MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

March 18, 2009

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, March 18, 2009 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Kelly Parks, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Gwen Welshimer; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Karl Peterjohn; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. David Spears, P.E., Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. Preston Goering, Tuberculosis Control Program Coordinator, Sedgwick County Health Department; Mr. Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk; Ms. Sheena Lynch, HR Specialist, Organizational and Professional Development, Division of Human Resources; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Accounting Department; Mr. James Weber, P.E., Deputy Director, Public Works; Ms. Dorsha Kirksey, Director, Housing Department; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; Ms. Evelyn Good, Deputy County Clerk; and Ms. Katie Asbury, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Chuck Boully, Geo. K. Buam, & Co.
Mr. Michael Rausch, Director, Sedgwick County Farm Bureau
Ms. Connie True, Clerk appointee, Ohio Township

INVOCATION

Observed by a moment of silence.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009
Regular Meeting, February 25, 2009

Chairman Parks said, “We have in front of us, and we’ve been able to read, the minutes from the meetings of February 18 and February 25, do I have a motion?”

MOTION
Regular Meeting, March 18th, 2009

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the minutes.

Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the motion.

**VOTE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commissioner Unruh</th>
<th>Aye</th>
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<td>Commissioner Norton</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<td>Commissioner Peterjohn</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<td>Commissioner Welshimer</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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<td>Chairman Parks</td>
<td>Aye</td>
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Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

**PROCLAMATIONS**

A. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 15-21, 2009 AS AGRICULTURE (AG) WEEK

Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director of Communications, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’ll read this in for the record.”

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS; in agriculture touches our lives daily and in more ways that we realize; and

WHEREAS; Farming is the #2 industry in Kansas; and

WHEREAS; one farmer feeds 143 people by providing safe and affordable food products; and

WHEREAS; U.S. consumers spend just 10 percent of their disposable income on food each year. It takes about 36 days or five weeks for most Americans to earn enough disposable income to pay for their food for the entire year; and

WHEREAS; non-food products we use daily, such as toothbrushes, clothing, recreational equipment, and more are made from the products produced on farms; and
WHEREAS; renewable fuels, including ethanol and biodiesel made from corn, soybeans and other crops, are beneficial to the environment and promote energy security; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Kelly Parks, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, hereby proclaims March 15 – 21, 2009 as

“Ag Week”

in Sedgwick County and encourage all citizens to be mindful of the products and lifestyles we enjoy because of farming.

It’s dated March 18th and signed by the Chairman.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Proclamation.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, “I do want to have a little further discussion. So be it proclaimed and we are going to have a presentation of the Proclamation, but we’ll go ahead and have the vote first.”

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh       Aye
Commissioner Norton     Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn   Aye
Commissioner Welshimer   Aye
Chairman Parks           Aye

Ms. Zukovich said, “And we do have Troy Lorenz here to receive the Proclamation.”

Mr. Michael Rausch, Sedgwick County Farm Bureau, greeted the Commissioners and said, “My name is Michael Rausch, Troy was unable to make it today. I am a board member from Sedgwick County Farm Bureau and on behalf of the farmers and ranchers of Sedgwick County, we are the second largest industry in the county, we appreciate this Proclamation. Thank you very much.”
Chairman Parks said, “Well Mike, I would like to say, and I am going to be redundant from last year and other years, that it’s one of the most dangerous occupations out there. Please be careful when you’re going out there and providing that food for the 143 people that you, that each farmer does provide. It is a value that no other country in this world can say that 10% of our income goes to for food and food products. So it’s a wonderful thing, and we appreciate the time, the long hours, and the dangerous work that you do.”

Mr. Rausch said, Thank you. Appreciate it.

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you.”

Ms. Zukovich said, “Commissioners, we have a second proclamation this morning. And I’ll read it in for the record.

B. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 24TH, 2009 AS SEDGWICK COUNTY TB AWARENESS DAY

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County joins the Center for Disease Control and the World Health Organization in calling attention to the global tuberculosis problem through annual world TB day.

WHEREAS, World TB day is celebrated on the anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize Award to Robert Coke for his discovery of the causal agent of tuberculosis.

