MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

November 21, 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, November 21, 2007 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman David M. Unruh, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Thomas G. Winters; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Kelly Parks; Commissioner Gwen Welshimer; Mr. Ron Holt, Assistant County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. John Schlegel, Director, Planning Department; Mr. Tim Kaufman, Deputy Director, Division of Human Resources; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, COMCARE; Mr. Colin McKenney, Director, CDDO; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Mr. Joe Thomas, Sr. Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department; Mr. Kent Koehler, Sr. Project Manager, DIO; Mr. Mike Borchard, County Appraiser; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Evelyn Good, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

INVOCATION was observed by a moment of silence.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, October 31, 2007

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of October 31, 2007.

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 31, 2007.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

There was no discussion on the motion, the vote was called.
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

VOTE

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

PLANNING DEPARTMENT


POWER POINT PRESENTATION

Mr. John Schlegel, Director, Planning Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “In this case before you today, the applicant is proposing to rezone this 2.8 acres from its current designation of “SF-20” single-family residential to “LC” limited commercial. And then to add that 2. acres to the remainder of this area, which is currently in the Rocky Ford Community Unit plan, which you had previously approved.

It abuts, you can see from the graphic, immediately to the south of that existing CUP along Rock Road, across the street from McConnell Air Force Base.

In addition to the rezoning, they are seeking to amend the existing CUP in a number of ways by, first of all, adding this additional 2.8 acres to the CUP and then by moving the entrance to the Industrial Park that they are proposing, which is to the east of that CUP, in this area over here. They would move the access street to the northern portion of the CUP from where it had been here on the south end of the parcel.

They would, as a result of that, then create a reserve parcel along that northern of the CUP and they are also seeking to modify the requirements regarding ground signage for the CUP. Keeping it at, what had been previously approved, 250 sq. ft. of signage, but splitting it into two signs, one of which would be located at a monument sign on this reserve parcel A. Those are meant to be identification signs for the parcel.

Then, in addition, they are amending the parcel configuration along Rock Road. You can see from
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

the site plan that there is five out parcels along Rock Road and because of the road shift to the north, these parcels are being shifted to the south and reconfigured.

Going back to the zoning map, you can see that most of the surrounding area is currently zoned “SF-20”, although the property immediately to the north of it has been already approved for “LC” zoning. To the west of Rock Road, you can see the Base, with the Air Force Base zoning designation on that. In addition, this applicant also owns this parcel back here and you have previously approved industrial park zoning for that parcel.

The CUP that you previously approved and would be amending today, prohibits uses that are deemed incompatible with the McConnell Air Force Base, such as residential uses and those institutional commercial uses that would attract high concentrations of people.

In addition, because this parcel lies within the Air Force Base protection overlay district, the CUP restricts heights to 25 feet or two story, whichever is less.

Looking at the aerial photo, you can see where this property stands in relationship to surrounding land uses, which are primarily at this time agricultural to the north and east and then to the south there is a few scattered buildings and then off to the west the Air Force Base.

When this item was heard by the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission at its October 18th meeting, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve the request, subject to the staff recommendation. There was no one there to speak on this and we have received no protests.

The MAPC recommendation then is to approve this subject to platting within one year and the five conditions that are listed in your Agenda backup report. And with that, I would be glad to take any questions.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, thank you John. Commissioner Welshimer?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well, all of Rock Road is, between here and Derby, is really moving along, isn’t it?”

Mr. Schlegel said, “Yes it is.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Who is the applicant? Who is asking for the zone change and is the owner and applicant the same?”

Mr. Schlegel said, “Yes, the owner and the applicant would be the same. I’m sorry that I don’t
have the file here, the last that I knew, the owner was Jay Russell and they had an agent submit this application and they are the ones that are listed on the front page.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Okay. Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, are there any other questions or comment for Mr. Schlegel about this application? Well, we’re ready then, I guess for a motion and…..

Commissioner Winters said, “Is there anyone here that would like to address this issue?

