

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

May 21, 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, May 21, 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. Steven Cotter, Director, EMS; Mr. Paul Misasi, Paramedic, EMS; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Ms. Patricia Thomas, Management Intern, County Manager's Office; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Executive Director, COMCARE; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Sanford Alexander, Member, Wichita/ Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board.
Ms. Susan Robinson, Member, Wichita/ Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board.
Mr. George Fulp, 14220 Donigal Cr., Wichita, Ks.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Mr. Brad Snapp of Wichita, Ks.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Winters said, "Next item."

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, May 7, 2008

The Clerk reported that all commissioners were present at the regular meeting of May 7, 2008.

Chairman Winters said, "Commissioners, you've had an opportunity to review these minutes. What's the will of the Board?"

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MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 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, “Before we begin the Proclamations, I have two brief announcements to make. First I would like to acknowledge that this is Lisa Davis’ last day of being the Clerk and serving the Board of County Commissioners. Lisa has been a faithful and good participant in these meetings for a number of years. She is not leaving County employment. She will still be here, but is going to be working in a different department. But Lisa, on behalf of all of the Commissioners, thank you for your years of service.”

Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk, said, “Thank you very much.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, best of luck to you.

Then secondly, Commissioner Unruh has a guest in the audience that I would like for him to introduce.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well thank you Mr. Chairman. I just want to take a moment to introduce a senior from Collegiate High School who is here shadowing me today, and Bailey Taylor, you might want to stand up so we can recognize you. But she is interested in government issues and so she’d like to find out how government works and so we’re going to show her Sedgwick County government today, but welcome Bailey.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Now Madam Clerk, would you call Item A please.”

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PROCLAMATIONS

A. PROCLAMATIONS.

1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 18 – 24, 2008 AS “EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK.”

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, this is the Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County Emergency Medical Services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improve the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the Sedgwick County community benefits from a comprehensive ‘24/7 Sedgwick County Response Team’ which includes Sedgwick County EMS, with the primary focus on the health and safety of ALL Sedgwick County citizens; and

WHEREAS, the members of Sedgwick County EMS engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Thomas G. Winters, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 18-24, 2008 as

‘EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK’

and encourage the community to recognize 33 years of excellent emergency medical care provided by Sedgwick County EMS to ALL citizens of Sedgwick County. Dated May 21st, 2008.

Commissioners, that’s the Proclamation. What’s the will of the Board?”

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MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “And Steve Cotter, from Sedgwick County EMS is here to accept the proclamation. Steve, welcome.”

Mr. Steven Cotter, Director, Sedgwick County EMS, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you very much for this opportunity. This is the week that we, as EMS providers, as members and dutiful public servants, recognize the value of the EMS and what it provides to our communities across this nation. As the Proclamation ensued that we provide countless hours of quality service to the community that’s often not seen by the communities. It’s invisible to the community at large and what we do and we as providers, at times, do not even get to see the outcome of our work and the good work that we do because we encounter a patient, we take a patient to the hospital, we release the patient to the physicians and the nurses at the hospital and oftentimes we don’t get the opportunity to see the results of our good work.

As you know, I’ve been here about six months now and in the course of my time here with the organization, I’ve had a lot of interaction with different members including the Honor Guard and came to find out that Paul Misasi, Lieutenant Misasi, Honor Guard Commander, has been working with a local artist and a patient that we encountered last June. And with your indulgence, sir, I’d like to ask Mr. Misasi to come up and explain a little bit about his encounter with the patient and how the symbol of EMS, as you see it back there today for the Honor Guard, came to be, with your permission.”

Chairman Winters said, “That would be perfectly fine. Thank you.”

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Lieutenant Paul Masasi, Paramedic, Commander, EMS Honor Guard, greeted the Commissioners and said, "As you may or may not know, Honor Guard's purpose is to provide memorial and reverence to the deceased public servants that . . . throughout the course of our duty and even for personnel that die off, due to . . . at the request of family members. One of the secondary purposes is to raise awareness of EMS as a service provided to the community, and we often, as Mr. Cotter alluded to, don't get the recognition simply because we're in and we're out and we're often the forgotten service to the community.

We . . . I personally encountered a patient, a gentleman last June and my partner and I were able to resuscitate this gentleman and he has recovered completely and has a new lease on life. I'd like to recognize Mr. Graham Hunt, if you would stand up please. He's here today. I would like to thank him for his generosity in his support of the Sedgwick County EMS Honor Guard. Thank you very much. With that, I'd like to invite the EMS Honor Guard members to come forward, with the generosity of Mr. Hunt as well as James Brewer, Mr. James Brewer of Wichita State University, the sculpture director, we were able to craft this staff, which you see before you. It's modeled after the Star of Life, the mythological staff of the Aesculapius used to represent the medical profession.

As an Honor Guard, we faced an early dilemma in 2005 of what it was we would, in essence, stand guard of our fallen brethren with and as you may have seen in Fire Department funerals, public service funerals, they use pike pulls and axes. Those aren't tools that we traditionally use in EMS, so Mr. Brewer, myself, were able to develop this sculpture and after six months of work and labor, we see its completion and beauty and this will be a tangible legacy that our Honor Guard will leave to the future generations of EMS and unfortunately Mr. Brewer is running late, so I can't ask that he step forward, but I'd like to recognize Mr. Brewer of Wichita State University and thank him for his time, work and effort into developing this beautiful sculpture that we'll continue to use in the future. With that, I thank you very much, I appreciate your time."

Chairman Winters said, "Well, thank you for being here and thank you for bringing the Honor Guard here today. Thank you for your participation with the Honor Guard. And Mr. Brewer, thank you for giving EMS a symbol of which they can be very proud of, as they go about their duties as an Honor Guard. And Steve, I see that there are a number of your other staff in the room and we certainly appreciate their being here. We know that we have a full compliment with EMS and the Board of County Commissioners does appreciate the service that they provide the community.

Steve, do you have any other comments, following up with Paul?"

Mr. Cotter said, "Sir, the only thing I would like to do is just, Mr. Brewer just walked in the door and I'd like to just take this moment to acknowledge and recognize Mr. Brewer for his contributions."

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Chairman Winters said, “All right, well thank you. That’s perfectly all right, we understand, but we certainly appreciate and thank you for all of the work of putting together this very inspiring and unique Honor Guard symbol that our Honor Guard can use throughout the coming years and I’m sure it will be used for many generations to come. Steve, any other comments?”