WHEREAS, tuberculosis is one of the world’s deadliest diseases with one third of the world’s population infected, including an estimated 9 to 14 million persons in the United States.

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County is proactively and successfully working to reduce the number of cases of tuberculosis through proper diagnosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS, the management of tuberculosis is crucial to stopping outbreaks through timely investigation; and

WHEREAS, public awareness and understanding of the cause, spread, nature, treatment, and cureability of tuberculosis builds trust and confidence in our ability to eradicate TB.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Kelly Parks, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, proclaims March 24th, 2009, as 

“Sedgwick County TB Awareness Day”

and encourages all citizens to educate themselves about tuberculosis, its prevention and treatment.

And it’s dated March 18th and signed by the Chairman, Kelly Parks.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Proclamation.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh   Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn   Aye
Commissioner Welshimer   Aye
Chairman Parks   Aye

Ms. Zukovich said, “And Commissioners, we do have Preston Goering here from our Sedgwick County Health Department. He is our TB Control Coordinator. I will have him accept and provide information.”

Mr. Preston Goering, Tuberculosis Control Program Coordinator, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Good morning. On behalf of Sedgwick County Health Department and the Tuberculosis Control Program, I would like to thank you for proclaiming March 24th as World TB Awareness Day. Also, like to take the opportunity to tell you a little about tuberculosis, the history and prevalence of tuberculosis, and the program that we have at the Health Department, just very briefly. Tuberculosis is a disease that’s caused by bacteria that are spread from person to person through the air. People can contract latent TB infection from such contact, but they don’t have symptoms and can’t spread the disease, spread the germs to others. However, they might develop TB disease in the future, particularly if they have HIV, have certain medical conditions, or are re-exposed to active TB.”
“People who develop TB disease are sick from tuberculosis bacteria that are active. In this case, bacteria are multiplying and destroying tissue in the body. They usually have symptoms of TB disease, and before medication can spread germs to others. A person with TB can die if they do not get treatment. However, latent tuberculosis infection and tuberculosis disease can be cured by taking medication for six to twelve months, completing the prescription regimen exactly is important so they do not become resistant to those drugs, and tuberculosis that is resistant to drugs is harder and more expensive to treat.

“A little on the history. In the early 1900s, tuberculosis killed one out of every seven people living in the United States and Europe. Starting in the 1940s, scientists discovered the first of several medicines now used to treat TB. As a result, TB slowly began to decrease in the United States, but in the 1970s and the early 1980s, the country let its guard down and TB control efforts were neglected. This led to an increase in the number of tuberculosis cases between 1985 and 1992. However, with increased funding and attention to the TB problem, there has been a steady decline in the number of persons with tuberculosis since 1993. The incidence of tuberculosis is measured by the number of cases per 100,000 population. The U.S. has seen a steady decline in the rate of active tuberculosis cases. Over the last ten years, the rate has dropped from 6.4 cases per 100,000 to 4.4. However, tuberculosis continues to be a problem in the United States. For example, while the number of TB cases is still declining, the speed of that decline has slowed since 2003, and drug-resistant TB has become an important issue, and racial and ethnic minority populations and foreign-born individuals continue to account for a large number tuberculosis cases in the United States. The purpose of the Tuberculosis Control Program of Sedgwick County is to cure, contain, and eliminate tuberculosis infection and tuberculosis disease in Sedgwick County.

“Through testing, educating, monitoring, and investigation, our small staff saw patients and their contacts over 7600 times in 2008, and the program treated 240 clients with latent tuberculosis infection last year. In partnership with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, we conducted several contact investigations to prevent latent tuberculosis infections from becoming cases of active disease. And we build and maintain very positive partnerships with medical professionals and other agencies throughout the County to coordinate tuberculosis control. These efforts have resulted in a drop in the active TB case rate in Sedgwick County, from a ten-year high of 7.1 cases per 100,000 in 2001, to 3.5 cases in 2008. The County rate now more closely approximates the rate of Kansas overall.

