

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

June 4, 2008

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, June 4, 2008 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Thomas G. Winters, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Tim R. Norton; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Kelly Parks; Commissioner Gwen Welshimer; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Monica Cissell, Department on Aging; Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources; Mr. David Miller, Director, Budget Department; Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Division of Human Services; Ms. Rachel Moody, Division of Human Services; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, COMCARE; Mr. Gary Steed, Sheriff, Sheriff's Department; Mr. Bob Hinshaw, Undersheriff, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department; Ms. Kim Kleinsorge, Detective, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Evelyn Good, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Eugene Anderson, United Builders & Contractors, Inc., Wichita
Mr. Prentice Lewis, United Builders & Contractors, Inc., Wichita
Mr. George Fulp, Wichita

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Reverend Dave Fulton St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wichita

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting, May 21, 2008
Special Meeting, April 24, 2008

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Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, you have had an opportunity to review the minutes. What is the will of the Board?”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of April 24, 2008 and the Regular Meeting of May 21, 2008.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Next item.”

CITIZEN INQUIRIES

A. REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING ADOPTION OF A “FAIR SHARE IN PURCHASING PROGRAM.”

Chairman Winters said, “Mr. Anderson, please come forward.”

Mr. Eugene Anderson, United Builders & Contractors, Inc., Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We are an Association of African-American owned businesses. Our primary goal is the growth and development of African-American owned business. To that end, we appear before you today requesting adoption of a purchasing policy that promotes diversity.

Such a policy, which stated goals, will ensure that African-Americans, and other disadvantaged businesses, maximum opportunity to participate in, compete for, and be utilized by Sedgwick County in the procurement of goods and services.

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Limited access to the marketplace for African-Americans is not a new problem. In 1977, the City of Wichita, the City Commission of Wichita, adopted a 10% minority set aside policy on Wichita capital improvement projects. This two year initiative ended in December of 1979. But while implemented, this process provided access to City contracts and sub-contracts to several minority, disadvantaged, and women owned business enterprises. Today we seek a similar initiative by Sedgwick County to ensure African-Americans and other disadvantaged groups have fair access to City and County, Sedgwick County contracts.

Major cities and counties in some states all across the nation have recognized the public value in implementing diversity and procurement processes with goals for minority, women owned and disadvantaged business enterprises.

Miami, Florida has passed two such ordinances. One sets aside 51 percent of annual spending as a goal for minority owned, women owned, and African-American owned businesses. Seventeen percent for Hispanics, 17 percent for African-Americans, and 17 percent for women owned businesses.

In an effort to promote diversity in the purchase of goods and services when planning a \$450 million renovation of the Truman Sports Complex in Kansas City, Kansas/Kansas City, Missouri, the Board of Jackson County Commissioners structured a plan that required 22 percent of goods and services for the project would be from the Kansas City area minority businesses and 8 percent would be from women owned businesses.

The Commission also required their tenants, the Kansas City Chiefs and the Kansas City Royals, to make similar commitments when using their private funds.

United Builders and Contractors have surveyed 30 cities throughout the country seeking information about diversity purchasing programs that could be used as a model for Sedgwick County to develop a fair share in purchasing program for Sedgwick County.

Cities, counties and metro governments we surveyed that have recognized the public value in implementing progressive purchasing programs to ensure that minority and women owned businesses have an opportunity to provide goods and services include: San Francisco, California; Portland, Oregon; Miami, Florida; Kansas City, Missouri; Nashville, Tennessee; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Seattle, Washington; Louisville, Kentucky; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; parts of Connecticut and Jackson County, Missouri.

A bachelor diversity and purchasing policy by Sedgwick County will demonstrate to the African-American community and the County as a whole that the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners is asked to see some tax dollars returned to the various underserved communities in the form of real business opportunities and jobs.

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That is why today United Builders and Contractors encourage the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners to join other progressive governments in adopting, implementing and enforcing fair share diversity purchasing policies with measurable goals. Thank you for your attention and your time. I would respond to any questions you might have.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Mr. Jackson, thank you very much for the comments.”

Mr. Anderson said, “That’s Anderson, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Winters said, “I’m sorry. I apologize.”

Mr. Anderson said, “That’s alright.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you very much for those comments. Commissioners, are there questions? Commissioner Welshimer?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “I have a question for the County Manager, if you’ll excuse me just a moment. We do something along this line, don’t we? I mean, we operate on a bid process and so, you know, I’m confused about the percentages, if a minority business doesn’t bid, then we don’t have, we’re not able to do that. So reaching a 50 percent would be difficult if we didn’t have the bids come in. So I guess I would ask you, is your...?”

Mr. Anderson said, “We would never even think about going as far as Miami did because the population is so much more diverse. But there are some other communities here that similar to ours that some programs with some goals.

I think even the airport, the new airport terminal; I believe there’s a goal of 6 percent for disadvantaged business enterprises in that project. There’s federal money involved in that project, and that’s a requirement, if I’m not mistaken. Asking you to adopt a goal of 50 percent for minority and disadvantaged women owned businesses, certainly that would not be something that we would go after.

A reasonable approach would be something you decide. That’s a decision that you would have to make. We were simply citing some areas that have done similar things and Miami was one of the areas that we thought kind of stood out. But there are other areas too, other programs in other states and communities that we think we can learn from.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “I’d like to look into that and also I’m interested in what the population is now. I wouldn’t be too sure that the minorities aren’t of all the different minority groups, it might be a majority actually.”

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Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioner, let me tell you that we think this idea of making sure that small business, women owned and minority owned business have a fair shot is important.

Our purchasing group has gone out of their way to make sure our vendor lists include all those companies known to us to fit the disadvantaged category. We do a training once a month on how to do business with Sedgwick County. So we reach out there. We train, during that time; we train people how to fill out the things. This is open to any business that wants to.

Senator Anderson, I knew Senator Anderson when he was a Senator, referred to the airport bid and process and we went, and with this group's help and Prentice Lewis' help, we added all those minority people that showed up at that meeting, we added those to our vendor list.

In our vendor's list and I get these numbers, and well have a work session, so some of these are rough, of all the vendor lists, about 3 or 4 percent of those on our vendor list currently are minority or women owned business. That's not a lot. We don't know if were missing some we need to reach out to.

And were getting about, on average, on all our bids, about 10 percent of all the bids that we ask for are bid by minority or women owned businesses. Now, that doesn't mean they're all successful. I just wanted to frame the issue.

In terms of all the bids that we let out to vendors, minority and women owned businesses are bidding about 10 percent. And Iris has, Iris Baker, our Purchasing Director, has a lot more tracking information. Let me put that together and bring it back for a presentation to you."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay. Well, thank you for bringing this to our attention. I'm interested also in the women owned businesses and intend to look into it and make sure that we're open to every advantage for a minority businesses."

Mr. Anderson said, "Any way that the United Builders and Contractors can assist you, certainly we will do that. Thank you."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "Is that it Commissioner? Yes, Commissioner Parks?"

Commissioner Parks said, "I've been working with our staff for about a year now. I met with United Building Contractors about a year ago and Prentice Lewis and some of the many of the other contractors with that, and I'm in contact frequently with the County Manager about this issue.

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I did have a question of you. A couple of the projects that are going on now, that we talked about some subcontracting and other things going on, have there been, with the Arena and Jabara, have you been contacted by the general contractors to do any sub-contracting with those projects?"

Mr. Anderson said, "Let me phrase that. Mr. Lewis attended both of these meetings and both of those entities. I would think if there's a question, maybe he can best respond to that."

Mr. Prentice Lewis, United Builders and Contractors, Inc., greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioner Parks, I'm Prentice Lewis, by the way, Commissioner Parks, I know of one African-American contractor who has a contract on the Arena project, and that's a mechanical contract who is, joint venturing I guess, with a majority mechanical contractor.

I'm not aware of any other African-American contractors who have had an opportunity to secure a contract on that. Now, in talking with Tom Dondlinger, he has invited us, personally and then at the meeting that we attended, that the Air Force put on, and I think they do this every few months, they contract us for them, he's invited folks who would be interested to contact him.

But normally what happens on these projects, after the bid is let, it's usually very difficult to get in if you haven't been a part of the bidding, the original bidding on it. So I really can't tell you anything more than that. I know of one who has a contract that's going to be future in nature, I suppose."

Commissioner Parks said, "To respond to that, I'm glad that Dondlinger has sat at the table with you and hope that will continue. Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. Thank you very much. Commissioners, any other questions? Seeing...Commissioner Norton?"

Commissioner Norton said, "I think it would be appropriate to continue the conversation at one of our staff meetings to get a little more information about it. We've had this discussion over the years and I think we've tried to be very open to making sure that all businesses, small, large, minority owned, whatever are part of the mix.

One of the conversations I think we could have is maybe putting together some kind of Vendor Fair, not just a monthly thing that you can stop by, but a whole Vendor Fair to find out what the capacities and capabilities are in the community of not only African-American and minority groups and women owned, but just small business in general because I don't know that we understand totally as Commissioners, we have a great Purchasing Department that advocates for that, but maybe we need to get deeper into it and understand it.

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I would be okay with increasing the conversation at a workshop or a staff meeting and then talking about some kind of a Vendor Fair where we can invite all small businesses to come in and tell us of their capabilities and their capacities due to work. One of the problems we have is that, I don't think were anti-minorities, but when you start looking at certain projects and whether they have the capacity and the bond ratings and everything to do the work, sometimes it gets a little dicey as to whether they qualify.

We need to understand all of that before we put a blanket policy together that may have unintended consequences that doesn't include some of the businesses we're trying to advocate for. I think there is a lot more conversation to be had and I would be okay with that."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you Commissioner. Mr. Buchanan, I heard you say that you would follow-up with some additional information for the Commissioners?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes sir."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you. Senator, thank you very much for being with us and sharing with us this morning. Madam Clerk, would you call the next item?"

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

Chairman Winters said, "Mr. Fulp, come forward. Thank you very much."

Mr. George Fulp, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Commissioners. Mr. Chairman, by the way I did receive a copy of the, finally did receive a copy of the policy restricting County residents input to once every 4th meeting and will abide by that. I'm rather disappointed that such a policy would even exist for I see that taxpayer and resident input should be allowed and wanted on every agenda item and every Commission meeting.

Personally, I wish I didn't have to be here because I have some other things in my life I'd like to do. However, I've been asked to come before you by a growing number of County residents that are upset and getting more upset every month with the direction they feel we are heading.

Sometimes we all get lost in the big scope of things, the big picture. We cannot see the trees for the forest. And it's good for us to once in a while remind each other of what we're about, the basics for which we have come together and formed a community in a County government and local government.

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Once again, its budget time. In ten years our budget has ballooned from \$192 million to over \$400 million. I urge this Commission to go out of the norm this time and really take direct charge of the formation of next year's budget. To direct the County Manager and his staff, to fund and safeguard the basic essential services that all residents of the County depend upon and we know what they are.

But at the same time, direct staff to cut or eliminate nonessential, discretionary, or as Commissioner Norton calls them, social engineering programs so that we can avoid another tax increase.

W.S.U. has recently reported that their University Foundation assets around \$189 million and a wonderful couple has just bequeathed them an additional \$8.5 million. Right there we should be able to relieve our budget this year of some \$6 million dollars.

The Jabara Tech School project, we urge that you table it for now until it can be truly costed-out as to what it's going to cost the staff it, to operate it on an ongoing basis, so we can have this information put out in public debate and then finally take it to the ballot where it belongs and let the people decide.