Mr. Cotter said, “In closing sir, I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you and all the members of the Commission for your continued support of our service. As we go forward into the future, we would obviously, as we have in the past, faced many challenges and our continued shared vision and cooperation and in working together to insure the safety of the citizens of this community will be paramount and I want to thank you for that, as we go forward into the future.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, well thank you very much and we hope you have some good feelings about the week of May 18th through 24th, as it is the Emergency Medical Services Week, so thank you all for being here. Madam Clerk, would you call the next item.”

2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 18 – 24, 2008 AS “NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you very much. The next Proclamation, Commissioners:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, public works services provided in our community are an integral part of our citizens’ everyday lives; and

WHEREAS, the support of an understanding and informed citizenry is vital to the efficient operation of public works systems and programs such as streets and highways, bridges, drainage improvements, noxious weed control and household hazardous waste collection: and

WHEREAS, the health, safety and comfort of this community greatly depends on these facilities, as well as their planning, design and construction, is vitally dependent upon the efforts and skill of public works officials.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Thomas G. Winters, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 18-24, 2008 as

‘NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK’

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In Sedgwick County, and call upon all citizens and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the issues involved in providing our public works and to recognize the contributions Public Works officials make every day to our health, safety, comfort and quality of life. Dated May 21st, 2008.

Commissioners, that's the Proclamation. What's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, "And here to accept the proclamation is David Spears, Sedgwick County Public Works Director."

Mr. David C. Spears, Director, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Since 1960, APWA American Public Works Association, has sponsored National Public Works Week. Across the nation, our 29,000 members use this week to energize and educate the public on the importance of the contribution of public works to their daily lives: planning, building, managing and operating the essence of our local communities. APWA has selected 'The Future is Now' as its theme for the 2008's National Public Works Week. The theme's dual purpose is both a celebration and a caution as it reminds us of how far public works has progressed, and yet, how far it has to go in assuring the highest quality infrastructure possible. I want to thank you for the proclamation."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. David, thank you very much and on behalf of the commissioners, we appreciate everything that you at Public Works are involved in."

Mr. Spears said, "Thank you."

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Chairman Winters said, "Next item."

3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 21, 2008 AS "NATIONAL EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND FITNESS DAY."

Chairman Winters said, "Commissioners, this is the final proclamation for today."

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, more than 60% of Sedgwick County residents are overweight or obese, and preventable lifestyle-related illnesses account for 70 to 90% of all healthcare costs; and

WHEREAS, physical activity can help Americans live longer, healthier, active lives, as well as provide many other benefits, including:

- Building and maintaining healthy bones, muscles and joints
- Controlling weight, building lean muscle, and reducing fat
- Reducing symptoms of anxiety and depression and fostering improvements in mood and feelings of well being and;

WHEREAS, employees across the nation are promoting 'worksite wellness' activities to help employees take charge of their health, practice healthier behaviors and reduce healthcare costs; and

WHEREAS, health and wellness are important to Sedgwick County and we encourage promoting healthy eating and physical activity at home, at work and at school.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Thomas G. Winters, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 21st, 2008 as

'National Employee Health and Fitness Day'

In Sedgwick County and encourage employees throughout the County to begin a habit of living a healthier lifestyle by participating in a brisk walk every day to get your daily recommendation of 30 minutes of exercise. Dated May 21st, 2008.

Commissioners, that's the Proclamation. What's the will of the Board?"

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MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to adopt the Proclamation 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, “And Claudia Blackburn, Sedgwick County Health Department is here to accept the Proclamation.”

Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Sedgwick County Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you for the Proclamation, Commissioners. This is our third year to celebrate this national holiday by walking at work, promoting walking at work in the community. This year, we have over 40 businesses that will be participating and it’s a very important activity, because taking a walk at work can . . . it’s good for employers and employees. For employers, it increases productivity, it helps to better manage healthcare costs, it decreases illness and injuries. And for employees I know personally it helps to center me and reduce stress and it does so for a lot of other people, sometimes walking alone, helps people to relax and kind of regroup.

Walking with a buddy might help them to ventilate, so we encourage people to walk at work, to use their break or their lunchtime to do that and we will be celebrating, we will be allowing people and encouraging people to participate in a walk here.

If they want to, they can meet us in front of the courthouse. We’ll have a reception with some healthy snacks and then they have the option of walking one, two or three miles. And I know some people like to run, so I guess they can do that if they want to. But those of us that are walkers will be taking it a little bit slower.

And we have fabulous prizes for people who participate and go to the Sedgwick County website

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and log on and log their participation. There's not a maximum amount or minimum amount. Any amount of walking can be logged onto the system today, sedgwickcounty.org. And the prizes that we have are a six-month trial membership to the YMCA, Genesis, if you want to do your walk at Genesis, you can go to any Genesis site today and walk for free and they're going to be having mini-health fairs, five one-day passes to Botanica, we've got zoo passes, we've got gift certificates from Back Alley for bowling games and go-cart rides and pedometers and gift certificates from the Health Department, we have all kinds of different prizes. If you log on, your name will automatically go into the pot for a prize.

So, again, encouraging everybody to walk at work today and then make it a habit, something that they do as often as they can. Thank you Commissioners, for recognizing this special day."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, Claudia, thank you and thank you for you and the work your staff does for our employees here in Sedgwick County, but also encouraging those in the community to participate, so thanks for all of your work and especially on today.

All right, commissioners, before we take up our appointments, we do need to take up an Off Agenda item concerning an award."

MOTION

Chairman Winters moved to consider an off agenda item.

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

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OFF AGENDA ITEM

Chairman Winters said, “And here to present this award is Dr. Nancy McCarthy-Schneider from the Hugo Wall School at WSU and so Nancy, I’ll just let you take it away.”

Ms. Nancy McCarthy-Schneider, Hugo Wall School, WSU, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It’s graduation season and every May we at the Hugo Wall School honor our graduates. In addition to recognizing the sacrifice and the commitment of our graduates and our families we issue every year an award we affectionately call ‘the Hugo’ and we give that award to someone who exemplifies outstanding service to the Hugo Wall School, to its faculty, to its students and to our mission to improve the quality of public and non-profit services and this year the Hugo goes to Bill Buchanan.

Bill couldn’t be with us Friday at the ceremony, so we really appreciate the opportunity to present this award here today. We at the Hugo Wall School couldn’t ask for a better Public Administration professional partner than Bill Buchanan. His willingness to lecture, to advise, his commitment to mentoring students and interns insure that the skills and the democratic values that they take to their own careers in public service are strengthened and enhanced. His application of research findings, his insistence on evaluation and performance measurement, testified was uncompromising commitment to accountability to the public for spending taxpayer dollars, so thank you Bill.