Chairman Unruh said, “I will ask that question. Is there anyone here that wants to speak on this zone change? I don’t see anyone wishing to speak.”

MOTION

Commissioner Parks moved to approve the zone change to LC and Amendment #1 to DP-300 Rocky Ford Commercial CUP subject to platting within one year and conditions of the CUP, adopt the findings of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission: direct staff to prepare an appropriate Resolution after the plat has been approved and authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution.

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  Aye

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

NEW BUSINESS
B. TRANSFER OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF $11,893.03 FROM SEDGWICK COUNTY TO UNITED WAY FOR EMERGENCY OVERFLOW SHELTER SERVICES FOR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS.

Mr. Tim Kaufman, Deputy Director, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The item before you represents a long-standing, on-going participation with the City of Wichita and United Way to assure that there are adequate shelter beds during the coldest months of the winter.

As in the past, each of the parties contributes $12,500, United Way manages the process of identifying and selecting a contractor to operate the emergency overflow shelter during the winter. The dollar amount in the proposed transfer is slightly less than the $12,500 figure because of some carry over funds from last year.

United Way conducted a request for proposal for this process. They have identified the Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church as the overflow shelter for the coming winter. On average, the emergency overflow shelter serves more than 400 people each winter. Last year the overflow shelter served 514 unique individuals. An average nightly census was 51, so this represents over 4,000 bed nights in a winter season.

The recommended action is for you to approve that transfer and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Tim. The total number of beds for the entire winter season is about 4,000 beds?”

Mr. Kaufman said, “It’s over 4,000 beds.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right. Commissioners, are there any other questions or comment about this agenda item? Commissioner Welshimer?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “This is not on the subject, but I’m assuming that there is going to be a Thanksgiving dinner for homeless people in the County?”

Mr. Kaufman said, “There are a number of different opportunities for individuals across the
community for Thanksgiving meals and United Way 211 is probably the best option. If people are interested in finding out where they or their family could go for a holiday meal, United Way 211, that telephone number, 211, would direct them to all of those different options.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Okay, thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Tim, typically the folks who are challenged with homelessness in our community, have the availability of food on a pretty regular basis, there are many agencies that help provide that. The critical need and the one we are addressing here has to do with the fact that it is really cold and they need shelter and places fill up. Well, this Agenda item helps provide that.”

Mr. Kaufman said, “That’s correct. This provides for the very coldest nights when the shelter, all of the regular shelter beds are filled, this is not the creation of additional shelter, but it is an acknowledgment that on those very coldest nights, people need someplace to go inside to stay warm and so this handles that overflow on those coldest nights.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Any other comment or question Commissioners?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the transfer of funds.

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 \ Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “And Commissioners, before we go to the next Agenda item, I think now is the appropriate time for an Off-Agenda item.”

**MOTION**
Commissioner Winters moved to take an Off Agenda item concerning a Grant application by the Division of Human Services.

Commissioner Parks seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

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<th>Commissioner Norton</th>
<th>Aye</th>
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<td>Commissioner Winters</td>
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<td>Commissioner Parks</td>
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<td>Commissioner Welshimer</td>
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<td>Chairman Unruh</td>
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**Chairman Unruh** said, “And Tim, you will present this item to us?”

**Mr. Kaufman** said, “I will. Thank you for this opportunity. The item that you have before you is an opportunity, with a very short deadline, it’s an opportunity to submit a Grant application in conjunction with the Stand Together Coalition to seek funding from the State of Kansas from their funding available for the Strategic Prevention Framework Grant to reduce underage drinking. I tried to come up with a good acronym for that, and I just can’t.

SRS received a five-year, $10 million Grant, and they are, for statewide services, and they are making funding available, at this point and time, for Planning Grants. And they are seeking self-defined communities to submit application for funding so that they can develop Planning Grants to address the issue of underage and binge drinking. And so there is funding available for organizations to plan to put together programs to address underage and binge drinking.