The funds from Federal and State level are already being cut as we all know. The cost to provide basic services has increased this year alone tremendously. And some estimate that in the next 12 months, that the cost of oil continuing to rise, the cost of providing the basic services that we all depend upon could increase another 25 to 30 percent.

Finally, please do the right thing. Place any future sales tax, mill levy, utility users tax or social engineering program on the ballot so that the residents of Sedgwick County can decide if they want a greater tax burden placed on their backs and their children's backs in the future. Thank you for your time. Look forward to see seeing you in four weeks."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you, Mr. Fulp. Appreciate your being here. Madam Clerk, call the next item."

AWARD

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES – DEPARTMENT ON AGING

- C. PRESENTATION OF THE 2008 CAREGIVER FRIENDLY AWARD TO THE CENTRAL PLAINS AREA AGENCY ON AGING FOR THE CAREGIVING STEP BY STEP TELEVISION SERIES.**

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Ms. Monica Cissell, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm pleased to be able to present this award that we received from Today's Caregiver Magazine, May 15th in Fort Lauderdale and we were given this award for our ten-week Care Giving Step By Step Series, which aired on KSN between November 07' and January 08'.

This award is given to products, services, books and media that are specifically for caregivers. So we were thrilled to be able to receive this award and definitely excited that we were the only Area Agency on Aging that received this award. "

Chairman Winters said, "All right. Thank you, Monica. Could you share just a little bit about the relationship with KSN and how they got interested in this project and how that worked, because that, certainly anything to do on television has a wide appeal and approach? "

Ms. Cissell said, "Absolutely. We ended up using some caregiver funding to produce this ten-week series and then worked with KSN to air the series. We also have those DVD sets available in our library and for sale to the public or agencies if they're interested."

Chairman Winters said, "Well, a tremendous number of our citizens are involved in care giving in some way. If anyone didn't see the production or would like to view it again, could you tell folks how they could get in contact with somebody in your department and view those videos?"

Ms. Cissell said, "Sure. They can contact our information and assistance at (316)660-5120 and we can make those available to them."

Chairman Winters said, "And they would be asking to see what, what would they be asking?"

Ms. Cissell said, "The Care Giving Step By Step Series. DVD series."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. Very good. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I think this is a wonderful award to be given. Truthfully, more and more we're going to be dealing with respite care and home healthcare and aging assistance care in the home because our population, the baby boomer population is aging, and children and relatives will find themselves being the caregivers for that generation, which is a huge population.

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I think we're ahead of the curve on that communicating to caregivers that some things they can do to understand care giving, to understand respite care, to understand how they connect to all the services that we have in our community, and I think this is, it's certainly a wonderful award, but the community has to know that it's the information behind the award that's so powerful for our community, to get that message out that caregivers are not alone, that there are services to help them get through the process that can be arduous and hard on families.

Care giving certainly is something that's going to be on our plate for the next couple of generations I imagine. Thank you Monica. That's all I had."

Chairman Winters said "Again, Monica, congratulations to you and your department who put this whole project together and we certainly appreciate the recognition given by kind of a national circulated magazine. We appreciate their attention to what you've done. We hope that many in our area and perhaps others can take advantage of viewing these videos because a number, again as I said earlier, a huge number of our citizens are involved in care giving to family members, friends or acquaintances. Thank you very much."

Ms. Cissell said, "Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "Madam Clerk, would you call the next item? Before you do that..."

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to accept the Award.

Commissioner Parks seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you very much Monica. Next item."

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PRESENTATIONS

C. PRESENTATION OF THE FIVE-YEAR SEDGWICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE.

POWER POINT PRESENTATION

Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The Kansas Department of Health and Environment requires every county to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan. Our first plan was developed ten years ago; this will be our second five-year update presented to the State.

The State has requirements when they look at the plan. They want information on disposal and collection methods, what have we done in the past, current and future proposals for these methods. They also want a timeline on the recycling programs, composting programs and basically how are we going to reduce our waste. KDHE is putting a lot of emphasis this time on how communities will reduce the amount of material they throw away.

In my review today, I'll be referring to basic data that we have in our plan and the recommendations by the Solid Waste Management Committee. I'd like to remind you that the Solid Waste Management Committee is required by the State for every county to have one and the committee is composed of 15 members and one non-voting chair. The 15 members fill certain categories for the State requirements. We have to have a representative of the waste hauling community, recycling community, public, first, second and third class cities are represented on this committee, as well as special organization groups. We have a good representation on the committee and they've been meeting since last fall monthly to review these components and make decisions to recommend to you.

So after that I'd like to review possible actions that we can take for the future for this plan. First some basic data. 2007, the amount of municipal solid waste produced in our community that went to the two transfer stations was over 464,000 tons. This is an average of 1,279 tons of trash per day or 5.4 pounds of trash per person per day.

That's an important number because that's what KDHE is looking at. That's the number they want us to try to reduce in the future, is how much each one of us produces daily in our community. We also have three construction and demolition landfills which takes such material as bricks or drywall or two by fours or other inert material. They collected over 173,000 tons and buried it at their facilities.

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Also material that's recycled at those facilities and the main portion of what's that 410,000 tons that was recycled is asphalt and concrete that came into the facility, was ground up and used in construction projects. We have over 11,000 tons of material composted and we have over 41,000 tons recycled. We're not sure of the exact recycle numbers since the facilities do not report to us and this is what was reported, the number is much larger than that, but we do not have a good handle on that number.

Looking for the past ten years and what material has been disposed since we started this process, this is the amount of municipal solid waste in tons. At the beginning of this chart is 1997, ten years ago. We had a lot of material going to Brooks Landfill and increased in 98 and 99. Then start today decline. After 2001 you can see a drop in the material taken to the transfer stations. That's due to the fact that we banned construction demolition material going to the transfer stations.

The purpose of the ban is the fact that it is inert material and there was no need to take up municipal solid waste landfill space with that material when it can be handled in a more efficient manner. Some of the C and D facilities do pull material out to recycle. That is also very important.

You can see the number has fluctuated over time. It has had a slight increase recently. That is, also can be shown by the pounds per person per day. We go back to 1997; we had over 6 pounds per person per day going to the Brooks Landfill, almost 7 pounds in 1999. That number has dropped to the current 5.4 pounds per person per day.

We can also look at seasonal changes of the material that goes to the transfer stations. We receive quarterly reports from them on the amount that they receive and the groupings here show that we have 2002 grouping over on the left. For each group of four bars represents one year, each bar is one season. So the first bar in the grouping, the blue bar shows January, February, March and was disposed of in those cold months.

Then the next further, the magenta color, you can see an increase due to spring cleaning and yard waste that starts going to the transfer stations. A slight decline in summer and fall and the lowest quarter is the spring quarter.

You can also look at what we throw away. Ten years ago we had a waste analysis of Brooks Landfill that lasted from September 97 through July of 98. This was to determine what people throw away and we wanted to see seasonal differences. So that's why it was done for one year.

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Ten years ago, 30 percent of what we threw away was paper. 12 percent was C and D wood and 7.5 percent was C & D other material. That led to the ban on C & D material going to the disposal facility. So much of it was that material that could be handled in a better fashion. Yard waste was 12.5 percent, plastic 11 percent and we can see other materials.

The Solid Waste Committee, when they were looking at this, tried to determine what is our makeup of trash today. So a recommendation by that Solid Waste Committee is to have another waste analysis. How have our buying habits changed in the past ten years, electronics are more available now, more things may be packaged in plastic, how has that changed from ten years ago? And how would that influence the recycling markets in our community?

The committee proposed a new waste analysis to be done quarterly at both transfer stations over a year period of time. Less intensive than the first study where we looked at 52 categories. Before we would do a study, we would work with the recycling industry and others to determine what is the best information that they could receive in their industry. The committee recommends this start in January of 2009.

The committee also looked at what requirements could be put on the generator of the material, you and I as homeowners, before it is ever picked up by the trash haulers. The committee had looked at the fact that 24 states have a ban on yard waste. Now that may be a total ban or yard waste or some states it may be grass only. So the committee is recommending a ban on grass clippings, it's heavy material. In our study ten years ago it composed 6 percent of the weight of what was going to Brooks Landfill. They recommend this start January 2009.

The committee looked at collector requirements being the waste haulers who collect the material. Ten years ago we had 30 municipal solid waste haulers who collected trash. Today we have 19 licensed haulers in our community. There are cities in our community that have also contracted for the collection of municipal solid waste and I have those listed here. Bentley, Cheney, Clearwater, Mount Hope and Sedgwick. Also two other cities that have contracted for recycling collection in their communities.

It gives a benefit of the recycling contract has lower cost for trash collection if the citizens wish to use that hauler. The committee looked at this, they looked at the free market and they recommend we keep what was currently in the plan of having free market collection. But they also looked at the fact that cities are starting to contract and this can be handled well at a city level. They recommended we encourage cities to look in the franchising.

Another collector requirement and also generated requirement comes into curb side recycling. E.P.A. has done studies and determined that over 8,600 communities have curb side recycling. It's very convenient for people and increases the amount of material recycled. The committee is recommending a mandatory subscription/voluntary participation system.

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What that means is the price for curbside recycling would be rolled into the base trash bill. It would be part of it. But whether the person decides to recycle or not is up to them. Communities that have this in place see an increase in recycling. Citizens feel I'm paying for the service; I might as well use it.

And the committee looked at 'pay as you throw', which is the next, and want curbside recycling to go hand in hand with the 'pay as you throw'. Both of them to start June 1, 2010, which would give haulers time to gear up for this process and education program for the public. Volume based trash waste for 'pay as you throw' is what it sounds like. You're paying for the service you use.

It's like other utilities where you pay for the amount of water or electricity you use. In this case, you would pay for the amount of trash you throw away. Some people may have only half a can of trash that they set out and the neighbor may have bags overflowing and they may be paying the exact same price. So this encourages people to lower the size of their trash containers, what should result in a lower fee for that collection of the trash. They could be rewarded for that by paying the lower fee.

One way to lower the amount of trash they produce is to have curbside recycling and a place to put that material in the recycling bin. That's why the committee recommend this go hand in hand with curbside recycling.

The committee went on to recommend that it be two sizes of trash containers with a minimum 30 percent cost differential between the sizes. That would encourage people to go to the smaller size. If they had extra bags around the container, they would be able to buy tags for those bags, for those special occasions where they have visitors or Christmas or other holidays where they might produce more trash. And that suggested price would be \$2.50 for the other bag.

Committee also looked at specific wastes, which includes things as used oil, paints, batteries, tires and specifically they looked at electronic waste. We have a good system in place for businesses that take batteries and tires and we have had two countywide tire roundups where we encourage residents to bring their unused tires to the roundup to get rid of them.

The electronic waste includes computers, monitors, cell phones, televisions and they have hazardous material in them. The State asked us to specifically look at electronic waste and how that can be handled. Currently we do have local businesses that take electronic waste. They're listed on the Sedgwick County website as well as other businesses that recycle material.

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The committee looked at this and what the businesses charged to receive that material and they recommended that we have a remote collection of that to accept e-waste. Specifically, the committee wanted to tie the e-waste collection in with our current house hold hazardous waste remote events that are going on right now. Unfortunately, the timing of that was bad and the fact that, as I said, the remote events are happening now, they've already budgeted for this year and the electronic waste was not.

The committee wants to determine what people have for electronic waste, what they need to get rid of and use this information to research a permanent solution for the County to find a responsible disposal method for this material. On disposal of the waste, the committee recommended leaving the plan the way it currently is. The plan already includes utilizing transfer stations for disposal of the municipal solid waste. The plan has an option for a County owned landfill and it also includes to keep on top of new technologies, continue to research that and see how that can benefit our community in the future.