But the Hugo doesn’t only belong just to Bill. He couldn’t do what he does without your guidance and direction and oversight, so this award is to be shared with you. We’re coming back to get it next May though. It’s only good for a year.

But our annual celebration gives us an opportunity to reflect on the values that the Hugo Wall School tries to impart in their students and graduates, first of which is our desire to advance knowledge of democratic processes and to foster respect for ordinary citizens and for their elected officials, and in that sense you all are a part of what we try to do every day.

So we all know how hard your job is, we understand how difficult it is to navigate the conflicting and competing demands for public resources and how seldom you hear the thank yous that you probably deserve. So thank you Bill, to your service to the Hugo Wall School, and thank you commissioners, to your commitment to those citizens of Sedgwick County.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. And I see Dr. Mark Glasier is in the audience too. We certainly recognize you, Dr. Glasier and I saw you did carry in some stuff back there. Are you

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going to do something with that?”

Ms. McCarthy-Schneider said, “Hugo Wall, our founder, was at one time the president of the American Iris Association and we associate Hugo Wall and our Hugo Award with irises, so you can keep this in the office.”

Chairman Winters said, “Mr. Buchanan, would you like to make just a remark.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “I see that Commissioner Norton grows irises and has brought them into the Commission office . . . excuse me, Commissioner Winters.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I brought the roses.”

Chairman Winters said, “Those are my irises in our front office.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “I have irises in my back yard that are transplanted from Pennsylvania to Michigan to here that were in my father’s garden, so first of all the connection with the irises is real touching for me.

Working with the Hugo Wall School is an absolute pleasure and joy. It is fun for me, and so to get a prize for doing something you’re having fun is a double good win, so thank you so much Nancy and thank you Mark. And thank you for the Board of County Commissioners for allowing this organization to do the right things, to do provide government to the people that is quality public service beyond anybody’s wildest dreams. Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “Dr. Schneider, Dr. Glazier and I see Misty Buckner is here from the Hugo School also. We appreciate your coming and sharing this with us today, so thank you very much. All right, Madam Clerk, we’ll come back to our regular agenda. Would you please call the next item?”

APPOINTMENTS

B. APPOINTMENTS.

- 1. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING SANFORD ALEXANDER (COMMISSIONER UNRUH’S REAPPOINTMENT) TO THE WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY ACCESS ADVISORY BOARD.**

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2. **RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING NICK TAYLOR (COMMISSIONER WINTERS' REAPPOINTMENT) TO THE WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY ACCESS ADVISORY BOARD.**
3. **RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CRAIG PERBECK (COMMISSIONER WELSHIMER'S REAPPOINTMENT) TO THE WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY ACCESS ADVISORY BOARD.**
4. **RESOLUTION APPOINTING SUSAN ROBINSON (COMMISSIONER NORTON'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY ACCESS ADVISORY BOARD.**

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have four appointments before you all to the same board. Could we take all those at once?"

Chairman Winters said, "Yes, we certainly could."

Mr. Euson said, "These are all appointments to the County's Access Advisory Board, which is a joint board with the City of Wichita. These are one-year appointments and these are appointments and reappointments. We have a Resolution appointing Sanford Alexander which is Commissioner Unruh's reappointment, we have a Resolution reappointing Commissioner Winters' appointee Nick Taylor, a Resolution reappointing Commissioner Welshimer's appointee is Craig Perbeck and a Resolution appointing Susan Robinson, who is Commissioner Norton's appointment and I recommend you adopt these Resolutions."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

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VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “And we do have two of the appointees who are here today. If we could identify the names of the two appointees.”

Ms. Susan Robinson from Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation and Mr. Sanford Alexander introduced themselves.

Chairman Winters said, “Our county clerk Don Brace is here and will administer the oath for this position.”

Mr. Don Brace, County Clerk, said, “Good morning. Raise your right hand please.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Wichita/ Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board, so help me God.”

Ms. Susan Robinson and Mr. Sanford Alexander said, “I do.”

Mr. Brace said, “Congratulations.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you both for participating on this board. Sedgwick County does take very seriously all of the issues regarding those with some kind of abilities that may put barriers in life’s way. So we appreciate your participation and we hope you continue to have successful terms on this Commission. If either of you would like to make a brief comment, we’d certainly allow you to do that.”

Mr. Alexander said, “I first of all would like to say thank you very much for the reappointment to

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the Advisory Board. I get confused and Mr. Brace did not help with the confusion. Sometimes we're the Sedgwick County/ Wichita Access Advisory Board and sometimes we're the Wichita/ Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board. Either way, we end up being the Access Advisory Board and both ways, I think it symbolizes a very unique bond that has built between the two entities, can't tell which is first sometimes. It's working well together.

There are things that we're able to do with Wichita and with Sedgwick County that are common, things that are different. Advisory boards are exactly that. They're advisory. We don't have any power that has been given to us by a vote, but we do have the ears of very interested and concerned officials that have been listening and I think one of the things that, over the past year especially, as we look forward into the future, there are many big issues that have come before us that we've had input into that we've actually seen steps taken.

We don't live in a perfect world. We may never be able to have a perfect world and working in disability and trying to make it as accessible as possible is perhaps a goal to strive for that may not every be fully achievable but each step that we do achieve makes life for disabled people in Sedgwick County a little bit easier and it would not happen if our voices were not being heard and our recommendations not being acted on, so I thank all of you very much for the opportunity to serve, but also for the opportunity to work with us."

Chairman Winters said, "Sanford, very well said, thank you very much. Susan, would you like to make a comment?"

Ms. Robinson said, "Sure. I just wanted to say thank you also, for your trust in me. Accessible transportation for people with disabilities in this city is paramount to all sorts of activities and I'm kind of excited to be taking that to this Board with me."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you Susan. And Sanford, sometimes Don Brace is not so confusing. All right, Madam Clerk, would you call our next item of business."

CITIZEN INQUIRY

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

Chairman Winters said, "Commissioners and citizens, I would remind everyone that we do have an opportunity for citizens to address the Board of County Commissioners if they wish and they can

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do that by contacting the County Manager's Office. We are . . . like and try to limit the time to five minutes and so if you would introduce yourself with name and address. Welcome."