Human Services would partner with and serve as the Fiscal Agent for this Grant, working with the Stand Together Coalition. Stand Together Coalition has been representative of cross-section of community leaders that will develop a plan and submit that plan for further funding. Once the Planning Grants have been awarded and the plans have been developed, the State of Kansas will then fund Implementation Grants through 2011. So there is an opportunity to bring some significant money into the community to address this particular issue.

We’ve partnered with the Stand Together Coalition, again, we would act as the Fiscal Agent, the Stand Together Coalition would perform the functions of the Grant. And this is a Grant application
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

that does not require the County to commit any funding. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right. We do have a question from Commissioner Parks.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Tim, what kind of, can you give us an example of what might be in that plan, an example of what this group might do?”

Mr. Kaufman said, “They will, first of all, identify community needs and then they will develop or identify programming that is specific to binge drinking and over drinking of youth, so I can envision programs that would be targeted for high schools, for youth groups, after school groups, things that would identify the dangers and the threats of binge drinking in particular and trying to discourage those activities.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Like education and enforcement or…?”

Mr. Kaufman said, “Exactly, those are the types of things that we…”

Commissioner Parks said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Commissioner. Any other question or comment about this Grant application? I think we are ready for a motion Commissioners.”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to take the recommended action.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

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

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES - COMCARE

C. COMCARE.

1. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE – MEDICAL PRACTICE ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE PSYCHIATRIC CARE.

2. AGREEMENT WITH MUKHTAR SHAH, M.D., TO PROVIDE PSYCHIATRIC CARE.

3. AGREEMENT WITH LAURIE COYNER, M.D., TO PROVIDE INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC CARE.

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We recently received notice of termination of a Contract from the local psychiatric group that had been providing in-patient and consultation services for COMCARE patients for several years.

Upon receiving the notice our first strategy was to try to find another psychiatric group locally that would do all of this together, but we failed to find anyone that had interest in doing that. So we proceeded by putting a transitional six-month plan in place, utilizing some of our own current staff and several other medical providers in the community.

This transition team of providers are admitting COMCARE patients to the Good Shepard in-patient setting. They are doing daily rounds there, including rounds on COMCARE patients who are admitted to the Senior Behavioral Health Unit at the St. Joe Campus and they are doing consults for our patients who are admitted to local hospitals to medical units.

The three items before you are all Professional Services Agreements. One is with KU Med to provide one full-time equivalent of an Advanced Nurse Practitioner coverage. One is a Professional Services Agreement with Dr. Mukhtar Shah to do daily rounds, 7-days a week on that Senior
Behavioral unit and to do consults for us at local hospitals. The third is a Professional Service Agreement with Dr. Laurie Coyner, who is a psychiatrist in the community who will be rounding on patients at Good Shepard, Monday through Friday and two weekends a month.

And then the Consent Agenda also has one item that’s pertaining to this transition plan that provides a temporary increase in compensation for medical staff that we employee that are taking on considerably more added responsibility in this plan. And that will be up for your approval later in the Consent Agenda.

We are hoping to find a permanent solution soon. At Thanksgiving, I am thankful that people on our staff, stepped up to the plate. And I will defer to you whether or not you want to take all those items individually, the Professional Service items individually or as a group. But they all are tied together to this transitional plan and I would be happy to answer any questions that you have.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, thank you Marilyn. You did a good job explaining a complicated issue. When we went through this earlier and tried to explain it, it was interwoven and complicated, but I think that you and your staff, I just wanted to commend you all for coming up with a solution where we can continue to provide services that we feel obligated to provide in light of kind of, kind of an emergency situation. You’ve done a great job, I appreciate it.”

Ms. Cook said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “I have a comment from Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, the Chairman’s right. When we got our briefing on this, it was a half hour, forty-five minute dissertation on all the moving parts of this particular item. So you did pretty well, simplify it today, but it is an ongoing issue that you are going to deal with for a permanent solution at some point and time, is that correct?”

Ms. Cook said, “That is correct.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to take items 1, 2 and 3 altogether and approve the
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

Agreements and authorize the Chair 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          Aye

Ms. Cook said, “Thank you very much.”