The Commission received this information from the Solid Waste Committee. We had a workshop with the committee on that at one of your Tuesday staff meetings and the committee gave input on that. We also had a publicized and held a public hearing on April 24th at the Sedgwick County Zoo where we received input from citizens.

Approximately 60 people attended that meeting and 20 people talked at that meeting to give their ideas on recycling or collection issues and what was important to them. I also presented the draft solid waste plan to the Metropolitan Area Planning Committee and they approved it at their public meeting on May 8th.

The Commissioners have had staff workshops on this to review the information to have a better understanding of the issues. The solid waste plan draft has been on the County website for months now for people to look at and make comments. There have been newspaper articles on this plan, radio stories, T.V. stories, and I know each and every one of you have received personal contact emails and phone calls and letters from the public stating their opinions on different aspects of this plan.

The Commission has considered all of this input, you've looked at that and the input from the Solid Waste Committee and from that certain proposals have been developed to put in our plan. I'd like to review those proposals now and realize that these are subject to change at this meeting.

One action that we need to look at is all of this is about minimizing the amount of solid waste that our community produces. We want to increase recycling, improve the efficiency of the collection method and minimize financial impacts to the citizens.

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What the Commissioners have heard from the citizens are concerns about any of these programs increasing costs to them. So one component of the plan plays upon another and the purpose of the actions is to figure out how we can minimize the waste while also not increasing financial impact to the citizens of our community.

One way of looking at this is to perform the solid waste analysis to really determine what's in the solid waste, what are people producing. The committee recommended to start in January of 2009. This recommendation is to start in the fall of 2008, get a head start on that. And help use these results to determine what we can do in the future to minimize trash going to this final disposal facility.

Another thing that we've looked at, the committee recommended, is a ban on grass clippings. We looked at that and said, since we're going to do the waste analysis, maybe it would be best to wait to see how that has changed in the past ten years. Is grass still 6 percent of the waste that is gone up or down and how can we best manage it? The decision to ban grass should be made after the waste analysis by January 1, 2010.

On specific waste, the County can hold a one day electronic waste collection event prior to February 2009. The reason for the February 2009 date is because that's when the high definition television signal will start, the analog signal will stop and there will be more T.Vs out there that people want to get rid of. We've already seen an increase in illegal dumping of televisions out in the County ditches.

We would like to give people a good option on where to take that material and the information from a one day event will be used to determine what we can do in the future for a permanent solution for e-waste disposal. On collective requirements, the County has reviewed in the past month or more different wording on what we can do for that requirement.

I have bullets up here on the main points of one of those options that we have been looking at. The county has seen that municipal residents will pay less and receive more service if solid waste collection is franchised than if it is not. We've seen this from the cities in Sedgwick County that have contracted for collection, that the price to their residents have gone down compared to the price before franchised or contracted collection. Because of that, the County in this option wording, expects cities to have a solid waste collection contractor franchise in place plan by January 1, 2011.

That agreement must include at a minimum curbside recycling and volume based trash rates. As I mentioned earlier, this is open for looking at, in fact all of these requirements that we've been talking about are subject to change at this meeting. The commission had looked at having a city summit on solid waste in the fall of 2008.

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The purpose of the summit is to work with cities on contracting and franchising ideas, recycling and pay as you throw. What does it mean? Have representatives from other communities come in and talk about how they did it, and even have local cities talk about their success stories or the problems that they've faced. We have started working on that summit to have that in the fall of this year. I'd be happy to answer any questions at this time."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. Thank you, Susan. Could you go back a few slides to the point where you talk about what or the what were going to be acting on today, which is the finalization of these five or six bullet points?"

Ms. Erlenwein, said, "Yes, sir. This would be the first one on the solid waste analysis."

Chairman Winters said "The solid waste analysis. Then just proceed on through those and just to give a perspective, this is really the starting place of today's discussion?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, "That's correct. Today we need to determine if we want to have a solid waste analysis and when that should start."

Chairman Winters said, "Your recommendations is...?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, " The recommendation would be to start in the fall of 2008 and continue that through seasonally for one year and use that information to help future businesses in our community."

Chairman Winters said, "Right."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Generator requirements, it would be to put off grass clipping ban until after the waste analysis. The date is January 1, 2010."

Chairman Winters said, "And that is your recommendation?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, "That's my recommendation."

Chairman Winters said, "Okay."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Part of the recommendation date have to do with allowing businesses to gear up for something like a grass ban and to educate the public on what they can do with the material."

Chairman Winters said "All right."

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Ms. Erlenwein said “On special waste, the recommendation is for one day electronic waste collection event prior to February 2009 so we can get those analog T.V.s handled appropriately and use that data for determining future solutions.

And for the collective collector requirements is to expect cities in the County to have solid waste collection contract in place which by January 1, 11 and those 2011 and it must include recycling and volume based trash rates.”

Chairman Winters said “Okay.”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “Then with the city summit in the fall of this year to help cities through this process.”

Chairman Winters said “All right, thank you. Commissioners, do you have comments or questions about the recommendations from the staff? Commissioner Parks?”

Commissioner Parks said, “We have these, I’d like to thank the committees, Susan and all her staff for working so hard on this. We do have checks and balances in this.

It’s been before the MAPC, the Solid Waste Committee of course works on those things. We had a public hearing, we take input from citizens. I’ve received probably more input on this than anything else in 2008.

One thing was clear. People want, majority of people that I’ve received information from want to have freedoms to choose their trash hauler. They do want to improve recycling, as do I personally, citizens want it cheaper. Of course, that’s kind of a given. They want everything cheaper but more service.

Citizens also as a majority don’t want to dump their grass in the landfill. They want to still be able to continue to do that. I think there’s been some misinformation or misconstruing of the fact that a person that wants to put their flowers from their flowerbed or their limbs or other things in the trash, it would not affect that or the leaves in the fall when they fall. Want to make that a clear option in that, that when we go to making our compost piles those things don’t have to go in the compost pile.

Also, some of the cities, some of the things that have concerned me and if you want to expand on this, Susan, please do. Comparable service, over the last three months or so, I’ve been looking at other cities contracts, not all of them are franchises, some of them are contracts, in fact. And if we’re comparing some of those services, they don’t all look alike.”

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

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Commissioner Parks said, "Could you expand on that?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, "That's why the Solid Waste Committee recommended that it be done at the city level because each community has their own needs for their citizens. Some contracts include curbside recycling, some do not. And if its curbside recycling, is it a weekly collection of the recyclables or is it every other week collection? So, those are some of the basic differences on the contracts.

And how is the recycling collected? Is it in a container or is it in loose bags out at the curbside? So when the cities looked at this and developed their request for proposal on those contracts, they set up the guidelines for the their own community on what works best for them. You're correct that the prices vary from one community to another and so do the services."

Commissioner Parks said, "I just wanted to make sure were comparing apple cores to apple cores here."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "One good comparison is to make what the citizens were paying prior to the contract and what they're paying after the contract in the same community."

Commissioner Parks said, "Okay. Who is on the Solid Waste Committee from the haulers who represented them?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, "The head of Waste Connections."

Commissioner Parks said "Okay. I don't think by any means, I don't know if this is appropriate time to get into this, but there's a legal question I have of Rich Euson if I could ask this. The term expect is not binding, am I correct in saying that in passing this it goes to a eventually to a Resolution and then we require, expect is not requiring something we anticipate and expect. I'm not an attorney and I'd like a legal definition of expect here."

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The word expect would be used in the normal and reasonable sense in the context in which you're saying that you expect cities to do certain things, such as provide for contracting or franchising. And it's probably not as strong as require. But it is followed by the statement that the County will determine what steps the County will take if that doesn't happen on the due date. Does that help?"

Commissioner Parks said, "Yes, and a lot of these due dates do come in after the fall summit that we have with those. Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "Anything else Mr. Parks? Thank you. Commissioner Unruh?"

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Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you for the presentation Susan. I appreciate it. I think it clearly expresses some of the discussions that we have been having up to this point and I think that each Commissioner has been giving careful consideration to the language that might be expressed here as Commissioner Parks brought up, especially in our little work sheet, item 5, about whether or not we want to, whether we believe in, whether we require, whether we expect franchising and that’s been the real area of agreement, disagreement on how we want to approve this plan.

I have been pretty much in favor of the strongest language possible because I think this is the way that we should be moving in South Central Kansas, but I will be supportive of the language that says expects as we move this plan forward.

You know, it seems that on almost any issue that Sedgwick County government faces, we are pretty careful not to do things that don’t have a precedent for that doesn’t have a proven track record . We sometimes refer to that as best practices in carrying out the operations of County government.

I think we have in the area of contracted solid waste collection or franchising, whatever word we want to use, that that is a best practice for communities. In light of the fact that I think were the largest municipality in the United States that has a, quote, free market system...”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “That’s correct.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “...every other larger community has some sort of contracted or franchise system. Its proven to be best for communities, I think for economy in terms of the environment and in terms of the infrastructure of the community that that system provides the most benefit.

And I think that its further underscored by the fact that the major haulers, at least in our area, all engage in franchising or contracting. In doing some of my research, I noticed that Waste Connections, for example, on their website indicate that they have over 600 franchise or contract agreements across the United States for solid waste collection and actually 50 percent of the revenues are generated from those types of contracts. They found this to be smart business and a good way to do things in a community.

On the Waste Management website their website says that most of their residential collection is through a franchise or contract agreement and they are a nationwide company. It’s interesting that in that arrangement, I noticed, that one of the factoids on their website said that they have collected 8 million tons of recyclable material last year and I think that’s due, probably at least in some part, to the fact that they have a convenient system for citizens.

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Another very significant player in our area, LIES Construction also has a contract agreement with one of our communities. Stutsman, another hauler has a lot of contract agreements. One of the disposal companies in Derby reported in the paper yesterday that they think this is the appropriate way for our community to go. So I think in light of the fact that our collection companies are familiar with this and many of them engage in it for a major part of their business, we see the advantages of it across the United States. Our citizens will have the advantage of paying less and receiving more services that's been evidenced by the contracts we see in our own County.

In the five or so communities that you listed on your presentation and they have a contract where they are getting a solid waste collection and recycling at a favorable rate compared to the market, and you can add to that list you had Eastborough, and Bel Aire and Park City that had some kind of contractual arrangement.

The citizens, I believe, will benefit from this. What it accomplishes, I believe, if we move forward with franchising and this sort of expectation, it accomplishes what our responsibility is which is to make the system more convenient, reduce the volume of trash, and increase recycling, increase the life of the lands fills so that we don't have to go through another siting process prematurely, increases recycling. All of those are goals that KDHE asked us to try to accomplish. We have been sensitive to accomplish that without putting more cost on our citizens. I believe this sort of organized collection system will make that happen.

It seems to me that this is a benefit to our constituents, it is a benefit to our employees and our community. I believe it's a benefit to businesses themselves. It is a benefit to our economy in light of the fact that if we can provide these services under this sort of a contractual arrangement and save our citizens on the average of \$5 to \$10 a month for collection costs, and you consider there's 170,000 households in the county, you start doing the math that becomes a tremendous economic benefit of money left in our community to pay for gasoline for one thing and to pay for other household needs.