Mr. George Fulp, 14220 Donigal Cr., Wichita, Ks., greeted the Commissioners and said, "Since residents of the county are limited to five minutes, and there are a lot of issues that I need to address the commission about, Mr. Buchanan, would please you be kind enough to put me on the agenda for five minutes beginning next Wednesday and every Wednesday thereafter through the month of October. Thank you.

Okay, as an introduction to today's topic, those in the weeks and months to come, I would like for everyone here at home to read KSA Chapter 19. It's very voluminous, thick. It's available on www.kslegislation.org [sic] and what it basically is is what governs us all in local governments. It's the parameters in which we exist are created and should operate.

Everyone should try to take a chance to read it, particularly those who hold office. If you haven't, it's tough reading, that's why myself and a group of my friends have broke it into segments because it's so thick, but we should be fairly recognizant of its contents.

Today's specific topic though I'd like to address you about concerns Commissioner Norton's suggestion that the taxpayers of our county pay for health insurance for some 60,000 who supposedly can't afford it. In the Eagle and on KPTS a couple of examples were given. One example was a lady who said that she couldn't afford health insurance, but she's expecting another baby. Now how dumb is that?

Second example is of a young businessman who said that he could not afford hospitalization or health insurance. Obviously both of these individuals are able-bodied people. So there is a big difference between those few who really can't because of physical or mental limitations afford to pay for health insurance. This is those that don't want to afford health insurance.

Any able-bodied person could afford basic health and hospitalization insurance, but doing what? Collecting cans, washing cars, mowing lawns and for God's sake, think about getting a job. Able-bodied people, if they would just give up the money they spend on alcohol, tobacco, in some cases drugs, fast food and for God's sake family cell phone plans, that accumulative amount would give them more than enough money to be able to pay around \$400 a month to \$450 a month for a family health insurance policy called Affordable Blue from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas.

The city annual budget has ballooned in the last ten years from around \$190,000,000-\$192,000,000

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to over \$400,000,000 and our population certainly hasn't more than doubled. But during that time, millions and millions of dollars have been authorized to pay for never-ending programs that tax the most, the benefit of a few.

Of course the medical community is able to support Commissioner Norton's idea, a noble one. Because they have no one, the medical community right now, has no one to bill for the services that they tender to those who can't and those who don't want to afford. Sure, if you pass this thing and make it public, there are plenty of people to bill for these services, get richer at the expense of taxpayers, so in my opinion, their support for this idea is very biased, obviously.

As noble as the idea may be, we do not need nor can we afford costly . . . another costly, never-ending program that gives able bodied people another incentive not to take responsibility for themselves. I urge this Board to consider these remarks in your deliberations of Commissioner Norton's idea, but to table it, particularly since we're now facing an era when we reach \$200 a barrel there will be tens of thousands of people in this area going to be unemployed in the aircraft industry, because they're going to have to be laid off. Millions across the country, hundreds of thousands across the country, the projections are already being made. Finally, yesterday, on Fox News . . . I'm not finished, commissioner, Washington finally admitted we're actually in a recession. I thank you for your time (*inaudible*) you consideration and I look forward to seeing you next week."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you Mr. Fulp. The Board of County Commissioners does have a policy on the speaking time and number of times that citizens can come and repeat visits. I don't know what that is right now, but staff will be in contact, because I think there are many avenues that you can choose to approach the Board of County Commissioners without a five-minute visit every week between now and October. And I would suggest that would be by either written letter or e-mail or personal contact with your Commissioners, so as soon as we've got that policy in front of us, staff will contact you and we will work out the arrangements for those future meetings."

Mr. Fulp said, "Mr. Chairman, I'll be glad to communicate with whomever but I think you might want to check with you County Counselor, and again I quote KSA Chapter 19, most organizations, government bodies, have a standard on their agenda, as your brothers do across the hall, across the street, a public comment section and with anyone, without having to call previously and make an appointment may address the governing body."

Chairman Winters said, "All right. "

Mr. Fulp said, "If there's something different here, then I'll be glad to talk to your County

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Counselor.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, we will take that up and . . . I’m in one effect of trying to make . . . help you be effective and I’m not sure this is the most effective way to approach what I think is a valid message. So we will be in contact and I’m sure we’ll visit about this again.”

Mr. Fulp said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Winters said, “Thank you. Madam Clerk, would you call the next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

D. AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA FESTIVALS, INC. FOR SPONSORSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000 FOR THE WICHITA FLIGHT FESTIVAL.

Ms. Trisha Thomas, Management Intern, Manager’s Office, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Before you is an Agreement with Wichita Festivals for the sponsorship of the 2008 Wichita Flight Festival in the amount of \$25,000. Since 2005, Sedgwick County has sponsored the festival in celebration with the aviation industry.

This year, the three-day event will be held August 22nd through the 24th at the Jabara Airport. Some of the events include aviation displays, stunts and a special open-air concert featuring Otis Day and the Knights. It is my recommendation that the Commission move to approve this Agreement and if there are any other questions, Janet Wright with the Wichita Festivals is here.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Commissioners, you’ve heard that report. Janet Wright is here, I’m sure catching her breath after a busy week last week with Wichita River Festival. Commissioners, are there any questions or comments? Commissioner Parks.”

Commissioner Parks said, “I guess before the motion and second on this one I’ll just say that I think that the grand plan of this subsidy to this was to get it off the ground, and no pun intended, get it off the ground and get it flying as a part of the Sedgwick County festivals and attracting people in our area. It certainly is a tourist attraction. It’s a . . . but I think that it’s time that we look at . . . I’m going to be supportive of this, this year, because of the planning, but maybe in future plans we can try to pare this down and wing this off. I just think that some of the festivals that we’re supporting need to stand on their own on things. So I’m a great supporter of the festival. I went last year. I enjoyed it, but I think it’s time that we start paring some of these down and letting them stand on their own. Thank you.”

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Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you Commissioner. Any other comments or questions on this issue? If not Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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 and thank you Janet for being here. Next item.”

E. LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SMG TO OBTAIN A FULL LIQUOR LICENSE AT THE KANSAS COLISEUM.

Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, we have to pull that item. We do not have a signed Contract from SMG.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, is there a motion to defer this item until it’s returned to us?”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to defer Item E.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, "Next item."

DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES- COMCARE

F. COMCARE.

1. AMENDMENT TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH JOAN HERTLEIN TO PROVIDE INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC CARE.

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, COMCARE, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This an Amendment to an Agreement that we have with Joan Hertlein who is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner to provide inpatient care for our patients at the Good Shepherd Campus. Our original agreement with Ms. Hertlein is for her to work an average of two days a month, including some holidays in there when we needed her to.