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

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES - CDDO

D. ADDITION OF ONE CASE MANAGER I, BAND 17, AND ONE ASSISTANT CDDO DIRECTOR, BAND 27, TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISABILITY ORGANIZATION STAFFING TABLE.

Mr. Colin McKenney, Director, CDDO, greeted the Commissioners and said, “For your consideration this morning we have a request to add one Case Manager position and one Assistant Director to the CDDO staffing table.

A little bit of background on this. During our contract negotiations for State Fiscal Year 2008, which runs between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, we were granted additional funding for Administrative functions overseen by the Community Developmental Disability Organization.

Unfortunately, these funds can only be used for Administrative functions and cannot be used to purchase programs. So it put us in a position of identifying additional things that we would like to accomplish as the Community Developmental Disability Organization for Sedgwick County.

And that leads us to the request to add these positions today. The positions are intended to accomplish two things. Allows us to do a better job of reaching out to our customers, assisting them and accessing services, making sure that they are receiving the services they need. And also
allowing us to more fully pursue initiatives, including those identified in our 2005 Strategic Planning Process and one that we have talked about more commonly, which is the ADHOC Task Force Report on Developmental Disabilities and Mental Illness. Those are two areas that can really consume a lot of time.

We need an additional leadership position that allows us to pursue those to make good progress and keep moving forward. All funds related, or all costs related to these positions would be borne through the additional administrative funding granted by the State of Kansas for the current contract year. And as I’ve always told you, no County mill levy provided by the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners will go to fund these positions. We seek your approval for these additions to the staffing table and I’d stand for any questions you may have this morning.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Colin, we do have a comment. Commissioner Parks?”

Commissioner Parks said, “I’m just going to say that I studied this with Colin and I believe he’s done a good job on it and I’m going to be supportive of it. Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioner Welshimer?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “I agree with that and I would like to say thank you to your young guests for attending our meeting today. We appreciate having them.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Can you introduce your guests?”

Mr. McKenney said, “I can. This morning I have my son Braden and daughter Meagan, who attended with me. I think they thought that with the change of weather on the cold side, and a day out of school, they’d get to stay in, sleep late, enjoy their time off, and instead they are going to get the governmental and economic tour this morning. This obviously is the governmental piece and then we will soon be touring a local leading manufacturer and so they don’t get any time off in the McKenney household.”

Commissioner Norton said, “The Zoo is open this afternoon.”

Mr. McKenney said, “We may do that as well. We will see how things play out. We’ve probably got an exhibit at Exploration Place we haven’t seen yet either.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Commissioner. Well, Colin, the way that you’re dealing with your children, who are visiting with you, in such a disciplined manner, I mean that’s just characteristic of the way the you’ve led our Developmental Disabilities Organization during your
tenure here. We know that, I don’t if you’re still on the payroll or whether…”

Mr. McKenney said, “I am.”

Chairman Unruh said, “I know that you’re leaving us to take a different, a different position, but this a good opportunity to express our appreciation for your work, for Sedgwick County citizens and the great job you’ve done. And you’re certainly a great example of the type of leadership that we desire to have around here. We appreciate your service. And we appreciate that you’ve brought your children here today also.”

Mr. McKenney said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “We have another comment here from Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you. I certainly agree with our other Commissioners about supporting this particular Agenda item. I would also like to echo the Chairman’s comments and am really pleased that you were able to come before the Board of County Commissioners one last time. I know that you’re time here now is probably is short as you’ll be moving on to other opportunities, but I certainly want to express my appreciation for the work that you’ve done for Sedgwick County over these past number of years. I think you have just managed a department that is very critical to the community and has a lot of people that would not live nearly as productive a life if those of us in the State of Kansas weren’t attending to their needs. And you have directed that organization very well and your work has been really appreciated.”