So I guess I just wanted to give, in my comments, the entire foundation of my being supportive of an activity that some folks think is anti-free market or anti-free enterprise, because I'm definitely a proponent of less government and fewer restrictions. But this particular activity that's required of our citizens that they dispose of their trash weekly, I think lends itself to this sort of an arrangement that will be beneficial to all and achieve the ends that we've set out for ourselves.

So Mr. Chairman, in light of that, I would say that I am going to be supportive of the plan as presented and the language that implies that we expect our municipalities to conform to the plan. That's all I have right now."

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Chairman Winters said, "Thank you. Commissioner Norton ?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, we've had plenty of discussion, and I've done a lot of listening the last few weeks, there are a few things that are kind of sticking points for me, and I would like to throw those out on the table.

First of all, when we get to the final wording, I don't know that strongly believes or expects is what I would like to see. I believe it should be recommends and encourages cities to do this. We would recommend that it is what we would like, and we would encourage them through all the ways that we have to encourage them to find programs that work for them. So for me the language that really would hold up for me is recommends and encourages.

I think I've got four things that I think are important. First is we have to have a discussion on the control of tipping fees at the transfer stations. The end product of being able to have pretty open free market bids for any franchising or contracting is going to be tied to where the final disposal is and who sets the cost of that. And right now I believe most of it is goes through two transfer stations and ends up in one landfill.

Ms. Erlenwein said, "That's correct."

Commissioner Winters said, "So that the control of the collection prices and franchising agreements will be controlled by the prices of the tipping fees. And I think we have not had that discussion, I think it's important we have it at some point so that we understand what is going to happen if we require franchising in a system that is where we control none of the final disposal.

The second thing, I think we have to have a discussion on the solid waste fees, and what that does for us on other parts of the whole plan, and were going to have that at budget time, I know, but that's an important integral part of this that sets in motion what we want to do with bulk waste and e-waste and household hazardous waste, and some recycling programs that we sponsor throughout the County, because I think they are part of this.

The next thing I wrote down, I think we need to move forward on e-waste and bulk waste programs, and facility/capacity. We have got a wonderful household hazardous waste facility. I think we need to be very smart about moving forward now. I don't think e-waste and bulk waste are ever going to diminish. I know we're worried about the television conversion, but I think there's a much bigger problem looming just with e-waste kinds of things.

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I know household has this waste right now, is prepared for what's going to happen with these fluorescent bulbs that have mercury in them, people still don't understand that yes, they have a life span longer than a regular incandescent light bulb, but you have to dispose of them differently. You can debate whether that's a household hazardous waste or electronic waste. I think it will more likely be handled as an electronic waste, because of the mercury in it.

So I think we need to move forward on maybe not building a facility, but adding capacity, and if it means facility using some solid waste fees, I'm advocating for that. Certainly we can do a test and find out what e-waste is going to look like, but as our population grows and we need to dispose of those, and we need to make sure that refrigerators and air conditioners and microwaves and other bulky waste get handled properly all the time, not just once a year when we have cleanup days, I'm going to advocate for moving ahead on that all tied together.

And then finally, I think we need to have a discussion on preexisting agreements there are out there. There are neighborhood associations that already have agreements that may be better than the franchise agreement that would be put together by a city. So I think we need to understand what the role of the neighborhood associations are and those agreements.

Do they have the privilege if they have a certain density to opt out of the entities program? Now, I think that gives citizens a chance to say, look, the franchise agreement isn't good, I'm getting lousy service still, and were going to form an association of a certain density, and we're going to find our own hauler and that keeps the free market alive but allows a bigger picture of franchising in contracts.

It still would keep one trash truck going down every street which is one of our ancillary things that were trying to solve, which is having multiple trash trucks going on our infrastructure. It would still be a contract for that area to have that. I don't know how you pull that off, how that is put into a contract, but I think it's part of the conversation ongoing that we need to have.

So there's the points I would like to either discuss or consider, and I don't know that all of them are appropriate to resolve today, but they are part of the ongoing discussion I would like to have. That's all I have."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you Commissioner. Commissioner Parks?"

Commissioner Parks said, "I have a question of Susan. On the impact of those people that don't have trash service now? I know we've discussed this at some staff meetings and other meetings that we've had. Just to elaborate a little bit on that. Some towns in Sedgwick County allow burning in approved containers of trash, then they just have residual ash or other things they dispose of in other ways.

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And also, I have one precinct in Wichita that when we were looking at a neighborhood initiative, had 40 of the people did not have trash service. So how this going to impact on them, and I would like to say also that I do think this is a living document, so it can be up for change.”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “That’s correct. The city of Wichita currently requires every household to have weekly trash collection, so as you say there may be some people who do not have trash collection, but by law they are supposed to within the city limits of Wichita. Part of the problem with the free market system is you cannot follow up on that since the information on customers is proprietary, we do not know unless you drove down every street every day of the week to determine if someone ever put the trash can out.

A franchise of contract would equalize that so everyone has the opportunity for trash collection. The question you had about burning of the trash, the County has a law on the books right now that you have to have five acres or more to have a burn barrel to burn trash on your land. That’s to keep smoke from neighbor’s areas and to contain the fire appropriately.

In looking at franchising, or contracting, we were looking at the economics of efficiency of collecting every house on a block instead of picking up trash from one house and driving a long distance and picking up your next customer. That’s less efficient.

As you go out into the County, it would not be appropriate to have franchise collection unless you say it’s one hauler for this whole area, but we would not require the citizens to have trash collection, we do not require that now. Citizens can self haul, or burn the trash if they have five acres or more. So that would still stay in place.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Just to clarify in those incorporated cities that are out there that do allow burning in their cities, they quote the home rule issue, and I don’t know, maybe that’s more of a legal issue, but they burn on 150 x 160 lots all the time, or less.”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “I think that’s where we have received a lot of complaints about smoke going over to the neighbor’s areas, and that’s under the Fire Marshal’s jurisdiction.”

Commissioner Parks said “Okay. So in a lot of those, then, you say that’s proprietary information, that’s one of those things that just can’t be enforced?”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “Right. The City of Wichita has the law that you have to weekly collection. It is hard to follow up on that to determine if someone does or not since the collectors have proprietary information on who their customers are.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Thank you.”

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Chairman Winters said, "Thank you Commissioner. Commissioner Welshimer?"

Commissioner Welshimer said "Well, I realize we're putting the haulers in an insecure position and no one knows what the result will be for them. On the other hand, we can't wait any longer to take a variety of actions to protect our environment for future generations, and I think that that action should be without any type of fragmentation, it should be direct, and it should be to show we have made a decision, and we have looked at different ways to ask the cities, to request cities to tell them we strongly believe, or that we require, and we've ended up with the word expect, that we expect the cities, all the cities and counties to have a solid waste collection contract or franchise in place by January 1, 2011.

I think that's a good middle of the road way to put it. It shows that were focused, that were determined, that we do believe in what we're doing, and what we do expect from them. And it will ultimately be their choice. I think if we don't do this now we may not do this for another 20 years or so.

I think that once we've put this plan, we approve this plan, and you send this on up to the State, then we can address some of these other things. We have the plan in place, we have to address these other things.

And I agree that we should address tipping, and the grass clippings and all these many things, but I don't see that we will get any of that done if we don't put this plan in place today. So I will be supporting the plan with the wordage of that the Sedgwick County expects all cities in the County to have a solid waste collection contract or franchise in place by January 1, 2011."

Chairman Winters said, "Okay. Thank you very much. Commissioner Unruh?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you Mr. Chair. I just want to make a, I guess a comment of clarification on some of the thing that Commissioner Norton talked about.

I would agree, that as Commissioner Welshimer said, some of these things that we are going to have to not ignore and continue to work on as we go forward, those things that are directly under our responsibility as far as final disposal and tipping fees and those sorts of things.

However, some of the detail about individual neighborhood associations and those sort of things, our plan would leave that up to the cities to work that out according to what is best for their community, and so I just I don't want to go too further with details than we can go legitimately."

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Ms. Erlenwein said, “This should be covered at the city summit on the options that are available, stories of what other cities have done. Some cities have contracted for one waste hauler for the entire city, others break it into halves or quarters or even smaller decisions, geographic divisions to represent more of the haulers.

We would go over that in a summit as to what are the options, we would look at neighborhood associations and contracts they currently have, and how can you handle something that’s already in place. Those contracts have deadlines as well, just like any contract has, that could last for one year to five years is the typical length of time. So we would have to work with that, and work at the summit on all of these issues.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay, thank you. Well, that’s helpful, because I think most of us got an email from someone in a hundred resident community that’s getting their waste picked up for \$25 a quarter, and, you know, you would hate to do something that would disrupt that.

And but anyway, at the summit we can help the cities think through that, and but ultimately it is their decision on what they do on those types of decisions.”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “That’s correct.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “All right, that’s all I have Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Well, I am going to be supportive of this final wording that we’ve come up were regarding franchising, and, again, that expects all cities I personally wouldn’t have a problem with adding the word recommends and expects but I can listen to whoever makes the motion.

But I guess I would boil it down to I think it is our responsibility to reduce municipal solid waste going into landfills. I think the majority of our citizens want more recycling. I think the majority of our citizens do not want to pay more for that recycling opportunity, and I believe with this franchising that citizens will receive more and pay less and we will be able to accomplish the objectives that Commissioner Welshimer mentioned. Those are my comments. Commissioner Welshimer?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Then I would like to make the motion .”

Chairman Winters said, “All right.”

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MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Management Plan 5-year Update and approve submission to Kansas Department of Health and Environment, each of the items, 1-4, and that our option D would be substituted for number 5 on the Solid Waste Plan.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

Chairman Winters said, “And I guess Susan, for my clarification, in our backup, Commissioner Welshimer’s motion is approving our backup, but making the change in this one paragraph.”

Ms. Erlenwein said, “That’s correct, that would be on page 27 of your backup. I have that option in italics which was the very first option we discussed, so that would be replaced with option D.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Commissioners, are there questions or comments? Commissioner Norton?”

Commissioner Norton said, “I don’t know that I like that final language of expects, but it looks like the motion is going to pass. I don’t know that we can wait much longer to get this to KDHE. It is a fluid document. I would hope that some of the things that I mentioned here are taken into great consideration after this as we move forward, because I don’t know, that although I support franchising, I don’t know that it works like I envision it to work for everybody that is currently in the business to openly get a good chance at buying into some of the business.

And I’m afraid that there’s unintended consequences by not settling some of these other things first and saying expects based on some of the conversation I’ve heard coming through the city of how many zones they might have, that could eliminate a lot of small businesses.

We just had a presentation today from small businesses saying we would like to be able to be on an even playing field, yet we could make determinations today that are going to eliminate small businesses and independence from being in this independents from being in this particular business.

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I don't know if that's right or wrong, good or bad. I understand that there are some companies that are going to be small and fragile and could go away regardless of what we do. But there's others that have been in business for a long time in our community, are well respected, and that there could be unintended consequences by not really understanding what is telling the cities they have to do it will be without this further discussion about how they break it up, what is going to be good for our community, and how we kind of serve both masters at the same time.

Truthfully not having a County owned landfill so we can control the final cost of disposition really makes it tough to say there is going to be franchising, because the person that collects and disposes has a distinct advantage over everybody else, and I have a little bit of an issue with that. Having said that, it looks like the motion is going to go ahead.

I don't know that I am going to fight over my ideas that it should be recommends and encourages, because I think that sends a different message. So we can move forward with the motion, obviously."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. Is that it?"

