at least in the near future, scrutinize any kind of change orders pretty closely. Some of the issues for me are like number nine, 'stain interior doors to match wood paneling and entry lobby'. When did we not figure out that we wanted everything to be stained the same color in the same area? I mean, that seems like that's a pretty . . ."

Ms. Baker said, "I'll defer those questions to someone familiar with the project."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. That just doesn't make sense to me, and truthfully, if it's just about painting and staining, why don't we just leave it unstained and let our guys do it later?"

Mr. Lamkey said, "Here's the issue. As you may recall, that when we get the initial bid on the building, it was over our estimate so we went through a process of value engineering, in which the veneers that we were going to use in the doors were changed to birch, with the intension of staining

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the doors to match the veneers that are in the entryway and other parts of the facility. That specification did not get communicated in the documents and so what this does is it actually is a cost that we should have incurred in the project. What this does, when you're looking at \$2,100 here, that's 70 doors and so in terms of looking at the long-term aesthetics of building and the facility, what we're doing is we're basically making the building compatible in the process. So in fact, staining the doors is something we intended to do, we changed our original specification, as part of that review. It was not communicated in the documents. We realized this process and we're recovering from that miscommunication in the documents. So that's exactly what it is. Had we had it in the documents that cost would have been incurred as part of the project."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. The second thing I had was items six and seven, or item six particularly, that's adding a redundancy to our communications system. It seems to me that in a building where the number one function is communication, we would have thought of redundancy long before the bid was done. Not come back later and say we want a second line."

Mr. Lamkey said, "Yeah, I think we contemplated it but didn't know it was possible at the time. Is that correct, Kent? Kent is the technology guru on the building and working through this process, so I'll let him address those technology issues that have come up."

Mr. Kent Koehler, Senior Project Leader, IT, greeted the Commissioners and said, "On that one specific one, one of the items is indeed to add conduit going east from the facility out to Market Street. What that is to facilitate is to bring diverse copper from AT&T. Currently, all of our copper, all of our 9-1-1 trunks and all our circuits come in on one big chunk of cables. We knew we didn't want that to happen. If a backhoe hits copper, we cannot be out of business. What this allows us and what we're going to do and bring copper from two different directions into the facility. Even if we were to lose one of these sets of copper, we would take an initial hit, but it would allow AT&T to get us switched to other circuits and get us back running at full capacity.

This had been part of the plan all along, was to diversify this route. Working with AT&T, we found a location where we can bring it in, that it did . . . you know, brought it in from diverse routes. Yeah, we had planned to do it, but until we actually got there, actually knew where we could get it, we weren't sure where the conduit would need to go and that was one big chunk of this was running that conduit out there.

The other items as part of this, number six was to put conduit into place not just have the cable run. We wanted to add it for future capabilities, so that if we ever have to run more cabling, we simply go to the box, pull the top off the box and run it through the conduit that's there. Get it big enough for the future. This is an investment that the taxpayers and all of us are making for this building for

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a long time. We want to make sure it's as easy as possible to change, add, whatever we need to do. We want to make it easier for those that come after us to work on them."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Thank you, Kent. The final thing is, number one, add electronic card readers. Once again, why was that not specified? We knew we were going to have to have some major security kinds of things in the facility. Why was that not part of the original . . .?"

Mr. Lamkey said, "Yeah, in looking at the facility, we did really quite frankly an extensive amount of sitting down and looking at where the external card readers are and some of the ones on the internal process, but as you begin to look and evaluate the buildings, we moved some functions around within the buildings in that process and so the costs really here is not just for the card readers but it's the labor to run the conduits and wires so that we provide the right amount of access. Clearly, it's something that could have been considered earlier. We went through a deliberative process, but again as you start to see the building, as you start to revisit some of the issues and you start to change some of the locations of the functions, because we made some alterations. For instance, I was not originally going to be in that building and so we made some changes to that process and this reflects those changes. I mean, it . . . the one thing I can say about this particular project, with regards to the thought process and the number of changes and opportunities that are in the facility, in terms of projects that we've done, it's really gone really quite well. And so these are . . . it's important to think about these things in advance and we've spent a lot of time doing those things, but as things change and the fluidity, the small fluidity of the building, we needed to make some changes in who has access to certain aspects of the building and these are internal to the building, not external to the building."