Mr. McKenney said, “Thank you very much. I hope that it doesn’t go without saying that Sedgwick County is an organization that an employee can stick with for an entire career. I certainly intended to do that, if not for other opportunities presenting themselves. And I greatly appreciate my time here and the leadership that all of you have shown. It’s been an exceptional experience and one that I obviously will never forget.”

Commissioner Winters said, “Well, we’re glad you’re still going to be connected to counties, only in a different location and if there is ever anything we can do to assist, please let us know.”

Mr. McKenney said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Well, in spite of the fact that we have had this great expression of admiration for one another, we need to take care of this Agenda item. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board?”
MOTION

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the additions to the CDDO staffing table.

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        Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Colin.”

Mr. McKenney said, “Thank you all very much.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Best wishes to you. Madam Clerk, next item.”

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

E. HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

1. STAFFING TABLE ADJUSTMENT TO ADD ONE 0.2 FTE POSITION, B324, TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFFING TABLE.

Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It’s tough to follow Colin and I too will miss him and his innovative approaches, things that he’s offered to the Health Department, especially lately.

Before you are a request for a staffing table adjustment to add a 0.2 FTE position, that’s 8 hours a week to the Health Department’s staffing table, that is a part-time position.
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

A few weeks ago we converted a full-time epidemiology position to a 0.8, permanent part-time position so that we could hire a well qualified person, who was actually on faculty at KU teaching epidemiology, and we were excited to be able to hire that person. That person only wanted to work 4-days a week and so that left us with a 0.2 part-time position to fill and we are requesting that you allow us to do.

This person will work one day a week and will assist with communicable disease reporting and counting the diseases, surveillance, and reporting to the State Communicable Disease Investigation and definitely help when we have outbreaks with surge capacity. I request that you approve this staffing table adjustment and I’d be happy to answer any questions.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you, Claudia. Commissioners, are there any questions?”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the approve adjustment to the Health Department’s staffing table

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        Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Next item.”

2. CONTRACT WITH THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT TO SUPPORT PROVISION OF TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES TO THE INDIGENT POPULATION.
Ms. Blackburn said, “Commissioners, as you know Communicable Disease Control is a core public health function. We do have a special program that deals with tuberculosis. Tuberculosis is a communicable disease that is spread person-to-person through the respiratory route. It usually affects the lungs but it can affect other organs in the body, like the spine, the brain, the kidney. And we do have a program that has 17 active cases right now, which is down from the 25 we had in 2006, so we are happy about that.

Sedgwick County has a very diverse population that includes people from lots of different countries. Some of those countries still have a high prevalence rate of tuberculosis and so sometimes when people move here, they bring that with them.

We carry about a third of the TB cases in the State, so it is very important to us that we have a good TB program. This Contract is with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for $17,000 to provide medical and x-ray services through KU and we also have some money in here for staff training and for some operating and medical supplies.

I recommend that you approve this Agreement and I’d be happy to answer any questions.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, thank you. This is no-match required and we can just expand our services. Very good. Commissioner Parks?”

Commissioner Parks said, “And that is money totally from the State with no local tax impact, correct?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “Correct. It’s not actually an expansion, this is a renewed, a renewal. It’s money that we have been getting.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Any other comment Commissioners?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

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

Ms. Blackburn said, “Thank you.”

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


Mr. Joe Thomas, Sr. Purchasing Agent, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “There is one item for consideration that resulted from the meeting of The of Board of Bids and Contracts of November 15th.

1. SOFTWARE LICENSE AGREEMENT – TREASURER’S OFFICE/APPRASIER’S OFFICE/DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS FUNDING – TAX SOLUTION SYSTEM EQUIPMENT RESERVE.

The recommendation is to accept the quote with Tyler Technologies, Inc., for $75,000. I’ll be happy to answer questions and recommend approval of this item.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right, thank you Joe. We do have a question. Commissioner Norton? Commissioner Parks, I’m sorry.”

Commissioner Parks said, “The Orion system that was discussed a little bit yesterday at KAC, is this something that you’re comfortable with or that the department that will be using this are comfortable with?”

Mr. Thomas said, “Kent?”