“An area in which we are pushing out the frontiers of tuberculosis control is in the use of the quantifier on gold blood test, which we experience to improve overall efficiency of the department,
effectiveness of services, and ultimately provide greater protection and savings to the people of Sedgwick County. In the U.S., the theme for World TB Day 2009 is Partnerships for Tuberculosis Elimination. Now is the time to take action beyond our current efforts that will ensure that we reach the goal of tuberculosis elimination, building and strengthening partnerships is one of those actions. On April 9th, our local TB Awareness Day event will be held at the Kansas University Medical Center. It will address the problem of managing complex tuberculosis patients, and include presentations on medication, drug resistance, and public health law. So once again I want to thank you for this proclamation.”

Chairman Parks said, “And thank you. We do have a couple questions or comments. And I have one of them. When the resurgence came back in the 80s, is that when we stopped testing in the schools?

Mr. Goering said, “I would have to get the answer to that. I’m not sure about that.”

Chairman Parks said, “Well, I can remember as a child being tested in grade schools and junior high several times, and I don’t think I remember hearing about that or hearing about the testing.”

Mr. Goering said, “That’s a possibility, I think.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Commissioner Parks, I also remember those TB tests from my school days. But my question is, could you spend a minute and give us some more information, because, are there steps the public can take to try and prevent this expansion of drug-resistant bacterial infections, and I know this could go beyond tuberculosis, but tuberculosis is a really bad case, and also provide some more information between active cases and what’s described, what you described as latent cases, because I think that would be important for not only this Commission, but I also think it is for the public, too, to get a better understanding about this disease that has been a terrible killer throughout history?”

Mr. Goering said, “There are a couple of things that the public can do. Make yourself aware of the symptoms of tuberculosis disease, and then see a doctor immediately about that, and then once there is a confirmed case, or not even a confirmed case, but a positive skin test, clients are referred to us and then they go through further evaluation and testing. It’s of ultimate importance for people to complete, to begin and complete, and faithfully stay on their prescription regimen. “For latent tuberculosis it is one pill a day for nine months regimen. And the reason that is so important is because if they stop in the middle of it, their body, the bacteria in their body can develop a resistance to that particular drug that they’ve been taking. And that, the more people that
refuse to continue their medication, the more likelihood is that well have multi-drug-resistant TB here. We have a very low incidence of that in Sedgwick County at this point.

“The other question, the difference between latent and active tuberculosis disease, in latent tuberculosis, the individual has been infected with the TB bacteria, it remains in the lungs, the body has successfully surrounded that bacteria to keep it from spreading within the body, and they show no symptoms of tuberculosis, they don’t experience anything that would be, that would make it obvious, that they’re carrying tuberculosis. And since tuberculosis is spread, mostly through, it’s spread through the air, through germs through the air, because it’s not in the lungs, in the infectious way, it’s not getting passed from person to person.

“However, like I said earlier, circumstances in life can change, people’s health can drop, their immune system can drop, they can become exposed to TB again. All of those things can make that TB active again, in which case the TB begins to spread and destroy tissue in the body and then when it becomes, comes to the point where the person is beginning to cough, and even before that, they can be infectious, depending how close people are and how long people are in proximity to them and the conditions in which they are together.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you.”

Mr. Goering said, “You’re welcome.”

Chairman Parks said, “Did that answer your question, Commissioner or no?”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “It did. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “I thank you for expanding on that. And that information out to the public, and that’s one thing that our Health Department does on a regular basis, and you can certainly go to the website and get more information on that or any other afflictions and how to prevent those diseases. Thank you.”

Mr. Goering said, “Thank you very much.”

Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

APPOINTMENTS

C. OHIO TOWNSHIP
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1. ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF CRISTINE WATSON AS CLERK OF THE OHIO TOWNSHIP

Mr. Richard Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Mrs. Watson has submitted her resignation and I would ask that you accept it.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to accept the Resignation.

Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh          Aye
Commissioner Norton         Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn      Aye
Commissioner Welshimer      Aye
Chairman Parks              Aye

2. RESOLUTION APPOINTING CONNIE TRUE (COMMISSIONER NORTON’S APPOINTMENT) TO THE OHIO TOWNSHIP AS CLERK

Mr. Euson said, “Commissioners, this appointment will fill the vacancy just created, and this expires in January of 2011. And I recommend you adopt the Resolution.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Chairman Parks 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 Peterjohn  Aye  
Commissioner Welshimer  Aye  
Chairman Parks  Aye  

Chairman Parks said, “And I believe Connie True is here today. Like to step forward and have the oath administered?”