Commissioner Norton said, "I guess my final question is we struggled with this project on the front end, because it did come in larger than what we thought it would. We say value engineering, that's just pulling out some things, changing some of the core, changing some of the kinds of materials we use. My problem with this is then is creeping back up and we get right back into being at the higher level and does this still fall within the guidelines of the budget that we have?"

Mr. Lamkey said, "Oh, absolutely. We have not touched less than half of our contingency in this process and so again, it's an opportunity, one. Some things have changed in the process and now it's an opportunity to look at the building realistically and say 'what are the needs that we can accommodate without spending all the money that we have or being frivolous in this process'. This building, you know you build most buildings with a 50-year lifespan. This building is going to last

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a lot longer than that, and so to the extent that we have the opportunity to make it as right as we can up front, I think that will save us time, aggravation and money in the long run.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Now we’re almost done with this project, so I would anticipate there won’t be any other change orders. This should be kind of the last blush?”

Mr. Lamkey said, “We’ll talk to the one whose the project manager.”

Ms. Paula Downs, Project Manager, Project Services, said, “Yes, we are very close to finishing the structure of the building. We basically have owner’s items left to accomplish, which were all laid out in the budget originally. You will not see me with another change order, I hope, but yes, I say that with a small caveat.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Nobody’s going to come up with one more little thing they think they’ve got to have, huh?”

Ms. Downs said, “No, we have really, over the last six months, this change order has been formulating. We’ve spent a lot of time on the technology review. Now that we actually have vendors coming in, gearing up to really move into this facility, we’ve had a lot more opportunity for discussion and details and we are very comfortable about moving in and getting our folks over there to operate.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay, that’s all. Thank you, Paula. That’s all the questions I have, Mr. Chair.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you. Commissioner Parks.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Just in general, also I talked with Mr. Lamkey on this a little bit, I’ve been on the other side of building an emergency facility and Kent you know this, and I applaud you for getting the bigger conduits and things like that, but the Fire Department also, when you’re going to build your new building, sit down with your architect and your project manager and make sure that you have a lot of staff people involved in that, because there’s little things that your staff may think of that you’re not thinking of when you’re building this, and you always have to build for the future and that certainly helps when you have an architect that’s open to that.

On number six, I would say that just a question and this may be for the AT&T. I know Kent that you had CTA was a subcontractor for Southwestern Bell. Have they . . . now, CTA being a local company, a lot of times you can get a bid from AT&T and CTA and CTA would be less expensive and a local company and I didn’t know if they still had that relationship with AT&T or not.”

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Mr. Koehler said, "The last talk I just had with AT&T, which was yesterday actually, we were talking about them getting ready to do a site survey to clarify some things, they have not mentioned using CTA. The actual, most of the cabling is being done again, Alice Electric was the electrical sub and they've subbed and I know the gentleman's name I talked to but I can't remember the company he's with off the top of my head, but they are the ones doing the work. But AT&T has not mentioned using CTA to bring any of these circuits in."

Commissioner Parks said, "Well they still have a relationship with you at your facility now don't they, CTA?"

Mr. Koehler said, "I don't believe the county has worked with CTA for a while. I believe we've taken some of that on ourselves."

Commissioner Parks said, "Okay. And the move is going to be done with . . . not going to have any change orders in your move or anything, when you get ready to move from the basement over there, that's all been planned out and all those . . . ?"

Mr. Koehler said, "We've got it planned and actually that was one of our calls with AT&T yesterday and we're going to be on-site, talking about some of those issues and making sure there's nothing unresolved, with next week we're meeting with AT&T getting their engineers again, they know the site just about as well as I do by this point, but we're now looking at some of the other things."

Commissioner Parks said, "Like I say, in 1990 I was involved in building an emergency facility, and I would never say never that you're not going to have a change order, but thank you."

Mr. Koehler said, "You're welcome."

Commissioner Parks said, "Also, on number eleven, I talked with Bob a little bit about that and \$20,000 to make it look nice, I don't know what the other commissioners think about that, but in the stairways, I don't know how much they're going to be used, but maybe Bob can explain some things like he did to me yesterday."