But in practice, she's had to work more and given the number of five weekend months, we've had it's incredible how many, since October, tomorrow that we had, since the original contract was made. So this amendment increases the total number of days that Joan will work with us, from 23 to 46, and will better enable us to cover holidays and weekends and absences of other Advanced Nurse Practitioners working in that setting. We recommend that you approve the agreement."

MOTION

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

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

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VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Marilyn, thank you. You have another item?”

Ms. Cook said, “I do have another one.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, next item please.”

2. AFFILIATION AGREEMENTS (2) WITH WESLEY MEDICAL CENTER, WICHITA CENTER FOR GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE – WICHITA FOR A MEDICARE RESIDENCY PROGRAM AT COMCARE.

Ms. Cook said, “Commissioners, these are two Affiliation Agreements between Wesley Medical Center, Wichita Center for Graduate Education, University of Kansas School of Medicine- Wichita and COMCARE to provide non-hospital training sites for residents.

The agreement allows residents in pediatric and pediatric internal medicine programs to observe our board-certified child psychiatrist Dr. Dan Jenkins several days a month. The residents don’t provide services themselves. They shadow her, they sit in on appointments with the consent of the client and client’s parents and then afterwards they discuss her approach to the child services and thereby learn something about child psych.

For this opportunity, Wesley will pay COMCARE approximately \$14,408. It’s a great benefit to our local medical schools here, due to the scarce number of board-certified child psychiatrists that we have in our area. We’re recommending that you approve the agreement.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. Commissioners, are there questions on this agreement?”

MOTION

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Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Agreements, ratify the effective date of May 1, 2008 and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

Chairman Winters said, "We have a motion and a second. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "I just had a question. How many individuals are going to be doing this training?"

Ms. Cook said, "Well, it's hard to track, because they rotate in and out and that number varies, and will vary from year to year, but they spend about three out of the four Mondays of the month, spending about a half a day with Dr. Jenkins, and so some will come back for more than one opportunity, that others will do it just one time, so the number will vary."

Commissioner Unruh said, "All right, and this is observation only. We're not consulting over there."

Ms. Cook said, "Right."

Commissioner Unruh said, "All right, thank you. That's all I have."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you. We have a motion and a second. Any other discussion? Seeing none, call the roll."

VOTE

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

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

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G. SELECTION OF ONE VOTING DELEGATE AND ONE ALTERNATE VOTING DELEGATE FOR THE 2008 ANNUAL NACO CONFERENCE JULY 11-15 IN JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI.

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioners, I asked for this to be put on the agenda today. We need to designate a delegate and a first alternate to the National Association of Counties annual meeting, which will take place this year in Kansas City, which is certainly relatively close for us, as this annual meeting does move around to various parts of the country.

I do plan on attending, so I would suggest that as Chairman that I be designated the delegate and we do need a first alternate. And then we have the option of, if we are not there, if we leave sometime before that meeting, we can designate another county to pick up our ballot or we could designate our State Association President to pick up our ballot. Again, there will be thousands of ballots and I think we’ll probably have control over 40 or so ballots. Johnson County will have about that many, and then other counties in descending size have fewer ballots at this process.

So this is the process where the National Association of Counties selects their county officials to become . . . move up through the chain on their chairs to become chair of the nation-wide group. So it really is, I think, an important part of our attending the conference and we just need to make sure our credentials are in order. Now our chair pro tem is Tim Norton. Tim, do you plan on being a part of this?”

Commissioner Norton said, “I plan on going, but I don’t know that I have to be a voting delegate. I think that it is appropriate the Chairman is our voting delegate and if somebody else would like to the alternate, that is okay with me, but I will certainly do it, since I am going to be there.”

Chairman Winters said, “Well, Commissioners, it would be my suggestion that I be designated our voting delegate. That Commissioner Norton be our first alternate and that in the event we are not at the business meeting, that we authorize the President of our State Association or his designate to pick up our county voting credentials.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Was that a motion, Mr. Chair?”

MOTION

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Commissioner Welshimer moved to select Chairman Winters as the voting delegate for the NACo conference with Commissioner Norton as first alternate and that the President of the State Association be designated to pick up the County voting credentials.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

Chairman Winters said, "All right, so did we get that? I will be the voting delegate, Commissioner Norton the first alternate and if we're not there, our State Association. All right, are there any other comments? Commissioner Parks."

Commissioner Parks said, "Just on the . . . in the event that both yourself and Commissioner Norton can't be there, has it been practice to do that with the State, as opposed to maybe Harvey County or somebody that's closer to us that's in our quad-county? And I guess that's an internal question I'd like to ask you at this point."

Chairman Winters said, "What normally happens at this event is Kansas tries to vote as a unit, so that we will have a bigger block of votes and then there are a number of us that serve on various committees with NACo and I am on a more general committee and not one of the leadership executive committees, but we do have people from Kansas who do strive to get on those leadership, executive kind of committees, the Treasurers are very active in Kansas and some other Commissioners are and so those are really . . . really end up being appointments by the new leadership team and if Kansas has voted for the right person, sometimes it's easier for those appointments to come by.

So what normally happens is we try to vote as a unit. The past couple of years, we've not agreed and so we have then, if we're not there, we normally designate, if we're not able to pick up the appropriate . . . we deli . . . we ask the president to vote these ballots in a certain way. So we really keep close contact with all of the other Kansas counties during this process of being at the event, so even if we're not there, we will have the ability to direct how our ballots are cast."

Commissioner Parks said, "Okay, well I assume that we're certainly going to strive to be at all those meetings and make all those ballots."

Chairman Winters said, "The thing that makes it sometimes a little difficult and the last day of this meeting is Tuesday and . . . on a Tuesday and of course we'll have a Wednesday meeting. Sometimes it rolls into the later afternoon and people decide they need to be on the road traveling home, and so that's why sometimes we're not at the very end of the meeting."

Commissioner Parks said, "Thank you."

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Chairman Winters said, “All right, any other discussion? Seeing none, call the vote please.”

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, “Next item.”

H. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS’ REGULAR MEETING ON MAY 15, 2008.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The meeting of May 15th results in nine items for consideration today.

**1) ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES TO CORRECT STRUCTURAL DEFICIENCIES AND MODIFY HVAC/ MECHANICAL SYSTEMS FOR THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE- FACILITIES DEPARTMENT
FUNDING: FACILITIES DEPARTMENT**

The first item, architectural and engineering services to correct structural deficiencies and modify HVAC and mechanical systems for the Historic Courthouse for Facilities Department. And for the record, I need to make a slight modification to the recommendation. The recommendation is to accept the low proposal from Law Kingdon Architecture and execute a contract in the amount of \$157,500, subject to available funding.