Mr. Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk, said, “Raise your right hand.”

“I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of office of Sedgwick County Ohio Township Clerk. So help me God.”

Ms. Connie True said, “I do.”

Mr. Arnold said, “Congratulations.”

Ms. True said, “Thank you. [Applause] Thank you very much.”

Chairman Parks said, “I believe that Connie, if you want to step up to the podium just for a little bit, I believe Commissioner Norton wants to say a few words to you, directed to you.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I just want to thank Connie for serving. I had several very good applicants, which is unusual for a township board. Usually people don’t want to run for it, but I got to interview several good people, and Connie rose to the top on that list, and I’m glad that she would like to serve. We had a great conversation discussing what the roles of township officials are and what her role will be in Ohio Township. And I’m sorry you had to limp up here today.”

Ms. True said, “Sorry.”

Commissioner Norton said, “But it’s good to have you here and we look forward to your service to the Township.”

Ms. True said, “Thank you Commissioner Norton, and I hope to do the very best I can at this.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I’m sure you will. Thanks.”
Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Next item.”

PRESENTATION

D. PRESENTATION OF CAREER DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

Ms. Sheena Lynch, Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “If I could have all of those receiving certificates please join me on this side of the room.

“We are here today to recognize these individuals for their hard work and dedication to career development. Each of these certificates has a number of required and elective classes. Obtaining these certificates is quite an accomplishment, as this can be a lengthy process, depending on the availability of classes and the participant’s schedule. I would like to thank those that support the career development process and the supervisors and managers for the support of their employees.

“The first group is recipients will be receiving the Diversity Certificate: Sean Baker, Wayne Brown, Barbara Daily, Tyler DeBarea, James Denning, Veronica Ealey-Pyles, Maria Gonzales-Brewer, Brian Gough, Shawn Laughlin, Wendy Liston, Patricia McKay, and Justin Powell and Penny Teel.

“Those receiving the Professional Development Certificate include: Wayne Brown, Barbara Daily, Tyler DeBarea, Anabell Dellinger, Veronica Ealey-Pyles, Maria Gonzales-Brewer, Brian Gough, Dorsear Ligon, Patricia McKay, Rita Rogers, Millie Sain-Taylor, Robyn Stevenson.

“And those receiving the Supervisory Management Certificate include: Wayne Brown, Barbara Daily, Maria Gonzales-Brewer, Patricia McKay, Justin Powell, and Sandra Schrader.

“Those are all our recipients. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “We do have several comments if you’ll remain standing there for a few minutes. I would like to congratulate all of you, and remind the general public out there that our employees are what keeps the County going. If it wasn’t for our employees, our number one most valuable asset, we wouldn’t be able to do our job up here. So, Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I think everyone knows that just because you got out of high school or college or whatever, you haven’t, you always continue to learn and grow in the positions you’re in. I’d like to call special attention to Maria, Wayne, Barb and Patricia, they received all three certificates today, and that is a lot of time. I’m proud of everyone that goes through these kinds of
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programs that we have because it does build our capacity in the County to make us even better at working for the public. But a special thanks to those that went through all four certificate programs. That’s a lot of time and effort. I Appreciate it. Thanks.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commission Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well, I want to thank you for your dedication to your job and your dedication to the Sedgwick County public. It’s going the extra mile. It’s taken extra time for you and extra effort, and I’m sure it wasn’t easy, so thank you very much.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commission Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “I thank you, Mr.Chair. Well I just want to also add my congratulations to each of you for your accomplishment. I’m proud of the fact that the Sedgwick County government has established a structure that encourages career development, so that this is an ongoing program, but I’m also especially proud of each one of you who have displayed the character qualities that say ‘I want to improve, want to do better in my job, and want to do better in my service to the citizens of Sedgwick County’. So, we appreciate your commitment and your dedication and the energy that you had to put forth to achieve this designation, so congratulations to each of you. That’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. I would like to once again thank you for your service and keep up the good work. Thank you. We'll let the room clear just a little bit here before we get into the next item.”