Mr. Lamkey said, "The principle stairways in the aft are three stairways. Is that correct, Paula, three stairways? There are three stairways that basically extend from the floor all the way through the top of the building and you can see their full height in this process. And again, as we're looking at the building, the finish that was going to be there was going to be, essentially, the prefabricated concrete with the metal ties on that process and those will be the principle thoroughfares for folks to

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come up and down the building that work and operate in the building. And as you look at the building's lifespan, you look at the issues of sound attenuation and that process, we felt that it was worth the \$20,000 investment to finish the building.

You know, we have a really quite a fine building, well designed, well laid out and there's one component of the building that is . . . will give you the sense of an unfinished facility and so relative again to the long-term use, to the folks that visit the facility, to people who use it every day and the noise that essentially a concrete chamber generates, we felt it was important and worth finishing out that. And basically is furring gypsum board and paint that will change the appearance of that area."

Commissioner Parks said, "That was one thing that was brought up, the noise, and that's a good point. Thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, any other questions, Commissioner Parks? Commissioner Welshimer, do you have any . . .?"

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Well, I'm just looking at the 45 days to do all these things, it doesn't seem like they're that involved."

Mr. Lamkey said, "I think the . . . in deference to the contractor, the issue of digging up the parking area, the alleyway, the last and most expensive item is the alleyway that's behind the facility was vacated and we purchased . . . when you vacate the property, the land goes to the two adjacent landowners and we purchased that whole process and it's a pretty . . . it's been a pretty patched piece of ground in that process, and so what we're going to have to do in order to handle this conduit is actually trench through that area again, and so what we're proposing to do is essentially restore that area back to the same quality as the parking lot and that's the biggest ticket item here. And so in order to provide the time, without penalty, to the vendor to do that, we think 45 days is fine. We see no damage in our movement time or continuing to operate the way we need to do that. And I would anticipate, quite frankly, that they'll be done sooner than that, based upon our visit and that process, but we thought that was a fair accommodation to the work that we're asking them to do with this change order."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay, thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Any other questions, Commissioner Welshimer, on any other items? All right, this is a rather extensive Bid Board recommendation today. We are not usually this large and extensive. Commissioners, are there any other questions about any of the items on today's Bid Board recommendation? Seeing none, what's the will of the Board?"

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MOTION

Chair Pro Tem Winters moved to Approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you very much Iris and for all the rest of you who were here to respond to questions, we appreciate that. Next item, Madam Clerk.”

CONSENT AGENDA

H. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Payroll Check Register of January 26, 2007.**
- 2. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of January 24 – 30, 2007.**
- 3. Easement for Right-of-Way for Sedgwick County Project 618-2-4100, bridge replacement on Central between 375th Street West and 391st Street West. CIP# B-431. District #3.**
- 4. Dedication Deed for Sedgwick County Project 604-26-2515; bridge on Broadway between Broadway and Seneca. CIP# B-427. District #4.**
- 5. Lease Amendment Number One for property used by Emergency Medical Service for Post 14 located at 4030 North Reed, Maize, Kansas.**
- 6. Agreement with Sunflower Title Services, LLC providing on-line access to Sedgwick County’s electronic data.**

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7. Order dated January 24, 2007 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “You have the consent agenda before you and I would recommend your approval and I would remind you that there’s only 334 more days until the arena sales tax goes away.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to Approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Parks	Aye
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Unruh	Absent

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Thank you very much. We do have a fire agenda, but before we go to the fire agenda, if there . . . we’re at that point in this agenda of ‘other’. Commissioner Welshimer.”

I. OTHER

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Yes, I’d like a status report from the County Manager on the consultant, list of consultants that we’ve hired. I haven’t seen anything of it. I just want to know what the status is.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “We’re in the process of gathering that information and defining what it means to be a consultant and so we’re looking at that. We’ll be around in this . . . the rest of this week or the beginning of next with some discussions with you about that and I think we’ll be prepared to report to you, I hope within another couple of weeks.”

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Commissioner Welshimer said, "Don't we have a fairly sophisticated new accounting system. I mean, this is the reason I asked for this report, because I thought we had a sophisticated accounting system."

Mr. Buchanan said, "We do have a sophisticated accounting system and we can gather this information pretty easy . . . pretty readily. But we don't classify vendors necessarily by the word 'consultant', so we have lots of part-time help that produce a product that would be considered a vendor. But I don't think that's what we're calling . . . I don't think that's what we're calling consultants, so we need to make sure we understand what they're for. For instance, we have in the same line item we could have an engineering firm that we hire for David Spears. I think we can make an argument that that's not consulting service. That's outsourcing."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Contracting."