**2) ROAD IMPROVEMENTS- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: R175 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE FOR 2008**

Item two, road improvements for Public Works. Recommendation is to accept the low bid from Beachner Construction Company Incorporated in the amount of \$435,058.96.

**3) EMULSIFIED OILS- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: R175 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE FOR 2008**

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Item three, emulsified oils for Public Works. Recommendation is to accept the bid from SemMaterials for items 1, 2A and 3 for an initial purchase of \$569,240 and execute firm pricing for one year contract, with two one-year options to renew.

**4) 3/8" CITY SURFACE MIX- PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING: AGGREGATE MATERIALS**

Item four 3/8" city surface mix for Public Works. Recommendation is to accept the low bid from Cornejo Construction for an initial purchase of \$83,080 and execute firm pricing for one year, with two one-year options to renew.

**5) SELF PROPELLED ZERO TURNING RADIUS RIDING LAWNMOWER- FLEET
MANAGEMENT
FUNDING: VEHICLE ACQUISITION**

Item five, self-propelled zero turning radius riding lawnmower for Fleet Management. Recommendation is to accept the bid from America Mowers in the amount of \$35,674.59.

**6) CUSTODIAL SERVICES- DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
FUNDING: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

Item six, custodial services for the Department of Corrections. Recommendations is to accept the low proposal from EH Technical Solutions for daily flat fee of \$113.62 for an estimated annual cost of \$28,405 and execute a two-year contract with two one-year options to renew.

**7) INTERNET SERVICES UPGRADE- DIVISION OF INFORMATION &
OPERATIONS
FUNDING: NETWORKING AND TELECOM**

Item seven, Internet services upgrade for the Division of Information and Operations. Recommendation is to accept the quote from Cox Business to establish contract pricing and execute a 60-month contract.

8) CHANGE ORDER #8 FOR THE NEW JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY-

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FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

FUNDING: CONSTRUCT NEW JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY & CORRECTIONS EQUIPMENT RESERVE

Item eight, Change Order #8 for the new Juvenile Detention Facility for Facilities Department. Recommendation is to acknowledge the change order for Coonrod and Associates in the amount of \$10,164.

9) CHANGE ORDER #6 ADDITION OF CLASSROOM SPACE FOR JUVENILE COURT AND DISTRICT ATTORNEY REMODEL- FACILITIES DEPARTMENT FUNDING: CONSTRUCT JUVENILE COURT, REMODEL FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY COMPLEX

And item nine, Change Order #6, addition of classroom space for Juvenile Court and District Attorney Remodel for Facilities Department. Recommendation is to accept the Change Order with National Contractors Incorporated in the amount of \$17,385.

Would be happy to answer any questions and I recommend approval of these minutes.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you Iris. Commissioners, are there questions or comments about these items? Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Just one question. I guess semantics, on Change Order number . . . or item #8, there’s Change Order #8, the recommendation was to acknowledge the Change Order and on the next item it was to accept the Change Order. Is that anything significant?”

Ms. Baker said, “Correct. Accept means we’re recommending a Change Order and recommending that the work be done. Acknowledge means the work has already been completed, where now it’s just an acknowledgement to pay a bill.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay, thank you, that’s helpful.”

Chairman Winters said, “Are there any other questions? David Spears.”

Mr. Spears said, “Just wanted to point out that on items three and four, those both represent approximately anywhere from 21 to 35% increase and that’s in the notes. And you know, I guess that’s enough said about it, but it’s due to the price of oil and our business down at Public Works has a lot to do with the price of oil and the price of fuel and it affects us to a great extent. So it’s making it real tough on us, but we may have to reprioritize some things, but just wanted to point

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that out.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, thank you. All right, are there any other questions, comments about the recommendation of the Board of Bids and Contracts?”

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

Chairman Winters said, “Next item.”

CONSENT AGENDA

I. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Service Agreement with Wabaunsee County to use Sedgwick County’s Motor Vehicle Tax Estimator.**

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2. **Access Agreement with El Paso Merchant Energy Petroleum Company for vehicle access to property generally located between 61st Street North and 69th Street North between Seneca and Broadway.**
3. **Affiliation Agreement with Home Healthcare Connection to allow direct billing to Medicare.**
4. **Sponsorship in the amount of \$7,500 for the Wichita Open.**
5. **General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of May 14 – 20, 2008.**
6. **Order dated May 14, 2008 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioners, you have the Consent Agenda before you and I would recommend you approve it.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

We have a motion and a second to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Parks.”

Commissioner Parks said, “On number four, I would just like the people to know, in being transparent with this, it says \$7,500 for the Wichita Open. This is kind of a turn-around with the Sheriff’s Reserve that we pay. I certainly am not for subsidizing some of these things that are out there that should be held by the private sector, but this is kind of a turn-around. Our Sheriff’s Reserve does a great function during the year and there’s very few things that they can get paid for and this is kind of a turn-around for security for them, so I just wanted the public to know that. Thank you.”

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

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you Mr. Chair. Just to follow up with Commissioner Parks’ comment. That has been, the last two or three years, that we have been supportive. It’s not that we’re specifically supportive of a golf tournament, but we’re supportive of our Sheriff’s Officers and their opportunity for them to gain some overtime, as they provide security. And the budgeting

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mechanism requires that we do it this way, so I appreciate your desire to clarify that. That's all I had, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you. Do we have a motion? Yes, we have a motion. Is there any other discussion about the motion? Seeing none, call the roll."

VOTE

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

Chairman Winters said, "Well that . . . we had a relatively short meeting. That concludes our regular business in the Regular Meeting. We do need to have a Fire District meeting in which we need to have an Executive Session, so before I adjourn this meeting, we would discuss any other business that the Commissioners had on their mind. Commissioner Welshimer."

J. OTHER

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Well, yesterday in staff meeting Commissioner Norton was expressing his concerns about adult education. And in thinking that over, there's so many players involved there, and I've talked to so many of them. One blames the other and so on, and what we end up with is no adult education, no GED in Sedgwick County. That facility that we're building for aircraft training center is going to depend a lot . . . it's success is going to depend a lot on adult education because it's going to require a high school diploma for people to enroll in that particular training.