Commissioner Norton said, "Yes."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you Commissioner Norton. Susan, my final comment would be I would like to have pretty high expectations coming out of this summit meeting that we've planned for the fall, and it would be my hope that we could direct that meeting towards answering questions, a number of which Commissioner Norton has posed this morning, but questions and experts there to answer that will help Mayors and City Councils of our cities in Sedgwick County reach a determination about what is best for their city.

And if they should so decide to transition into this plan, how they can most efficiently do it. And I don't think this is a recycling summit, I don't think it's a summit to ask people to come and tell us how good recycling is or that kind of thing. I think we need to focus on what it means to make this kind of a transition in a community, and what is the solution that we will push forward concerning final disposal fees, how will that happen.

And answer, again, a number of these questions that I think Commissioner Norton has brought to us that are very relevant, but I also agree with Commissioner Welshimer, we can't wait. We need to move forward, so I'm going to be supportive of moving forward knowing that there are still a number of questions to be asked and answered."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "I appreciate that. And we'll work with you on the summit and get all of the Commissioners ideas on what you would like to have happen there. "

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Chairman Winters said, “Thank you. Commissioners, we have a motion before us now, is everyone understanding the motion, everyone prepared to vote, any additional questions? Seeing none, Madam Clerk, call the roll.”

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Susan, thank you very much.

Ms. Erlenwein said, “Thank you sir.”

Chairman Winters said, “Madam Clerk, would you pause just a second here?”

(PAUSE WHILE AUDIENCE MEMEMBERS LEAVE BOARD ROOM.)

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Would you please call the next item?”

E. PRESENTATION OF A 2009 BUDGET UPDATE.

Mr. David Miller, Director, Budget Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I asked to be placed on today’s agenda to provide an update of the 2009 budget process, not in particularly or necessarily for as a benefit to you, but instead as a benefit to the public that may be watching today’s meeting so that they can gain insight into the budget process and the timing that will take place, so that they can possibly attend any of the public hearings that will be occurring over the next two months, and also so that they can understand that timing and possibly voice their valuable input on the allocation of the community’s resources as we work through the budget process.

As you well know, Commissioners, the budget process started over five months ago with the completion and discussion of the long-term financial plan, mapping out the potential resources and commitments of the County over the next five years.

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Since then, department heads have submitted their 2009 base budget requests to the Budget Office, and tomorrow the Board of County Commissioners will begin the 2009 budget hearings that will last well into next week.

Those hearings will provide department heads with an opportunity to present to you their budgetary requests for 2009 outlining their goals and achievements as we work through the budget process and begin the fiscal year of 2009, and review any prominent budgetary concerns that they may have as we work through the budget process.

Those budget hearings will be held here in this BoCC meeting room beginning tomorrow, June 5th through June 11th. In addition to those hearings, some other key dates as we work through the budget process include July 16th, which will be the release of the Manager's recommended budget; July 23rd, will be the first public budget hearing; July 30th is what we call the last up day or the setting of the maximum property tax levy; and finally on August 13th, which will be the second public budget hearing and budget adoption.

As always, these are all public hearings and I would encourage anyone interested in the County's budget to feel free to attend. I would also like to note that as we work through the budget process, particularly the release of the Manager's recommended budget on July 16th, that information will be posted on the Sedgwick county website at sedgwickcounty.org, and in addition there will also be a public comment section where citizens can go in and provide their valuable input at that time. I would be happy to stand for any questions."

Chairman Winters said, "Well, thank you very much, David. And since you have brought the subject up today, and wanting to give Commissioners an outline of where we're headed, I guess I would like to also visit with you and the Manager about some things that I think at least I've been thinking about as we start our budget hearing project, process with staff tomorrow, and then going in to next week.

As you indicated we're building our budget for 2009, and I would like to think somewhat this year about adding at least an option or some options to what I think our long-range budget financial plan looks like. You know, I would, as you begin the process of determining, you have the projections in our plan of what potential projects could be, and if those are going to be followed through, then here is the results of what how it is going to affect the mill levy. And a number of those projects, particularly the larger ones, revolve around public safety.

And so, you know, in the traditional mode of things we would start this process, saying we want to hold our mill levy firm, but as I think about things moving forward and in the past, I would like us to try to consider a mill levy reduction of in the 3 to 4 percent range as we build this budget.

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Now, we can't do these logically if we have a long-range financial plan in front of us that then doesn't make sense. So my intention is not to put us in a position of where we lower the mill, raise the mill levy, lower the mill levy, raise it...I don't want to start down a path of lowering it knowing we're going to have to raise it, so I would like to take a look at our long-range projection plans, and a place where that is going to have a big discussion point is going to be in public safety, adult detention, and how that is handled through the coming years.

So as we start this process, I think I'm at least one Commissioner that is going to want to see an option that has us discussing, hopefully, a mill reduction of some level. And I'm thinking in the 3 percent mill levy reduction area. So I know your purpose today was just to begin the discussion of what this process is going to be like, and where particularly the citizens will have an avenue to plug in, but I wanted to share my comments of what I'm going to try to be looking for during this coming next few weeks. Commissioner Parks?"

Commissioner Parks said, "I just would like to elaborate on that little bit. We all would like to roll back the taxes to where they were a couple years ago. Mike Borchard has been in contact with me several times about things that might be on the front for some assessments going down.

So I think we need to be really careful that we don't get into this roller coaster of up and down, when in fact in 2010 we could be faced with just essential government services and those bonded indebtedness things we have out there now to raise the tax if we do go in and lower them because the assessments and other things we need to look at need to be all figured into this. And I think we need to be careful about doing that when our appraisals may be going down significantly. Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you, Commissioner. Are there any other comments is there a motion to receive...Commissioner Welshimer?"

Commissioner Welshimer said, "One comment to follow up with that. Yes, there's a possibility of evaluations going down, but I don't think they have come out, they are not doing that at the moment, and I think we already have the valuation increase for the next year's budget, and so a roll back of the mill levy would help with that.

Not everyone would see a tax decrease in their, in their taxes, nor would everyone just stay at the same level if we rolled the mill levy back so it reduced taxes by 3 percent. But it would certainly be 3 percent less of any increase they did have, an historical thing for us to do, I believe, hasn't been done in a long time, and I think the public is ready for something like that, and looking for some help, some consideration under the circumstances of our economy today."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Parks?"

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Commissioner Parks said, “Well, just to kind of elaborate on some of the things that have been said. We are one entity, and if you live in a city, their taxes go up and down, if you live in a school district, I know one that just recently approved a 4.5 mill levy on their taxes. Quite a jump. \$58 million project for the Valley Center in our area.

So those people will be getting a tax increase, but it won't be, they have to realize that there are other entities besides the County that are in the mix in this. The townships, the cities, the school districts, all of those other taxation districts.

So we can certainly make a difference in our level, and I'm all for reducing taxes, if we don't get into this roller coaster thing where in 2010 we find ourselves in real trouble. Especially with those reserves, and I will be talking about reserves.

I know the State, a couple years ago, said what are we going to do with this great amount of reserves we had and I suggested a rainy day fund, and in fact Greensburg proved we did have a rainy day. Now they are back to out of money. So I think we need to look at maintaining if we can, reducing if we can, certainly not increasing. Thank you.”

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

Commissioner Unruh said, Thank you, Mr. Chair. Well, David, I think the Chairman's suggestion is a good suggestion. You know, as a general rule, fewer taxes, less taxes, lower taxes are better for our citizens and for businesses in our community than the opposite. So if we can accomplish that that will be a good thing.

Along with some of the other comments here, I would say that we don't want to put ourselves in a position where you and our Chief Financial Officer describes a structural imbalance, where we begin overspending our revenues and put ourselves in a situation, as Commissioner Parks said, that in future years were so badly out of balance we are in a crisis situation.

But as a beginning point and a general goal, I think we need to investigate that and get the answers that the Chairman has asked for. That's all I have.”

Chairman Winters said, “Okay, thank you very much. Commissioners, thanks for the comments. Do we have a motion to receive and file David's message?”

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MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “We look forward to starting work tomorrow, David. Next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES – DEPARTMENT ON AGING

F. DEPARTMENT ON AGING.

1. AGREEMENT WITH KANSAS DEPARTMENT ON AGING TO PROVIDE SFY 2009 CLIENT ASSESSMENT, REFERRAL AND EVALUATION PART A, LEVEL 1 SERVICES.

Ms. Cissell said, “Today I have 2009 client assessment referral evaluation, part A level one care agreement from the Kansas Department on Aging with our CPAAA to operate the care program. We have been operating the care program since January 1, 1995, and under this program CPAAA is responsible for coordinating timely and accurate assessment of nursing home pre-assessment screenings for Sedgwick, Harvey and Butler County, in accordance with the State and Federal laws.

Customers and their caregivers are given information about in-home services, and at the time of the assessment and some choose to receive services in home, which help to divert individuals from going into a nursing facility.

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We have currently a 19 percent diversion rate, which is just a little bit higher than the State average. This is a fully funded program through State funds. I would be glad to answer any questions.”

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, any questions of Monica? If not...”

MOTION

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

Chairman Winters said, “Next item.”

CONTRACTS (21) FOR FY 2009 SENIOR CARE ACT IN-HOME CARE SERVICES.

- **ADVANTAGE HOME CARE, INC.**
- **AFFORD-A-CARE, INC.**
- **ALL SAINTS HOME CARE, INC.**
- **ASSOCIATED HOMECARE**
- **CARE 200 HOME CARE**
- **CATHOLIC CHARITIES ADULT DAY SERVICES**
- **COMMUNITY CARE CONNECTIONS**
- **DEPENDABLE ASSISTED LIVING, INC.**
- **HALSTEAD HOME HEALTH**
- **HOME HELPERS SENIOR CARE**
- **HOME HEALTHCARE CONNECTION**
- **LOVING HEARTS HOME CARE**
- **MERCY HOME CARE, LLC**

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- **MOUTH HOPE HOME HEALTH CARE, INC.**
- **PROACTIVE HOME CARE, INC.**
- **PROGRESSIVE HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE**
- **RIGHT AT HOME**
- **SAINT RAPHAEL DIRECT CARE**
- **SAINT RAPHAEL HOME CARE**
- **SOUTHWIND-RESCARE HOMECARE**
- **WICHITA LIFELINE**

Ms. Cissell said, “I have 21 senior care contracts with 21 different home health agencies to provide senior care act services for Sedgwick, Harvey and Butler County residents who have functional limitations, and these services will help them maintain in their residence of choice.

Senior care program was established by the Kansas Legislature, for individuals who have functional limitations in their self-care and independent living. The program provides various services, such as attendant care, which is hands-on services like dressing, bathing, homemaker services, which includes meal prep, shopping, money management, and respite care, and also personal emergency response management installation services.

This program is funded through State funding, and matched funds through Sedgwick, Harvey and Butler County’s mill levy program. Be glad to answer any questions.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Are there questions? Commissioner Norton?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Monica, is this a complete list, or will there be other contracts to come before us later?”

Ms. Cissell said, “From what I understand, it is a complete list for this senior care program.”

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

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Thank you. Commissioner Unruh?”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chair. Monica, not providing these services results in what situation?”

Ms. Cissell said, “By providing in-home services we assist people to stay in their residence of choice, and to maintain their lives in the community and help divert individuals from a nursing facility. It can also support caregivers and help them to provide better care by offering these services through these home health agencies.”

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Commissioner Unruh said, “All right, thank you. The logical result of not doing this, this means many, many more people have to go into some sort of care home facility, which has potential of much more cost for local and state government.”