Mr. Buchanan said, "At the same time, at the same time we have part-time workers who do provide consulting to families about whether the senior citizens need to go into nursing homes or not. Is that consulting or is that . . . is that what . . . so we're trying to examine . . . we're trying to examine those so that once we give you that information, there's no accusations or suggestions that we padded the books, that we've done anything. I want to make sure that we give you the information that you need."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "To me, a consultant is someone who advises us, consults with us on how we do the job. And anybody else, even someone who would consult with families and so on, would be doing it as a private contractor."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Well that's very helpful commissioner. And if we're going to use that definition, you're probably going to have that information a lot sooner."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "But we have, apparently, a volume of consultants and private contractors doing work for us and I don't understand why we don't have that noted within the county system, so we know . . . I mean, how are you going to tell the difference between . . . and surely there's something in there that defines that this is not an employee, this is not something this department has done, it's clearly a separate item."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Up until this point, commissioner, there didn't appear to be any need to differentiate between someone who was giving us advice and someone who was giving us advice and producing a product and so there was no need to do that."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay. I hope you're planning to include any . . . I mean, this has

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raised a question with me and I'm concerned about do we have consultants on any of our current projects that are currently working for us, like the training center or the arena? Are these going to be . . . are we going to be on a regular basis hiring consultants for these projects?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "We have . . . I don't believe there are any consultants hired for the training center, except for an architectural firm who again is delivering a produce, who is designing the building and I don't believe that's . . . I don't know that that fits the definition of consulting. On the arena, I would have . . . we've had a number of different contracts. I think the consulting firm that we hired to help the Coliseum prepare a bid, that contract has expired and I don't recall that we have any others."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "We don't have any outsourced people on these projects."

Mr. Buchanan said, "We just hired the parking consultant to do that, but I don't re . . . again, I think reasonable people could, we have a company for the arena that's helping us sell the naming rights. I don't consider that a consultant. I think that's a person who is marketing for us."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay. So you say another week or two weeks?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "I'm going to have to check with the folks upstairs."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay, thank you."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "Anything else, Commissioner Welshimer, under the 'other' part of our agenda, commissioner? Thank you. Commissioner Parks."

Commissioner Parks said, "I guess this will be quite a bit simpler question. Being a vendor and a participant out at the Coliseum this Friday and Saturday, I've had a lot of calls and I guess people think I'm the all-knowing to know whether this is going to happen or not, and a few e-mails even, about the parking fee. Now the A's Club have had parking fees at the Kansas Coliseum for probably ten years. It started out as a dollar and then went to two dollars and I believe I paid three dollars last year as a vendor also for parking and I was just wondering if that was going to continue. And of course the other three dollar fee that would have been on top of that has not been instituted as far as I know. So would it be a safe assumption to say that there's going just be a three dollar parking fee at the Wichita A's Swap Meet this weekend at the Coliseum?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes."

Commissioner Parks said, "Thank you."

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Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I just wanted to comment that several of us went to the Urban League luncheon this week and it was well attended and the Urban League continues to do great work in our community and set some pretty lofty goals for the future and really will connect with many things that Visioneering is doing, but also connect with a lot of the things that are pretty close to just county projects that we work on, so it’s nice to have another partner out there. It was a nice chance to hear what they’re doing, but it really does tie in with a lot of the things we do.

And then finally, this last Friday I had a chance to go to the Titanic exhibit at Exploration Place. They had a wonderful event out there, where you came and you divided up into first class, second class, steerage and even at the captain’s table. The meal that was appropriate for that particular class that you had paid into and it was a wonderful evening. We had a chance to go into the dome and see the night sky the night that was described the night that the Titanic went down and it talked about how ships at that point didn’t have GPS or satellite and the stars are how they were guided and it was a wonderful evening. And I would urge people to go and take a look at the Titanic exhibit. This is not a fabrication exhibit. These are the actual artifacts that came of the bottom, that had sat there since 1912 and it’s pretty poignant when you think that they’ve been able to describe these artifacts, as to who owned them and what class they were in and where they came from and it’s real poignant to understand that’s a piece of history that tells about a very important event in our United States history, so I would urge people to take a look. It’s a wonderful exhibit and it’s likely not to come back to Wichita for quite a few years. We’re very fortunate to have it here. So that’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you. Is there any other business to come before this board before we adjourn? I believe Mr. Manager, you have a comment that you want to follow up with.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “If it would please the commission, Chris Chronis has come down from the 8th floor and I think we need to have a little more discussion about consultants and what’s expected and how we go about it and some of the parameters that we’re working on.”