Ms. Dorsha Kirksey, Director of the Sedgwick County Housing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This item is…I guess I have to let you read it. Go ahead.”

Chairman Parks said, “It’s alright, go ahead.”

NEW BUSINESS

E. ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE SALE OF THE GNMA
Ms. Kirksey said, “This item is in regard to the Mortgage Revenue Bond Program, which is a first-time home buyer program that Sedgwick County operates statewide, in partnership with Shawnee County. We’ve been operating this program for over 25 years, and the item before you today is in regard to bonds that were issued in 1999. This is a technical adjustment to those bonds, basically redeeming that bond early because market conditions right now make it financially advantageous for us to do so. Chris Chronis in our Finance Department has reviewed and approved the transaction, along with our bond counsel, financial advisers, and our legal department. I request that you approve the Resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign. I have Chuck Boully, with Geo. K. Baum, & Co., who is our bond underwriter, here with me today and between the two of us we would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Let’s get a motion and a second before we have discussion on this.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Welshimer moved to adopt the Resolution.

Chairman Parks seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, “Now we have some discussion. Commissioner Peterjohn.”

**Commissioner Peterjohn** said, “Good morning. Part of my, as the newest Commissioner, I’m a little bit of a stickler on acronyms and initials, and in the initial discussion it mentioned GNMA securities. I think I know what GNMA is, but for the benefit of the newest Commissioner and for the audience out there, I sure would appreciate mentioning what GNMA actually stands for, please.”

Ms. Kirksey said, “I believe that’s Ginny Mae Securities, but you wanna give me the full…”

**Mr. Chuck Boully** said, “Government National Mortgage Association.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you very much.”

Ms. Kirksey said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chair. Dorsha, you indicated this is just a technical adjustment, and what this is, just redeeming some debt so that we can save interest? Is that primarily what happens in this transaction?”

Ms. Kirksey said, “Yes. We have the option to call the bonds early, and that’s what we’re doing right now, is calling those early; taking advantage of the interest rates right now. Is that correct, Chuck?”

Commissioner Unruh said, “It does not impact those folks who have mortgages?”

Ms. Kirksey said, “No. It will have no impact on any mortgage holders.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “And it doesn’t in any way reduce our ability to start this program or continue this program in the future?”

Ms. Kirksey said, “No. It does not.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “All right. Thank you.”

Ms. Kirksey said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “And that last question was going to be my question, so that was answered.”

Ms. Kirksey said, “Okay.”

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

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Since we will save some money by doing the advance, moving this process up, do you have a ballpark figure in terms of how much the County will save by taking this action?”
Ms. Kirksey said, “The total approximate proceeds of the transaction are about $1.48 million. We have a 55/45% split with Shawnee County, so Sedgwick County should get just over $800,000. Chuck, you want to come speak to that?”

Mr. Boully said, “Just so we don’t spend that money ahead of time. I just want to, those are estimates.

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Okay.”

Mr. Boully said, “And those are based upon market conditions. When the securities are actually sold, we’ll take bids on the securities, and whoever the best bidder is, we’ll sell the securities to. But that’s kind of an interest rate market determinant. So this number may fluctuate somewhat, but it shouldn’t be a huge difference.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Is this the gross amount that Sedgwick County will receive back, or this the differential between if we take this action today versus not taking this action and letting the, what was established back in ‘99 proceed in due course? Because I viewed this kind of like for the homeowners out there, this is kind of the equivalent of refinancing or paying off early their home on their home mortgage, am I correct in that assumption?”

Mr. Boully said, “Yes, to some degree. When the bonds are actually issued, loans are made, and those loans were packaged into Ginny Mae Securities, then those securities were held by the trustee bank as security for the 1999 bonds. And as those bonds pay off, the securities pay down also. Well, there’s still $6 million plus worth of Ginny Mae Securities being held at UMB Bank. So what we’re proposing to do is go ahead and liquidate those securities. The bonds are callable June 1. So this will all happen on June 1. We’ll liquidate the rest of those securities and UMB Bank also holds some other funds that are related to this particular bond issue. Take all those monies, we’ll create an escrow account, which will then call the bonds on June 1. When we create that escrow account, and pay all the costs, there’s still approximately $1.4 million leftover from prepaid mortgages, from excess money that was built into the program, whatever. But there’s that much money left over that will then be distributed to Sedgwick and Shawnee counties.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Seeing no further questions, hearing nothing further from the podium, let’s call the vote.”