Ms. Cissell said, “Correct.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “So I just want to try to highlight the fact that this is, this has some good practical results for not only the citizens who receive the services, but for our government. Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Thank you. Commissioners, you’ve heard Monica’s recommendation. What is the will of the Board ?”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Contracts and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Parks seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you Monica.”

Ms. Cissell said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “Next item.”

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES

G. GRANT AWARD FROM THE KANSAS HEALTH FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,417.80 FOR THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT CARD EXPANDED OUTREACH PROJECT.

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POWER POINT PRESENTATION

Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director, Division of Human Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm pleased to be here today to talk about the Sedgwick County prescription discount card. This has been a great program that you the Commissioners have offered to the community in terms of discounts on prescription drugs for the uninsured and underinsured, which we know has been a major issue. It started in late 2004, it's been very successful.

Just a note on what we hope to see in the future, you know that this has been a benefit through NACo, National Association of Counties, for member Counties, for which we are, and NACo, in fact is continuing to pursue other options, and it is in fact looking at a dental discount card, and the NACo President has appointed me to a task force to explore that, so hopefully one of these days I'm going to be coming back up here and we're going to talk about that.

But today were just, that's in the future and hopefully if that happens it will be as successful as this program has been. However, as with any program, you have to continue to refresh it. Otherwise people forget about it, or they lose track that that's still available.

And so this has been happening, we've done a lot of work. With me today is Rachel Moody from the Division of Human Services, and she's put a lot of time and effort into doing that, and has recently written a grant, which was funded for the card, and so I'm going to ask her to come up and do a short presentation about the card, and the plans for the use of those funds."

Ms. Rachel Moody, Division of Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I would like to provide you with a brief review of the prescription discount program, and then give you an update on card usage and how we will be distributing the card in the future with grant funds.

As you can see here on this slide, the discount card is not insurance coverage, the County isn't in that business. It is simply a card that provides an average of 20 percent discount on prescription medications that aren't covered by any private insurance or Medicare or any other source.

This is a great resource to individuals in our community because it is absolutely free to residents. Some people tell me when I speak with them about the card it is too good to be true, because there are no forms to fill out, you don't need to meet a certain age or income requirement, and there is no membership to maintain.

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You can you simply maintain the card on your person or share it with your friends and family and continue using. The cards are accepted at over 80 pharmacies locally and the benefit of this is that it includes large chain stores, as well as some of the local independent pharmacies. It also has a mailer option, if you would prefer that method, which does provide you an even larger discount on a three-month supply of medication.

And one of the things that I have been pointing out to individuals recently is that you can also use this card to purchase medications for your pets, if your purchasing the medication at a participating pharmacy. Most people really enjoy that benefit.

Like Debbie mentioned the National Association of Counties is our partner for this program. NACo works with Care-Mart, which is a pharmaceutical company, to secure the discounts on the card. The program began in Sedgwick County in December of 2004. We were lucky to be chosen as a pilot site.

It expanded in May of 05 to all members of NACo, and as of April, 08, the most recent data that we have shows that 1,012 counties participate in the program now. This is almost a third of our nations counties, so you can see that its growing. Nationwide, 8 million prescriptions have been filled, and almost 90 million has been saved. Nationwide statistics show about 22.5 percent savings.

In Sedgwick County, since inception, over 32,000 prescriptions have been filled with the card at an average savings of about 19 percent, and this is just slightly lower than the average. Over \$335,000 has been saved by local residents, which is pretty significant. And in 2008, individuals that have used the card have paid an average of \$31.83.

In comparison to previous years, we really are on track in terms of providing consist consistent savings. I should point out a caveat, in 2004 we just had the program for one month like I mentioned, and back then the average cost was \$46.95. As of last year, it was down to \$30, roughly, per prescription. I think as we close out the end of 2008 we'll probably see very similar savings, if not more savings. Mostly because usage of the card is up significantly.

Like Debbie mentioned, we applied for an recognition grant from the Kansas Health Foundation in March, and we were lucky enough to receive a grant. We received just over \$10,000 to really expand the outreach and education that we provide to individuals on the card. Particularly what we are doing is expanding marketing materials to include both English and Spanish, currently we only have English.

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NACo, just this past January, started providing cards in Spanish, which really opened up the number of people that could use the card and that we could outreach to. We're going to be working with the Communications Department to advertise in a number of papers and magazines, particularly in some of the smaller communities outside of the city of Wichita.

We do have participating pharmacies in Derby, Haysville, Cheney, Valley Center, Clearwater and Goddard and we would really like to target those residents because they are fortunate enough to have a participating pharmacy in their community and would be more likely to use the card or benefit from the card.

We currently have about 77 sites that provide the card for their clients, in addition to the five main distribution sites within the city of Wichita. And I just want to give you a couple examples of why we want to expand the outreach. I have two testimonials to share for you real quick.

I'll let you read the slide, but just as a brief summary, one individual, who I recently spoke with, typically has all of his medications covered by a local community agency. He recently discovered that two of his new medications wouldn't be covered, and he really was at a loss of how he was going to pay for that. He received the card two years ago and never used it, and he just recently went into Walgreens, produced that original card and it still worked and saved him about \$22 a month.

When I spoke with him on the phone, he couldn't quit talking about how easy it was to use the card and how thankful he was that it hadn't expired, which is very good to tell him, we don't have an anticipated expiration date on the card or the program, if anything it will continue to grow.

And the pet medication point that I mentioned earlier, I have a story about that, too. I spoke with a lady on the phone whose Doberman pinscher, her dog has high blood pressure, and his medication is \$35 a month. She is lucky enough to be able to purchase this at a participating pharmacy, and with the card saved about 60 percent and pays 1\$3 for his medication now. So that was a huge relief to her.

I just want to say thank you because without your support we wouldn't have the program, and thank you to the Health Foundation because we will now be able to reach more individuals in our community. I'll turn it back over to Debbie."

Ms. Donaldson said, "We're asking for you to accept the grant award and approve the establishment of the budget authority and Rachel and I will be glad to answer any questions you may have."

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Chairman Winters said, “All right. Well, thank you very much, Debbie and Rachel, thank you for the presentation. I think this is a program that does need to be continually refreshed, as Debbie had indicated, because it does provide such a benefit for particularly those citizens who need to walk in to a pharmacy and have absolutely no other means except cash out of their pocket to pay for that prescription.

This drug will help, and we just need to continue to push that message out, because, again, it is those who can least afford it that are paying probably the highest drug cost of any of us. Commissioner Norton?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, this so well fits in with what we’re trying to do with access to health care for the community for folks that are uninsured and underinsured and don’t have prescription drug programs to help them out, this is just another access point for taking care of their health and wellness and medical needs, that is often forgotten.

Sometimes we think about, well, it is all about doctor’s visits. But sometimes it’s about staying up on your medications and being able to afford to do that, not skipping three or four months until you can build up enough money to have a prescription refilled.

This offers a great way to provide that access to people, and without spending any extra money to do it. It is all about connecting people to those programs that are already existing that don’t cost us any more money as a government, but sure help our citizens gain access to health and prescriptions.

So certainly I’m going to be supportive, and I appreciate the Health Foundation for being part of the solution in our community. That’s all I have.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Two final points. One, again, is to acknowledge that the National Association of Counties is the place that’s really made this opportunity work, and this is one of the benefits of our membership in the National Association of Counties, and Debbie, of course, has been on the Board of Directors with NACo for a number of years, and we’re very proud of your service, Debbie, and thank you for the service that you have given to NACo.

And if by chance there should be some folks in other counties listening to this broadcast, if your county is a member of NACo, they can participate, and they can be involved in this prescription drug card. So I would encourage you to call your County Commissioners, and encourage them to consider a membership in NACo, if they’re not, a number of Kansas counties are members, so good chances you can encourage your county to participate if they are not.

And then finally, Debbie, for anyone who is listening today, and would like to perhaps see about getting a card if they are interested, who should they contact?”

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Ms. Donaldson said, “They can contact Rachel at 660-7673. That’s 660-7673, and you can also go on the Sedgwick County website and look under Human Services and there’s information about the card there also.”

Chairman Winters said, “Very good. As Board of County Commissioners, Debbie and Rachel, we thank you for looking at this grant possibility and we certainly thank the Kansas Health Foundation for helping us push this forward. Commissioners, do we have a motion to accept this grant award?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to accept the Grant Award and approve establishment of budget authority.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you, Debbie. Thank you, Rachel. Next item.”

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES - COMCARE

H. COMCARE

1. AGREEMENT WITH HEARTSPRING, INC. TO PROVIDE CHILD PSYCHIATRIC CONSULTATION AND EVALUATION SERVICES.

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is a renewal with Heartspring to have our board certified child psychiatrist, Dr. Deanne Jenkins, provide consultation and evaluation, medical evaluation services, to children who reside there. Services may include direct services with kids or Dr. Jenkins also uses part of her time there to consult with staff on difficult cases that need some help with management of those children.

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Dr. Jenkins provides eight hours a month of service under this agreement, and there are no substantial changes from the previous years. We've had this for, I think, three years at this point. Mutually beneficial relationship for both of our parties and we are going to request that you approve the agreement."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you. Are there questions if not, what is the will of the Board ?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, "Next item."

2. AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH APPLE BUS COMPANY, INC. TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO CLIENTS.

Ms. Cook said, "Commissioners, despite the frivolous name of this company, it is very serious business that we have with them to transport individuals who are involuntary clients from our community to the state hospitals.

This agreement was originally negotiated in 2006, it's been in place two years, its worked very, very well for us, and the amendment to the Agreement essentially allows us to accept one-year option to renew the contract under the current conditions.

The cost for this service is split between COMCARE and the Sheriff's Department. I would be happy to answer any questions on this, but we are recommending that you approve the amendment."

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MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Amendment and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

Chairman Winters said, "Commissioner Parks?"

Commissioner Parks said, "I just wondered, since 2006, still \$180,000, how can they continue to do that, are there a reduction in numbers or...?"

Ms. Graham said, "There is not a reduction in numbers. We pay them a certain rate for each trip, and that rate differs a little bit depending on whether they go to Osawatomie State Hospital or Larned State Hospital. So there is a cap on it, but this has increased.

Last year, in 2007, they transported 417 individuals to one or the other state hospitals, most of the time to Osawatomie, and that expenditure for us, the County, was \$128,000. This year so far they have transported 397 individuals, the 10 months into this contract, and with the monthly average of about 41 rather than 35. So the rate didn't change for each of these trips, but the volume is going up."

Commissioner Parks said, "I just have had that question for fuel costs. Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "Are there any other questions or comments? Seeing none, call the vote please."

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you Marilyn."

Ms. Cook said, "Thank you."

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Chairman Winters said, "Next item."

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFENDER REGISTRATION UNIT BY MODIFYING THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE STAFFING TABLE, ADDING VEHICLES TO THE SHERIFF'S FLEET AND INCREASING THE SHERIFF'S OPERATING BUDGET.

POWER POINT PRESENTATION

Gary Steed, Sheriff, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you for giving me the opportunity this morning. As you know, I am here to request the resources that I need to perform my duties under the new Kansas Statutes that are effective July 1st, and I have asked Undersheriff bob Hinshaw to put together a presentation for you, he's done the detail work, and the hard work of putting that together.

I'm going to ask him to do that presentation for you, but I do want to speak to you for just a moment about the public safety aspects of this offender registration unit that we are going to do, because we certainly should feel safer in our community as a result of this Legislation and the offender registration unit.