Mr. Chris Chronis, CFO, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I just heard a part of the discussion over the Internet and it runs on a little bit of delay, so I’m not sure how long that discussion has been completed, but I wanted to provide some clarification, not so much for you, but for the audience that might be listening in, about what we’re doing and what the complexity is in producing the information that’s been requested. As the manager indicated, in our financial system and in our procurement system the word ‘consultant’ isn’t necessarily used for services that I think

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you're wanting us to produce as consulting services. And very often we have vendors who are hired to do more than one thing. Some of what they do is consulting, some of what they do is deliver a service. For example, the parking study was referenced that you approved last week. What you approved last week was a change order to a design contract for the downtown arena. That change order allows one of the partners in the Arena Design Consortium to proceed with a consulting study that we will pay for through that design contract. But in order to . . . had we not been talking about that particular issue, in order to go back through all of the purchases that we've made over the last couple of years, and the request was for two years of data, what we have to do is go into the contracts that we've approve and determine even though we may have paid for a particular kind of vendor that we think is a designer, we have to determine what service that vendor produced in return for the fee. And if the fee was split for multiple services, we have to figure out what portion of the fee was for consulting services and what portion was for something other than consulting services, so we can produce the accurate information you requested.

You talked, for example, about Jabara Airport and I think there was a question asked about whether or not there were any consultants that had been hired for that and the answer, as far as I know, is correct that currently there are no consultants working on that project. But in fact, the designer that we've hired to design that facility was originally hired to do a feasibility study for the project and that feasibility study I think probably you would want to see as a consulting service that that vendor provided. But if we simply look for the vendor, we're not going to determine from that look that the initial money that we paid to that vendor was for consulting services and so that's the reason that this is taking somewhat longer than you might expect it to take. We want to make sure that we give you accurate information and that we fully address all of the services that you want to see, without burdening you with lots of details that you really don't want to see."

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, "All right, thank you Chris. Commissioners, did that spark any more questions or are we on track? And I guess my only thought would be I think if you provide the commissioners with too much information, we'll be able to sort through it and determine what we think about certain parts of it, so . . . and I don't know what that means, except if your analysis is somewhat descriptive of services, then I don't think any of us think that this is a number that's chiseled in stone that we're going to carve on the wall. It's just some information that we can use in future management decisions, would be my interpretation."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Yes, I think we need a way to evaluate certain areas of spending and how we're going to, you know, reports that tell us 'well, we're probably above what we wanted' above where we wanted to be on this one and below where we wanted to be or needed to be on this one. So this entire accounting system then is pretty well set up like a . . . well, it's a spreadsheet, so to speak, so we can't go in and select . . . I mean, to me a system that is highly technical software would, like any other data processing, you'd be able to sort it by subjects, so what you're saying is we can't sort it by consultants, we can't sort it by contractors. Can we sort it

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by part-time personnel?”

Mr. Chronis said, “No ma’am, what I’m saying is that consultant, that word, hasn’t been a category that we use across the board, generically. We typically account for transactions according to the nature of the service that we’re receiving: it’s a professional service, it’s a medical service, it’s a legal service. What is embedded in that kind of service may very well have been a consulting engagement. It’s an engineering service. What we’re getting is a parking study, but in our financial system it’s accounted for as an engineering service, because it’s provided by an engineer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “So most of this report is having to be done by hand?”

Mr. Chronis said, “Well, it’s being done by a lot of drilling down into the transaction data that is in the financial system. And it’s a pretty laborious process. We can do it and we are doing it and we’ll produce it just as quick as we can. We hope to have it for you, as I think the manager may have indicated, within the next week or so, but we want to make very sure that what we give you is accurate.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Thank you.”

Chair Pro Tem Winters said, “All right, thank you very much. Is there any other question or comment before we adjourn this meeting? Seeing none, this regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners is adjourned.”

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

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

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DAVID M. UNRUH, Chairman
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Commissioner
Third District

KELLY PARKS, Commissioner
Fourth District

GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner,
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

, 2007