So what I'd like to suggest is that we . . . the County Manager put a meeting together for us with at least two of us, if not a public meeting. I don't know, that's something we could discuss. And bring in representatives from USD 259 School Board, bring in representatives from WSU, our neighboring community colleges, WATC, our local delegation legislative members in the Senate and House that are on education committees, possibly Jean Schodorf, Geraldine Flaharty and a couple of the technical school board members and see if we can't get to the bottom of this, because it's the responsibility for all of us and we're all going to have to play a role in this and get this problem solved. Do you agree with that?"

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Chairman Winters said, “Commissioner Norton, do you have a comment?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I’ve obviously been working on adult basic education, GED testing, ESOL, remedial programs and much of that came because the biggest program in the County was embedded in WATC, when we inherited that for whatever reason. We took it on and I’m glad that we did, because we’re working that as a workforce issue, technical training. But truthfully, I think you’re right Commissioner Welshimer, that it is part of the pipeline that delivers people to be ready for technical education. Because if you’re under-employed, under-educated, and don’t have certain skills, whether it be math skills, or English skills or writing skills or certain education level, you may not qualify for avionics technology or airframe mechanics or health . . . some healthcare jobs or certain IT jobs that we want to deliver so that that is part of the continuum.

The dicey thing has been is that most of that has been delivered either by private, non-profits like KANSEL or the Indo-Chinese Center, the Urban League or Goodwill or by a quasi-pseudo secondary education system that was housed in 259. Well, that went away from 259, plus the funding when WATC came out from under there because of Senate Bill, I think eight. Well that’s all changed the dynamics. I’m welcome to any conversation like that, but over the last year and a half that I’ve worked on it, the school district has not cared much about this issue. They’re trying to education K through 12 and that once kids or young people are gone from the system, they become adults and we have an obligation to try to train them somewhere else or get them remedial help.

WSU, it’s not really their core to deal with that kind of education. They’re looking at degree completion and other things. I welcome it, but when I’ve had the conversation with people, it is pretty well fallen in our laps to try to find a solution. I’ve got a Visioneering group that’s working on what we call a literate community. We’ve made great strides. We’ve got some infrastructure system started. I think you’re right, it would be nice to have every player want to make this happen in our community, but the truth is, I don’t know that every player in the past has wanted to have any part of it.

Now certainly these non-profit, KANSEL has been at the table, done a great job. That’s an institute that was held up by the unions several years ago and now deliver great training to folks, remedial training. Indo-Chinese delivers a lot of ESOL and language to people. Urban League delivers certain components of it. Goodwill deals mostly with the disabled community and getting them more life skills to get into the workforce.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Could I . . .?”

Commissioner Norton said, “Yes, go ahead.”

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Commissioner Welshimer said, “These private groups that you’re talking about, they don’t have that responsibility. The responsibility is with us, with WSU and with the Board of Education. We’re not in the education business, Sedgwick County isn’t. We’re not educators, and yet through our actions, we’ve lost this adult education so we’re to blame there. USD 259 did not find a solution for us and offer to continue it and pool the funding, so they’re to blame there and WSU has not allowed community college services in this, Sedgwick County, has kept them out and has not supplied a replacement for that. And so therein, we have no resource that we need to make our technical school successful, so I say that each one of these entities needs to come forward, accept what has happened and put things back together again, as a taskforce or whatever you want to call it and accept the responsibility for it.”

Chairman Winters said, “Well, I think I kind of hear you saying both the same thing, and maybe Commissioner Welshimer, you could work on this with Commissioner Norton because I think Commissioner Norton has tried to get as many players at this table as possible and if there’s a way we can continue to work at getting people to the table, I think that’s what we all want.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well I think we could agree to call that meeting, ask the County Manager’s office to call that meeting and agree to do it and set a time for it.”

Chairman Winters said, “Well, I’m okay there. I would like to make a comment though. There is a system out there right now. As cobbled together as it is, we are still delivering GED prep and GED testing. That has not gone away. It still serves well over 1,000 people in our community. Is it the most capacity that carries on? No. Is the funding as good as it should be? No. Are there other entities that are helping out? Yes, all those non-profits. It doesn’t all have to fall on government, because much of that, if you get the training through a non-profit, and then go take the GED test, that’s okay.

It’s just that there’s funding gaps, there’s capacity gaps, we estimate 30,000 people in our community could benefit from remedial or GED kinds of programs. Does that mean that we can get all of them in there and service every one of them? Probably not, but with the future of workforce shortage, we can’t afford to sacrifice any of those 40,000 people [sic]. I agree with you, Commissioner Welshimer. I’ll be glad to help out, but I’ve been working on it for about a year and a half and I’ve got to tell you, there’s a lot of moving parts and a lot of people that don’t want to play nice in the sandbox and a legislature that is not fully funding adult education in our state. All of those things play out and I’ll be glad to help because I’ve been thoroughly dedicated to this process.”

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Commissioner Welshimer said, "I know you have been. Well, I'd like to make a motion that we call this meeting."

Chairman Winters said, "I don't think we need a motion right now. I think . . . let's . . . if this needs to be put on a future agenda, we'll put it on next week's agenda, but I think you could have conversation with the Manager, Commissioner Norton and yourself and decide a meeting time and participants. I think the main thing would just be the participants. If you'd like to make a motion."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Well, do I have an agreement from all of you that we need to do this?"

Chairman Winters said, "I have supported what Commissioner Norton has been working on and particularly on this Literate Community, which is my understanding is trying to get more groups in the community, that you described, involved in this process. So you would have my support in calling together a meeting, unknown participants, but I would certainly support that kind of a meeting. Would you?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, thank you Mr. Chair. I would be supportive of what has, in general, been discussed here. I think that that's one way to make progress and it's a way for us to facilitate. I'm not supportive of a couple of comments, Commissioner Welshimer, that you made and that is that we are to blame and this is now our responsibility. The evolution of this quagmire we find ourselves in, relative to adult basic education, has evolved from a lot of different sources and the sources were entities with which we did not have direct control or involvement. We came into this in an effort to influence workforce development and to increase technical education and training in Sedgwick County, but we did not precipitate the crisis, whatever degree it is, and at the same time . . . so I guess I'm just responding to the word 'blame' you used.