Colonel Hinshaw will tell you in his presentation that this Legislation came from Federal Legislation called the Adam Walsh act, and many of you know from over the years that Adam Walsh was a 6 or 7year-old boy who was kidnapped by a sexual predator and found dead. There's been many of those cases over the years. Jacob Wedderling, Samantha Runyan, Jessica Lunsford, a number of those, those predators are in all of our communities.

They are in our community here in as well. And we've experienced some of that in the past. I recall a couple of cases with Amanda Schaefer and Nancy Schumacher, which were cases from years ago that I worked on. So there is an aspect to this that certainly goes to public safety and the feeling of safety by families, children, and parents in our community.

Certainly the registering of these offenders on the offender registration list provides some comfort to families, some ability for them to look on the internet and see who might be living in their neighborhoods and should provide them some ability for them to provide for their own safety in their communities.

To me, that's an important aspect of community policing. I have often heard my counterpart, my comrade, Chief Norman Williams talk about law enforcement cannot provide for all the safety in our communities, we need the help of our communities. And we need parents to be proactive in the protection of their children and knowing what's going on in their neighborhood.

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We know in law enforcement that when our children are kidnapped that we have a very brief window to try and find those children in certain cases. Often they are kidnapped or they are lost and they are found shortly thereafter, but I can tell you in law enforcement when we have those cases, when we get those calls, we get that lump in our throat as to what happened to that child.

We know from past experience we have only a matter of hours to find those kids, or the mortality rates go up very quickly. So I think that there is an aspect of public safety to this, and having the ability to know that we can track offenders, those offenders that need to be tracked, there's been some discussion that this offender unit, or the registration lists have been watered down, but I think you'll see from Colonel Hinshaw's presentation of the 1300 and some offenders on our list here in our community and Sedgwick County, there's still 900 offenders, sexual offenders listed on that offender registration.

Having said all that, I'm going to turn the podium over to Undersheriff Bob Hinshaw and let him talk to you a little bit about how we got here, what our needs are going to be and how all that is going to be paid for. Thank you very much."

Mr. Bob Hinshaw, Undersheriff, Sheriff's Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "In one respect you can say that this presentation is about 15 years in the making. I think it's real important, if you will indulge me, I've got about ten slides, a lot of it is the history of where we were and how we got to where we are today, having to make this request for additional staffing in order to fulfill our obligations.

We've worked with it for approximately 15 years, since it started, which would be in July of 1993, is when the Kansas Offender Registration Act first started. At that time adult offenders who were convicted a second time had to register.

Generally speaking the Sheriff's Office has always been involved in this process, typically as a pass through for the KBI. People would register in the local Sheriff's Offices and then that information would be taken or sent to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. Very next year the act was amended to where a single conviction of a great deal of crimes basically dealing with sex crimes, especially with children, requires registration after the very first conviction.

In July of 96, juveniles started to have to register, but only if there was a specific court order requiring them to do so. By July of 1997, additional crimes were added, especially violent crimes, murder, first and second degree murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, as well as some additional sex crimes that had been overlooked before.

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By July of 1999, lifetime registration was required for certain offenses. Prior to that, if a person generally had to register for approximately ten years, and upon a second conviction, it became lifetime. In 1999, the State determined that certain offenses on the very first offense would require lifetime registration. In 2001, Kansas amended their act to conform with Federal laws that were going on the books in regards to sexual offender registration.

One thing that I want to point out here is we'll be talking about Federal law, we will be talking about Kansas law. Federal law deals exclusively with sexual predators. Kansas law has gone beyond that for certain violent offenders and drug offenders in certain cases.

Kansas has amended the law, so that it reflects what the Federal law requires for sexual predators for our entire offender registry, so when I talk about having to register twice a year, three times a year, a lot of that is coming down from the Federal government, but only for sexual predators. Kansas law, however, was modified so that that would apply to everyone in the offender registry.

One of the big changes in 2001 included registration of nonresident workers and students. What that means is someone lives in Kingman County, they have to register there, work in Sedgwick County, they have to register with us, they go to school in Butler County, they are going to have to register in Butler County as well.

By July of 2002, again, another change by Kansas Legislators requiring juvenile registration for the listed crimes to become mandatory, not only as a result of a court order. 2003, by this time it's starting to get well established, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation sends letters to the offenders to verify their addresses. And when that comes back undeliverable, they would send that information to the local Sheriff's Office.

About that time is when we assign the Detective to do these follow-ups, and she's done a great job with the ones that she's gotten from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. But that wasn't the end of it. Because now were only up to 2003.

By 2006, Adam Walsh Act is passed by Congress, and it required several things, some of which don't go into effect until 2009. It requires actions by local agencies regarding registration of offenders, it allows the State to pass this down to local units of government, such as the Sheriff's Office, it will require that the public to have access to offender information through the internet, and that there's a mechanism in place for the members of the community to be notified when people move into their neighborhood or their status changes.

That's also going to require finger and palm prints to be taken on all sex offenders. Now, that's not required under Kansas law for our violent offenders, at least not specifically for the registration act, but it will be required by Adam Walsh for all sexual offenders.

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Also reporting of all vehicles that the offender not just owns, but may be driving. So it could be if they are driving a neighbor's car on a regular basis, that neighbor's car is going to have to be registered as well. The registration was changed now to twice a year starting in 2006, and again several more crimes were added to the list during this time period.

July, 2007, now were up to last year. Now people required to register three times a year. That is still being done in our records section. But also at this time in 07, the KBI stopped verifying the offender's addresses, and all of those responsibilities for verifying offender status and the address verification is shifted to all the local Sheriffs in Kansas.

We're also responsible for entering the sex offenders into the National Crime Information Center. This is also required by another Federal statute. And of course that also means that since those undergo regular audit for everything that every law enforcement agency puts in there, that's going to require some additional tracking on our part as well.

Also in 2007 is when a whole series of drug crimes were added, generally we're talking about unlawful manufacture of controlled substances, certain methamphetamine precursors, certain pharmaceuticals that are sold or possession with intent to sell.

Now we have drug offenders added to the list and registration three times a year. Now, as of May 30th, the Sheriff indicated that we had a little over 1300. We had 1,306 offenders' registered, not just sexual offenders. The numbers are there for you, I won't bore you by reading them.

But the thing to point out here is out of what we know for sure, 192 people are noncompliant with the State law in regards to registration right now, so that's 192 potential cases that we have to have sworn law enforcement people to do follow up on, get the case together, present it to the District Attorney's Office for charging and if charged it will eventually end up in District Court as well.

So what are we looking at in the future? I mentioned before Adam Walsh Act has some provisions that do not take effect until next year. This is a combination of Adam Walsh as well as some of the things we understand the State may be contemplating as well. Registration will go to four times a year.

There may be copies of travel and immigration documents if those are applicable, also required to be turned over to you to us, DNA exemplars may be required, submission of finger and palm prints on offenders, that is part of Adam Walsh that I mentioned earlier. There may be additional requirements for juveniles as well.

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So what do we think that we need to address these added responsibilities and obligations that the Sheriff is now responsible for? What we're looking at is a unit that will not only verify and register and follow up on with the offenders, were also going to fold into that some of the fingerprinting requirements we have, for example, for carry concealed weapon permits, and other positions such as foster parents, teachers, nurses that are now being required to be finger printed, and unfortunately, we will have to start charging for that as well.

Overall, though, what we're looking at is one Sergeant to run the unit. We plan on shifting that from a current assignment so that will not be a new position, we'll absorb that internally. Two clerical positions, one of which we've already funded through the registration fees that have come in that is currently working.

Here today I'm asking for the funding for one additional clerical spot, and three deputy positions, sworn law enforcement to do the actual tracking down, case follow-up, presentation, everything that's required when you're going to take a criminal case and see it through.

The clerical personnel will be tasked to the actual registration and fingerprint processing for the most part, and sworn deputies will be there to investigate and prepare cases, which at this point we are talking about 192 that we know of since last May that have not complied with the statute.

The, what were going to do is partner with you on the County Commission because we understand this is something that no one planned for, but we have been doing this with one detective and one clerical person for approximately the last 15 years, now with the changes that are going online and those that are going next year, we feel that there is no viable alternative other than to ask you for additional resources, so that we can fulfill the duties and obligations required of us by the State, and make this information available to our citizens so they can know who is living in their neighborhoods, and know when they need to look after their children.

The \$20 registration fee is what we are allowed to charge by the State. We are doing that now. I indicated earlier, we're going to use this unit to be the first contact for other fingerprinting services such as carry concealed weapons, which has a \$40 charge on it as set by the State of Kansas. Other areas where we have fingerprinted over the years at no cost has been teachers, nursing licenses, cereal malt beverage licenses, foster parents, I think we've actually talked about this, the fee probably will only be \$20, that's consistent with what other agencies throughout Sedgwick County are charging.

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And that may actually, while this says July of 08, probably after you vote today we'll see if we can't accelerate that so that we can start partnering and getting this money to the general fund to help offset the cost of the entire unit. And that concludes my presentation. I am available to answer any questions that you may have."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you. Commissioner Norton?"

Commissioner Norton said, "What is the final dollar ticket?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "For startup costs right now, it is going to be around \$415,000 this year, and I may have to refer to our Chief Deputy, who has all the numbers in his head. We have sufficient money from what we've collected so far for some of the equipment.

Overall operating costs in 09 should, ongoing costs around \$320,000-\$328,000 a year, and the projection that we've gotten from County Finance and our own indicates that the moneys brought in should reduce that ongoing operating cost to, I want to say to around \$190,000."

Commissioner Norton said, "You anticipate going, the numbers going up in the 1,300 to a much larger number as crimes are added on?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "As crimes are added on, and also as people fail to comply and we generate the cases, of course if there is a snowball effect here, because if someone fails to register, that's not just a onetime offense, thirty days later it becomes a second charge. So every thirty days you have the possibility of another felony charge being added to that individual.

In a short period of time, over the last 11, 12 months, the rise in people that have required to register, that we have registered, is somewhere around 24 percent, I believe, increase just over the last 12 months."

Commissioner Norton said, "Do you think the four times a year registration will drive the noncompliance down, or will it that make any difference at all?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "I think, I'm not real comfortable saying which way it would go for sure. I know four times a year it is going to place more burden on not just us for registration, but also that means there is more potential for people to violate which will generate even more work for us, the District Attorney's Office and the Courts."

Commissioner Norton said "I mean, that could have an unintended consequence of a lot more expense because that gives people a lot more chances to be noncompliant in a year. Where it started out being one time, two times, three times, now its four times, they could be noncompliant three out of four times in a year.

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Mr. Hinshaw said, "That's just the four times they are required to register. In between times, for example, if someone moves, they buy a new car, they start driving a different motorcycle, they get a new internet account, they have to come in voluntarily and let us know about that.

We don't charge that, but in fact if something like that occurs, that potentially could be an additional violation, and more crimes could be added. I know one time there was some discussion on the offender registration including felony DUI offenders."

Commissioner Norton said, "Who will describe whether it is a noncompliance, the Sheriff's Office or the Court System?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "Looking at the statutes of literally what it requires the people to do, if we believe, just like we do with any crime, that we have a noncompliance issue, the deputies will prepare the case, prepare the appropriate paperwork, present it to the District Attorney's Office, who will determine whether or not a crime has in fact been committed and this person should be charged."

Commissioner Norton said, "I guess the next level of that is have we known about the implications to the D.A.'s Office of this many more things coming before them because it seems like the caseload could go up dramatically for them to make determinations on what you need to do next."

Mr. Hinshaw said, "Just in the last year when some of these, we realize just what an impact this could have on our operation and local government, there has been some informal talks with some individuals in the District Attorney's Office to let them know this is what we're looking at so that they could take that into consideration as well."