VOTE
Ms. Kirksey said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Call the next item.”

F. APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR AID-TO-LOCAL GRANTS FROM THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (KDHE)

Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Sedgwick County Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The agenda item before you is the Health Department’s annual application to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for aid to local grants. This application covers many of the grants awarded to the Health Department. In state fiscal year 2009, our award from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment was $1.6 million, and that was a 5.4% increase over 2008. These funds support public health infrastructure, chronic disease risk reduction, family planning, maternal and child health, immunization action plans, and four STD/HIV related grants. This year we’ve requested $1,866,675, which is an increase of 14%. We don’t know if we’ll get that, but we have requested it.

“Grants from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and other sources account for 57% of the Health Department budget. And this group of grants accounts for almost a quarter of our grants. It’s about 12% of our total budget. So it is very significant and without this funding, many of our programs would be dramatically reduced. There is both a hard and soft, or in-kind match, required for this grant, and meeting the match will not require an increase in our local budget. In addition, the State Formula Block Grant includes a maintenance of effort stipulation, that requires that local funding for the Health Department not be decreased from calendar year 2009 to 2010. And we don’t believe there will be any problem meeting that maintenance of effort agreement.

“This contribution from KDHE is the foundational piece for many of our public health programs. It allows us to work towards improving the health status of residents in Sedgwick County by assuring that our children are immunized, our most vulnerable women get prenatal care and family planning services, we can work with people so they understand how to prevent the transmission of sexually transmittable diseases and infecting themselves, and we can improve the air quality, the clean indoor air quality, through our tobacco prevention efforts. I recommend that you approve this
application and authorize the Chair to sign any related documents. And I would be happy to answer questions.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Yes. Claudia, I wanted to ask, do we outsource in terms of with any of these grants to any of these programs that are administered by third parties, or are these all administered in-house by the Sedgwick County Health Department?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “These are all in-house programs.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you very much. Second question, if I May, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask in terms of what the state’s fiscal problems that have been discussed quite a bit, do you have any feel at all in terms of how the state may respond to this request?”

Ms. Blackburn said, “Well, I would…”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “I hate to put you on the spot by doing this, and if you want to kind of equivocate, because the legislature I know is going to really hold off making a lot of hard decisions until they get the revised revenue estimates next month.”

Ms. Blackburn said, “We’re calling every day to find out the latest and right now, I really don’t have much information to share other than I think what everybody knows, that there may be a 10% reduction in the budget. We don’t know what cost centers that will hit. We don’t know what programs will be affected. A lot of the money that comes to us from the state is federal pass-through dollars, so it really depends on that, on how much money they get from the feds.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Any other questions of Miss Blackburn? Seeing none, do I have a motion?”

MOTION
Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the grant application.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.
There was no discussion on the motion, the vote was called.

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh  Aye  
Commissioner Norton  Aye  
Commissioner Peterjohn  Aye  
Commissioner Welshimer  Aye  
Chairman Parks  Aye

Ms. Blackburn said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Next item.”

**G. APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT FOR OPERATION AND FINANCE OF THE EXPLOITED AND MISSING CHILDREN’S UNIT BETWEEN SEDGWICK COUNTY AND THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES**

Mr. Marty Hughes, Revenue Manager, Accounting Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This morning we have for your consideration a contract with the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, whereby SRS will fund one third of the operations and support costs of the Exploited and Missing Children’s Unit for 2009. SRS is historically provided one third of the cost share of materials, supplies, operating expenses, and clerical support for the Exploited and Missing Children’s Unit. With the City of Wichita Police Department providing one third of the costs, the entire EMCU budget is included in the Sheriff's Office budget within the County general fund, which means that one third of the unreimbursed cost is funded through the County Sheriff’s budget. In 2009, EMCU budget is $137,098. In this contract is not to exceed one third of that amount, or $45,699. The contract has been approved as to form by the Assistant County Counselor and I recommend your approval of the contract. I’d be glad to answer any questions you might have.”