And then secondly, I don't know that we have . . . it is our inherent responsibility to solve this, as a function of Sedgwick County government. I think it is our responsibility to advance the quality of life and economic vitality and wellbeing of citizens in Sedgwick County and in that overall mission, when you have the responsibility to facilitate, promote and help solve this problem. But if the word responsibility as you used it implies that we are going to agree that we'll make financial commitments or that we will take administrative control, those sort of things, then I'm getting a little bit weak on the motion. But if it means let's work together and facilitate, then I'm in favor of that."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "I don't think that education is our responsibility and . . . well, it's

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our responsibility to make sure that that training center succeeds.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “That’s correct and I’m in agreement with that.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “And so . . . but I think that there is a reason in every player, from WSU to USD 259, WATC, all the way down the line that one thinks the other one should have done something and so on and we’re not really getting anywhere and depending on private organizations, like the Indo-Chinese Center, if they lose some Federal funding, and they all lose some federal funding, we don’t have anything. We need to have a solid foundation that this technical center can depend upon.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, I thank you and appreciate that and I can be supportive of this facilitating activity that’s been suggested.”

Chairman Winters said, “Commissioner Parks, you want to weigh in on this?”

Commissioner Parks said, “Well, for the sake of discussion, I’m going to second the motion on that.”

Chairman Winters said, “Well, we don’t have a motion.”

Commissioner Parks said, “We don’t?”

Chairman Winters said, “No, we don’t have a motion yet. I asked her to hold off on that.”

Commissioner Parks said, “She’s withdrawn her motion?”

Chairman Winters said, “I didn’t hear her make a motion.”

Commissioner Parks said, “Okay.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “If we don’t get something put together next week, I’ll have a motion.”

Chairman Winters said, “All right, so would you please meet with then Commissioner Norton and the Manager and talk about this kind of a deal and then let’s bring it back to the Bench for our discussion and go from there. Or if we need to just take it up at our staff meeting workshop, I think we could get some direction there.”

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Commissioner Parks said, "Well I would like to weigh in on it, if I can."

Chairman Winters said, "Okay, certain, you've got the floor."

Commissioner Parks said, "The obligation, I agree with several of the things that both commissioners, have said, or all the other Commissioners have said here that the GED being thrown in our lap, we're going to have to start throwing some of this stuff back in somebody else's lap. You know, I don't think . . . I agree with Commissioner Unruh, where he says that he doesn't think that a lot of this needs to happen. I agree with Commissioner Welshimer that education is not our responsibility. I think we can be a facilitator and not only 259 but I think we need to encompass all of the county. We're just not Wichita school district. There are 11 school districts in Sedgwick County and when Commissioner Norton talks about numbers of people, if those people can go to a learning center in Valley Center and get their GED through Harvey County, let's get those players involved in the game too.

We don't have to look at lines and defined areas. But as far as doing that, I think it needs to go back to those USDs and they need to pick up the ball on that, because they are mandated through their . . . for education. I just think that we're getting into double taxation when we deal with education so much and I just think we need all 11 entities involved in it and I know it's going to be a big committee, it's going to be a big job but we need to grab this deal and make sure that the taxpayers of Sedgwick County aren't being . . . that they get the most dollars for their tax dollars . . . or the most . . . anyway, that's just where I'm standing. That's where I've always stood on this issue of education, so thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you. I think we're ready to shift gears. We know that there is . . . you all are going to meet and talk about this and then bring back something to the Commission. Now we'll shift gears. Commissioner Parks."

Commissioner Parks said, "Yes, something positive here, in the north part of the county we're excited about the Meyers brothers taking over what was Wild West World. I understand it will not be called Wild West World and they will have a new look and possibly opening early in 2009 and we're excited about getting that entertainment venue back off to start.

There are a couple of things in my district that are coming up. On the 31st, the African American Museum is having their annual fundraising ball and if you have a donation or want to attend a formal ball, you can certainly call the museum or myself and we have tickets for that.

Also, on that same night, the late models are at 81 Speedway, I guess Nascar's version . . . or if

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you're a Nascar fan, you should take at least one of these late models races in because that's the nearest thing to Nascar that we can get in Wichita, so the . . .

I'd like to remind the Valley Center school bond issue voters that advanced voting is starting, in fact today, at the Historic Courthouse and it will be running through June the 3rd. It's your chance to weigh in, make your vote count. These are things, study the issue and make sure that you go out and vote, because it will impact your tax statement, either one way or the other. It does impact your tax statement in total. A lot of times we have a lot of different entities in there, so . . .

On June 7th there's a car show at Valley Center. I'll have details next week on that. This car show brings in around 100 cars usually. It's one of the bigger ones in the county and it's very well attended. There will be prizes and awards for that.

One thing I wanted to discuss, it's not really an event, but I felt like I needed to bring it up under my 'other' here. The African American Museum has a capital project, capital outlay or CIP program that in the future we have some money out there, I'm on the Board of that and we're looking at \$30,000, a bill that was estimated last week to repair some stained glass windows and I've always said that if somebody can step up, it's always better to use private donations or some philanthropist that wants to give some money to this. It's a tax deductible donation, can be public or private, discrete, but I really think that this would be a terrible shame to see those stained glass windows fall out of there. If we have it on the National Historic Society Register and it's something that should be preserved. And if we can't get somebody to stand up, maybe we can look at this CIP program in the future.

And finally, this message goes out to Louise Woods in Ulysses, Kansas who watches this meeting and I'm giving you a special smile today from your nephew on the County Commission and she'll know what this is all about so this is kind of a gift to her. And she's in an assisted living center in Ulysses, and this broadcast goes out clear all over the state, so thank you."

Chairman Winters said, "All right, thank you. Commissioners, just a couple of quick things. Friday of this week I will be attending, out of town, attending a Kansas Association of Counties Board of Directors meeting and Friday at noon the City of Wichita is dedicating the Auburn Hills Club House and doing some naming in honor of former city councilman Bob Martz. I've extended my regrets. That is going to take place at noon, so if any of you would like to participate in that, that is going to happen at Auburn Hills.

I will . . . this Thursday is Wichita Area Technical College's graduation and I will be there representing Sedgwick County and make some brief remarks.

Lastly, I want to say thank you again to Lisa Davis, who has . . . who does work for the County

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Clerk, Don Brace, in his office. She's not leaving county employment, but she is not going to serving our commission any longer and Lisa, we appreciate all of the work that you've done and all the responsiveness that you've given to us whenever we had a request, so best of luck to you.

Commissioners, seeing no other business to come before the regular meeting, the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners is adjourned."

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

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

THOMAS G. WINTERS, Chairman
Third District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner
First District

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TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

KELLY PARKS, Commissioner
Fourth District

GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner,
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Don Brace, County Clerk

APPROVED:

, 2008