Mr. Kent Koehler, Sr. Project Manager, DIO, greeted the Commissioners and said, “And I apologize, you said are we with comfortable with this system?”

Commissioner Parks said, “Yes. The Orion in particular, that was a topic of discussion at the KAC meeting and there was some concern about that and I was just wondered if staff was comfortable with using the Orion system.”
Mr. Koehler said, “Overall, yes, they are now. The State has greatly improved the service and support they are providing. The most recent version we’ve received is in a lot better shape, a lot more stable. It’s going to take a little bit of getting used to, but yes, they seem to be a lot more comfortable now using it.”

Commissioner Parks said, “The support services and training are there for that then?”

Mr. Koehler said, “That is correct. And the State has greatly enhanced their support of this system.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Okay, thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Commissioner. Commissioner Norton?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well maybe to clear that up a little bit, I see Mike Borchard is here. This roll-out of Orion has been a slow, long process for the State and for the local Appraisal unit, so Mike you might want to comment on just that a minute because you put a lot of time and effort into this change over and new system as I understand.”

Mr. Mike Borchard, County Appraiser, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We started about ten years ago looking into a new CAMA system, which is the primary tool that counties use to produce their mass appraisals.

And about six years ago we made, the State actually made the call on a vendor for that and that was Tyler Technologies. We’ve been working with them in the development of the application and it continues to get better. It’s been a long, hard struggle, but our team continues to gain understanding and confidence in it and we’re planning to do one final conversation next year and hopefully use it to produce our 2009 appraised values.”

Commissioner Norton said, “We tend to have the staff and the intellectual capital built into our group to handle a big project like this. I think, from the KAC’s perspective, there’s many, many, many counties out there that just struggle with these conversions. Would that be a fair assessment?”

Mr. Borchard said, “Absolutely. We’ve got tremendous support with the Division of Information and Operation as well as a highly trained Appraisal staff. Our goal in the end is to switch over to the CAMA system and still be confident that our appraisals are fair and accurate.”
Commissioner Norton said, “And most, everything that goes into this system, the sighting on the system and what goes into it is all predicated on State Legislation that is, moves it to the County level. Is that correct?”

Mr. Borchard said, “That’s right. Everybody, every county in the State is going to be offered the same, it’s really a bare bones CAMA system and we’re going to have to continue to develop and enhance it.”

Commissioner Norton said, “That’s all I have. Thanks Mike.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. Commissioner Welshimer?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Is changing to this new system, is that a requirement by the State, or do we have the choice?”

Mr. Borchard said, “Currently the understanding is that all counties would switch over to this system by, I believe, 2010.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Sort of a choice? What did that cost Sedgwick County? What does the new software cost Sedgwick County and what benefits do we get from it? How is it better than CAMA? Is CAMA worn out? Why are we doing this?”

Mr. Borchard said, “The State actually purchased the CAMA software. We’re going to have to pay for some of the enhancements and interfaces along the way. So, I am not sure what the State paid for the State wide system.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “But we’re not paying, like $10 million for a whole new software system?”

Mr. Borchard said, “No.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Okay. And what is it going to, what are our benefits?”

Mr. Borchard said, “Technology wise, the biggest benefit is that we’re moving from a main-frame environment into a server-based environment. I’m not an expert in technology, but that’s the way technology is trending. It’s going to offer us some opportunities to provide some better services to
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

our customers.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Such as better lay outs on print outs…”

Mr. Borchard said, “Accessibility to data over the internet is one.

Commissioner Welshimer said, “So someone that logs on to our website, goes into the Appraiser’s website, is going to get a better, it’s going to be easier for them to get the information they need?”

Mr. Borchard said, “That’s the hope. That’s one of the hopes.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Okay, thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “All right. Thank you Commissioner. Well, this particular system that we’re working on, we’re consistent with what the State’s wanting us to do and what other counties are moving towards. We’re thinking that it is working and that we’re working with the enhancements as they come along. And the main thing, we’re ending up with fair and accurate appraisals. That’s the end product?”