Chairman Parks said, “I do have some questions and comments on this, that EMCU is Exploited and Missing Children’s Unit?”

Mr. Hughes said, “That’s correct.”
Chairman Parks said, “It’s a very important part of our County system, and protecting children. Having said that, in looking through some of the items in the backup material that we have today for us, we see that a lot of these agreements were made like in 1994. We were under the, some of the people have changed since then. Chief Rick Stone was at the City of Wichita and Sheriff Mike Hill was at the Sedgwick County. So I think before we get ready to renew this item again that I would certainly be more than happy to serve on any kind of a group to review those documents and maybe update those a little bit.

“One of the things that I know that a lot of the outlying areas are using the services, and of course the County covers all the small towns in the County also, but the fact is that we learn through the CJCC (Criminal Justice Coordinating Council) and other avenues that come up that the big user is City of Wichita, and this is a coordinated effort, but I think maybe it bears a looking at before we renew it again.”

Mr. Hughes said, “If I May.”

Chairman Parks said, “Go ahead.”

Mr. Hughes said, “After I had gotten all the information together for this year’s contract, the Operations Manager over at Wichita area SRS provided me with an updated memorandum of understanding from 2001 or 2002 that I failed to get in the backup on this one. So if I could, I could forward that information to you and replace it in the backup for this one so that we’re up-to-date on this year’s contract.”

Chairman Parks said, “Well, let me review that and I may have a difference of opinion on that, then.”

Mr. Hughes said, “Yeah.”

Chairman Parks said, “We do have the CJCC now and a lot of those stakeholders, and we might bring that up at that meeting also and just discuss that a little bit. Make sure that this very important part of taking care of these kids that need that, that there’s no slipping through the cracks with this.

Mr. Hughes said, “Sure.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Any other comments?”

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Chairman Parks moved to approve the Contract.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh       Aye
Commissioner Norton       Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn    Aye
Commissioner Welshimer    Aye
Chairman Parks            Aye

Mr. Hughes said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you, Marty. Next item.”

H. PUBLIC WORKS

1. APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS (ASCE) FOR THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADOPT A HIGHWAY PROGRAM ON GREENWICH ROAD BETWEEN 29TH & 45TH STREETS NORTH (DISTRICT 1).

Mr. David Spears, Director of Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Item H-1 is an agreement with the American Society of Civil Engineers, that’s ASCE, for the Sedgwick County Adopt a Highway Program. They will be responsible for picking up litter along Greenwich Road between 29th and 45th Streets North. I recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Mr. Chairman, this is in my district and I am grateful that someone is adopting the highway in District 1, so I will move that we approve the agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the Agreement.

Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the motion.
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There was no discussion on the motion, the vote was called.

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh   Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn  Aye
Commissioner Welshimer  Aye
Chairman Parks   Aye

Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

2. **RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND CLASSIFYING CERTAIN STREETS TO THE TOWNSHIP SYSTEM (DISTRICT 1).**

Mr. Spears said, “Standard procedure that after a road is constructed within a platted residential subdivision, in accordance with County standards, that road is then assigned to the township road system. In this particular case, “Stone Post” and “Foggy Creek Circle” located in the subdivision of Stone Post Farms, Phase 2 addition, will become the responsibility of Payne Township. The Payne Township Board was informed that this Resolution would be on the County Commission agenda by letter, dated February 20th. I recommend that you adopt the Resolution.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh   Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn  Aye
Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”


Mr. Spears said, “Item H-3 is a Force Account Agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation to reimburse Sedgwick County for engineering inspection services performed during construction of the road-widening project on 199th Street West between 21st Street North and U.S. 54. This project is designated as R-267 in the Capital Improvement Program, and will have 80% reimbursement. The maximum account of federal funds the County can receive is $90,883.84. Recommend that you approve the Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Peterjohn moved to approve the Agreement.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

- Commissioner Unruh  Aye
- Commissioner Norton  Aye
- Commissioner Peterjohn  Aye
- Commissioner Welshimer  Aye
- Chairman Parks  Aye

Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

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Mr. Spears said, “In Item H-4, we request your approval of an agreement with KDOT and the City of Goddard for construction of our project on 199th Street West between 21st Street North and U.S. 54, mentioned in the previous item. This is a standard agreement with KDOT that will allow use of federal funds for construction of the project. Goddard is required to sign the agreement because some of the construction signage will actually be located within their corporate limits. I recommend you approve the Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Chairman Parks said, “This is merely a cleanup action.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Mr. Chairman, since this is in the 3rd District I’d like to make that motion.”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Peterjohn moved to approve the Agreement.