Commissioner Norton said, "I guess with budget season coming up, it would be prudent of us to be proactive, talking with the D.A. as to what implications this will have for the whole system, because it seems to me that just it could add a huge amount of people into the system to be checked and balanced and maybe even moved into the jail.

Mr. Hinshaw said, "And we haven't even talked about the impact it could have on the jail as people are found guilty and/or fail to show up for court, so it is one thing, one small change cascades and seems to affect the entire criminal justice system, and this is the perfect example of that."

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

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you. Commissioner Welshimer?"

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Commissioner Welshimer said, "Well, two things. The State has this set up for the website where you just would go in to the State's website and right away you would find the offender registration. Is that what we are going to do? The public will just go into the Sedgwick County website or is there another website?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "My understanding is the State will still have the statewide database to say these are the people, what we are going to hopefully have online by the end of the week is the ability for someone in Sedgwick County to put their address in and be able to see who on the offender registry is living within a certain square mile of that location."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay. That will be through the sedgwickcounty.org?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "Yes."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay. Well, \$415,000, we weren't planning on that and I think that's one thing we didn't mention when we were talking about budgets and trying to control what's ahead of us. We're constantly hit with new expenses that we don't anticipate from each Legislative Session and together with other expenses that we don't foresee, so that's going to be a difficult job to be able to anticipate, you know, our future expenses. Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you Commissioner. Commissioner Parks?"

Commissioner Parks said, "Once again we've fallen I guess, victim to State law and expanded upon the Federal law of the Adam Walsh thing with the drug crimes, traffic deaths. I know of one person that was involved in a hit and run accident, ran from the accident, somebody in the accident died, and they are on this list, and they are on it forever. We have to keep track of this person."

I don't know that that was the spirit and intent of, certainly not the Federal government, but the State government also, now we're talking about third offense DUIs and other things I just think are absurd to throw in on this what started out to be a sexual predator list. But that is not our venue that we can do anything about, but I did want just the general public to know about that.

You do have a grant fund and the carry conceal fund that you are going to tap this year is that correct?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "That's correct. My understanding from Finance and from our Chief Deputy, we have sufficient funds that we've already collected to pay for the software that Commissioner Welshimer was asking about, the vehicles, not necessarily the operating expenses for the personnel at this point. So, that 415 part of that has already hopefully been addressed."

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Commissioner Parks said, "Certainly the budget season is upon us, and along with those grant funds, and I talked about this a little bit in the staff meeting yesterday, the cities can certainly get out and help you with this if they want to, and I would think that the local municipalities within Sedgwick County would also want to help you with this."

The State Legislature at times doesn't realize the impact on a lot of these things because they will call our local Sheriff and some Sheriffs in the state of Kansas have three to four people to go out and check on, even if they say, well, would it affect you if you go out and just check on these people four times a year, their local Sheriff will tell them, no, that won't affect us.

It is just kind of a routine to go out and do that. You are talking about 1,300 people here. I would hope that the cooperation between the cities and the counties, maybe even some innovative suggestions from yourself and the other five or six Sheriff candidates would come up with some kind of an innovative system so they wouldn't have to tap the Ad Valorem tax fund anymore."

Mr. Hinshaw said, "We already have some ideas of how to proceed with this. Fortunately I think the Sheriff's Office has a great working relationship with the other law enforcement agencies in Sedgwick County. Certainly I'm confident they are going to assist us, because some of these people may in fact be living in their cities, they're going to want to know if some of these offenders are living in their jurisdiction. We also have, we haven't even touched on using volunteers from the Citizens Police Academy, Alumni Association, our reserve unit, but, again, those are volunteers, they help us in a lot of ways, I'm sure they will be willing to help us here as well."

Commissioner Parks said, "Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Unruh?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So I understand fully what we're doing here, this is a requirement from the State, and we do not really have a choice about this?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "A combination of requirements from the Federal government and the State government and the State has chosen to shift the burden down to the local Sheriff's. You are correct."

Commissioner Unruh said, "And they have expanded this offender registry to include new offenses?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "New offense, not just sexual offender predator offenses, but violent criminals and certain drug offenses that they want to have registered."

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Commissioner Unruh said, “And not all drug offenses, but just certain ones, is that...?”

Mr. Hinshaw said, “Just certain ones for now.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay. And this offender registry, once someone has offended in one of these categories, if someone committed a crime ten years ago, but it now fits this category, do they get on the offender registry?”

Mr. Hinshaw said, “There is a date back sometime, I want to say back in the mid 90’s, where if they committed some of these offenses prior, they had to register, but they would not necessarily be on the website.

That was another change that I didn’t mention here, I want to say around 1994, the State of Kansas indicated that you still had to register, but any arrest after this date would be considered public information and accessible. Prior to that it was criminal history information, and would normally not be available to the general public.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Fine. But under the current requirement, folks who may have offended 10, 12 years ago are now going to be on the website and have to go through this whole procedure?”

Mr. Hinshaw said, “I believe so. Is that correct?”

(INADUDIBLE RESPONSE FROM AUDIENCE.)

Mr. Hinshaw said, “That was our detective that was trying to do this all by herself for so many years, but there is a retroactive provision as she confirms.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, we have to comply with our State laws, I mean, we are going to have to do this, and I certainly do not want to appear to be soft on crime or soft on criminals. it just seems somewhat of an unnecessary financial administrative burden to take care of some offenders, at least, that are perhaps on this list.

I guess why I’m bringing this up, I had a call yesterday from a constituent who committed a drug crime, narcotics crime, whatever the word is, back in the mid 90s’, and he was greatly distressed by the fact that now he was going to be on the list and his face was going to be on the website and for something that happened a long time ago, he hadn’t reoffended.

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He said it may affect where I get to live, it may affect my job, it may affect a lot of things about my life. He says it seems like I paid for my crime and now I'm going to continue to pay for it publicly, and in the meantime we're having to pay for that. So I guess I don't know the solution, but that was, you know, other than going back to the way it was, just taking sex offenders for violent crimes, those seem to me that they are crimes against people, and we definitely need crimes against people. We need to track those folks.

Some of these things, other things, maybe don't warrant that much scrutiny, but on the other hand, I don't know what I'm talking about here. I am not in public safety, as you all are, but it just seems like sometimes the guy has paid his crime, it is a long time ago, not a high level crime, now we have to track this guy. Seems like it is out of balance. But I'm going to be supportive, because I don't think we have a choice."

(INAUDIBLE RESPONSE FROM AUDIENCE.)

Chairman Winters said, "Wait. If you are going to talk, you got to come to the front. You got to identify yourself. Got to play by the rules."

Detective Kim Kleinsorge, Sheriff's Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Just some confusion I think on the retroactivity that was mentioned. Your retroactivity will only apply to sex offenders, it will not apply to the drug offenders and it will not apply to violent offenders because that's not covered under Federal law.

For the drug offenders, it is not even a drug offender, if they are not on probation or parole right now, or commit a crime after July of last year, then they are not required to register. So your friend who committed a crime ten years ago for drugs isn't going to be required to register. Unless they are still on probation or parole. That's the only thing."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, that's helpful, and to my constituents that's helpful."

Chairman Winters said, "Is that your friend or your constituent?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "Did I say friend?"

Chairman Winters said, "No, she did."

Ms. Kleinsorge said, "I'm sorry."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Constituent. That's all right. Thank you. I just seems like I heard about a guy named John Valjean who continued to pay for his crime, but that's just a story."

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Chairman Winters said, "Okay."

Commissioner Unruh said, "That's all I had Mr. Chair."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you. My question is recommended action is to request modification of the Sheriff's staffing table and operations budget. Does that include those fee adjustments that you showed in your slide presentation?"

Mr. Hinshaw said, "That's correct. What we're talking about is the money we get from offender registration and fingerprinting fees that we are about to implement, as well as carry concealed weapon, use that to offset the cost of this and dedicate those funds to this unit."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. Commissioners..."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the requested modifications to the Sheriff's Office Staffing Table, fleet and operating budget.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you very much, Colonel. Thank you Sheriff. Next item."

J. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING ON MAY 29, 2008.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The meeting of May 29th results in two items for consideration today. First item is,

CUSTODIAL SERVICES – PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING – PUBLIC WORKS

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Recommendation is to accept the low proposal from 'His and Her Cleaning' for daily flat fee of \$69.75, and emergency rate of \$11.75 an hour. For an estimated annual cost of \$17,437.50, and execute a one year contract with two one year options to renew. Item two is,

**WINDOW CLEANING SERVICES – FACILITIES DEPARTMENT
FUNDING – BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

And that recommendation is to accept the low proposal from 'Crystal Clear Window Cleaning' to establish contract pricing for an estimated annual cost of \$15,629 for exterior service, and to establish unit and hourly pricing for options 1 and 2, contract term is three years with two additional one year options to renew. We would be happy to answer any questions, and I recommend approval of these items. “

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you. Commissioner Parks .”

Commissioner Parks said, “I don't know if this is for Miss Baker or the County Manager, we do review all those for I9s, do we not on the employees of those contract laborers?”

Ms. Baker said, “Yes. That is part of the requirement of the documents that go out.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right. Are there other questions or comments?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

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Ms. Baker said, "Thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "Thank you Iris. Next item."

CONSENT AGENDA

K. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of May 28 – June 3, 2008.**
2. **Order dated May 28, 2008 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**

Mr. Buchanan said, "You have the Consent Agenda before you and I recommend you approve it."

Chairman Winters said, "What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

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

Chairman Winters said, "That brings us to the conclusion of our Regular Agenda, and I do not believe we need an Executive Session today, nor a Fire District Meeting. This brings us to 'Other'. Commissioners, is there any 'Other' discussion items you would like to visit about? Commissioner Welshimer?"

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L. OTHER

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Just one comment. I have mentioned under the subject of ‘Other’ the last two meetings about pulling together a meeting for discussing the situation we have with adult education and the GED, and the County Manager has been meeting with us, and we’ve met with Mr. Norton. So we are in the process of having meetings and trying to figure out what we want to do with this. I have nothing else to report on at this time.”

Chairman Winters said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioner Parks ?”

Commissioner Parks said, “Big car show at Valley Center in conjunction with the Moonlight Madness and aside from the Lake Afton show, it is the biggest one in the County. So that’s from June 7th from 4:00-9:00, Saturday, coming up.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Commissioners, anything else to come before us this morning? Commissioner Norton ?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, just a thought that people are starting on the season of traveling, and with the price of gas and people talking about that, I heard the term ‘staycation’ mentioned. I guess that’s a vacation when you kind of stay at home and find those things in your own community that are worth doing that maybe you hadn’t done in a few years.

I would urge people if they are concerned about travel expenses and long trips with gas prices, that ‘staycations’ might be appropriate.

We have bodies exhibit at EP, we have the Zoo that’s got wonderful new exhibits, the Art Museum that’s got great new artwork, and certainly a collection that’s worth seeing, Cow Town is revitalized and working hard, Museum of World Treasures, we have parks that are available and open, Lake Afton has great activities, and there are many, many more activities in our own community that can be taken advantage of that maybe you have forgotten about, hadn’t done in a few years, hadn’t taken a look at, and you don’t have to travel far to take advantage of them. So 'staycation' this year is the word of the summer. That’s all I have.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Commissioners, any other comments? Mr. Manager? Mr. Euson? We are adjourned.”

M. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Chairman
Third District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

KELLY PARKS, Commissioner
Fourth District

GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner,
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2008