Mr. Borchard said, “That’s our end product, that’s our goal, is to have fair and equitable taxes, no matter system we use.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioners, are there any other comment or question?”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Norton Aye
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

Commissioner Winters  Aye
Commissioner Parks   Aye
Commissioner Welshimer  Aye
Chairman Unruh   Aye

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Joe.”

Mr. Borchard said, “Thank you sir.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Madam Clerk, next item.”

CONSENT AGENDA

G. CONSENT AGENDA.

1. Amendment to the Agreement with Wichita Family Services Institute.

2. Agreements for Attachments A and C with Fiserv Health of Kansas for Administrative Services for Sedgwick County COBRA/Retirement Health Program.

3. Agreement with Advance Life Insurance, AD&D, and Dependent Life Insurance, an affiliate of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas, to provide life insurance plans for Sedgwick County Employees and their dependents.


5. Salary adjustment for four Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners, B429, providing weekend hours for inpatient care.


7. Cereal Malt Beverage License Applications.

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Page No. 21

9. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of November 14 – November 20, 2007.


Mr. Ron Holt, Assistant County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “You have your Consent Agenda before you and would ask that you approve it as listed and would just remind you that the sales tax for the Arena expires in just 40 days.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Forty days. All right, very good. Commissioners, you have the Consent Agenda before, are there any comments or questions?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

H. OTHER

Chairman Unruh said, “Commissioners, we are at the end of our Regular Agenda and so now
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

is the appropriate time for comments and we have several who wanted to speak. Commissioner Norton were you first?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I wanted to talk a little bit on the Consent Agenda real quick. Just to highlight item number six, is the scheduling of the public hearing on the International Building Codes and the Residential Code, we had that item before us a couple of weeks ago and we realized there wasn’t a public notice of that Code coming before us and this clears that up and I wanted to be sure that we brought that to the attention of the public, that we have met all requirements and that public hearing notice will go out. That’s all I have.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you. And I am not sure who was next, Commissioner Winters were you…”?

Commissioner Winters said, “Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of quick things. One, this is the day before Thanksgiving, November 21st and I certainly want to wish everyone a good Thanksgiving Holiday and hope everyone is safe and sound during that time period.

The only other comment is this past week, Wichita/Sedgwick County was host to the Kansas Association of Counties, which is elected officials, mainly Commissioners, but others in other parts of County government from all over the State of Kansas, were here to hold the annual meeting of the Kansas Association of Counties.

There are a little over 300 County Commissioners and there were over 200 County Commissioners here in town for that meeting. Had an excellent meeting and we were very fortunate this year to have County Commissioner Colleen Lancamper (sic), from Minnesota, who is the Immediate Past President of the National Association of Counties. A couple of us had an opportunity, Commissioner Norton and myself, took her on a brief tour of some County facilities yesterday afternoon and it was really good to visit with a person who has this, really a national perspective as they go about serving out, now as Immediate Past President of the NACO Association.

I know all of our Commissioners were able to participate at certain times, and so I certainly, I serve on the Board of the Kansas Association of Counties, so I certainly thank all of our Commissioners for taking part in that annual meeting. I think it really does, I think, show that Sedgwick County is committed to continuing educational opportunities and to support our State organization. So thank you all very much.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Commissioner. Commissioner Parks?”

Commissioner Parks said, “As you all know, I raise questions occasionally and ask questions
of staff and that’s kind of in my nature. I think that we need to be highly informed and we need to keep the public informed on things.

I’d just like to mention something about planning in general. I think when I get a plan change or something, I seek out more than one source, besides staff, and they encourage me to do that. In seeking out the information, I go to the people in the neighborhoods and the general, the people in the County. And I would certainly like to encourage all other units of government to do the same thing.

And I think we’ve had a recent development of Valley Center where a couple of Council members took one issue and looked at it without looking at the whole picture. So I’d like to ask them to study carefully before they move on things. I think Comprehensive Development Plans are important to have in place and to be in place before actions are taken. A lot of times knee-jerk reactions are taken before planning commissions have a chance to give them the information.

So, don’t get the cart before the horse, and it goes for all of them. I’ve said this before and that’s been some of the reasons that I’ve voted no on some issues about some annexations and some planning’s, because I didn’t feel like they were diligently studied. Thank you.”

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

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well, I enjoyed the Kansas Association of Counties Conference. I thought it was very interesting. I thought it was very interesting that our Commissioners from Sedgwick and Johnson Counties were dressed in suits and everybody else was in western shirts and blue jeans and bolos and boots. Somewhere along the line we are going to have to give into that I guess.

In spite of that, we found that we have the same problems State wide. So much the same that it was very interesting. And it was also interesting to see that there weren’t very many young people involved in the government, statewide.

It was, you know, very enlightening and I appreciate having had that opportunity. Thank you.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Thank you Commissioner. And likewise, I enjoyed the conference at the 32nd Annual Kansas Association of Counties. The only comment that I have back to you Commissioner is that everyone is younger to me. So I’m thinking that there are some younger people who are involved in county government.
I do appreciate the leadership of Commissioner Winters on that Board and also Commissioner Norton as he Chairs the Kansas County Commissioners Association. It’s just indicative of our commitment to be involved statewide, to be of assistance to some of the counties, perhaps, that don’t have all the resources we do and where we can provide assistance, we want to be helpful to them.

However, we did take a moment to have a time to get together with all of the other urban counties, there is five counties designated as urban counties and we probably have issues more in common with one another than some of the rural counties, but it’s a good organization and helpful, I think, to the citizen’s of Kansas.

Second thing I wanted to bring up is to congratulate the Mayor of the City of Wichita to his election to the Board of the National League of Cities. It’s really quite a high honor and so we want Mayor Brewer to know that we do congratulate him in that new responsibility. It’s nice for the Mayor, but it also brings, I think, recognition to this part of the country. So in that respect, it’s good for all of us.

Want to make a couple of comments about Sedgwick County Zoo. It’s still open and still having great attendance out there. This is likely going to be a record year in attendance for the Sedgwick County Zoo as we approach 600,000 visitors and in light of the fact, that it’s at least 52% of our visitors are from out of county, it does have a positive economic impact for us.

We’ve heard at different times in our opening, Kristi Zukivich mentioned different programs that are going on at the Zoo. She mentioned a few weeks ago, The Night of the Living Zoo, and I was amazed to find out that out that on that Halloween celebration, there were over 9,000 people that came out and took advantage of the Sedgwick County Zoo. So that was a successful evening.

Many of you know that our Zoo is under, in the process of creating a new restaurant out there and it is coming around, we are going to be very proud of that. It’s going to, I think, enhance the enjoyment of people who visit and make the zoo more economically viable on it’s own. I understand, and I actually wasn’t aware of this, that there is a “Name the Restaurant” contest going on right now. I think it’s through, in conjunction with B-98, so if anyone has a good suggestion to name the restaurant at the Zoo, I’d suggest that you follow up on that. Our goal to reach $1 million worth of contributions from the community for a new tiger exhibit, I think we are getting close to reaching that goal. And the currently anonymous donor, who’s going to end up giving $1 million on the front side, we raise $1 million, he’s going to give another $1 million. We’re looking forward to having that sort of funding to build another outstanding exhibit at the Zoo.
And then on December 8th, at the Sedgwick County Zoo is the Holiday Open House. So, it will be good activities out there for our citizens to enjoy. That is my Zoo report. It is a great place, we’re proud of it and everybody ought to take the opportunity to visit.

And another comment from Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well, just one more comment. I’d like to express sympathy to the family of Judge Patrick Kelley, our Federal Judge who died Friday.”

Chairman Unruh said, “Very good, thank you. We all extend our sympathy. Commissioners, is there any other items to come before the Board? Seeing none, we are adjourned.”

I. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.
Regular Meeting, November 21, 2007

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