Chairman Parks seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh    Aye
Commissioner Norton    Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn Aye
Commissioner Welshimer Aye
Chairman Parks         Aye

Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

5. **APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, SEDGWICK COUNTY AND THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS REGARDING THE INSTALLATION OF CROSSING SIGNALS AT WOODLAWN AND THE**
Mr. Spears said, “Item H-5 is a three-party agreement between the Union Pacific Railroad Company, Sedgwick County, and the Secretary of Transportation for the state of Kansas regarding the construction and maintenance of highway crossing signals at a grade crossing on Woodlawn and the UPRR tracks between 69th and 77th Streets North. The project will consist of flashing lights, straight post signals and gates. Sedgwick County will be responsible for the continued maintenance of the advanced warning signs and pavement markings. The railroad crossings in the state are prioritized by KDOT and selected accordingly. The total cost of the project is $181,038 and will be 100% federally funded. I recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the agreement.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, “I do have some further discussion on this. This is not concerning any closure of any other intersection in this corridor, is it?”

Mr. Spears said, “No, sir.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Even though it’s not my district, on a clear day you can see it from my district and I have had some questions about a closure near Furley, so we’ll deal with that at a later time.”

Mr. Spears said, “That is a separate issue.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Thank you.”

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh         Aye
Commissioner Norton         Aye
Mr. Spears said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS’ REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 12, 2009

Ms. Iris Baker, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The meeting of March the 12th results in 15 items for consideration today. First Item:


Recommendation is the low bid from Shilling Construction Company Inc., in the amount of $1,439,902.22.

2. ROAD IMPROVEMENTS for PRAIRIE BREEZE ESTATES – PUBLIC WORKS FUNDING – PRAIRIE BREEZE – LINDEN ST. (SA)

Recommendation is to accept the low bid Alternate 1 – Linden Street from Lafarge North America Inc. in the amount of $146,385.80.

3. RESTORE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS at the KANSAS AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM – FACILITIES DEPARTMENT FUNDING – RESTORE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS - KSAAM

Recommendation is the low proposal from Hoefer Stained Glass in the amount of $97,000.

4. DESKTOP COMPUTERS – COMCARE FUNDING – COMCARE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (GRANT)

Recommendation is the low quote from Dell in the amount of $49,464.30
5. CISCO EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE – DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS
   FUNDING – NETWORKING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

   Recommendation is the low responsive bid from Alexander Open Systems in the amount of $47,122.07.

6. IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS SERVER – DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS/COMCARE
   FUNDING - COMCARE

   Recommendation is accept the proposal from SKT and establish an hourly rate of $150, not to exceed expense of $43,500 for the duration of project.

7. VARIOUS PAPER STOCK – ALL DEPARTMENTS
   FUNDING - PRINTING

   Recommendation is to accept the low responsive bid from Southwest Paper, option 1, and establish contract pricing through December 31st, 2009, with two one-year options to renew.

8. CHANGE ORDER #1, POINT-TO-POINT NETWORK CONNECTION – DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS/DRUG COURT
   FUNDING – DRUG COURT

   Recommendation is to accept the change order for monthly fee of $1,750 and a one-time installation fee of $500.

9. CUSTODIAL SERVICES – HEALTH DEPARTMENT
   FUNDING – HEALTH DEPARTMENT

   Recommendation is to accept the low bid from K&B Cleaning and establish contract pricing for one year with three one-year options to renew.

10. MODULAR FURNITURE – FACILITIES DEPARTMENT
    FUNDING – CORRECTIONS EQUIPMENT RES-DRUG COURT

    Recommendation is accept the quote from John Marshall in the amount of $120,258.92.

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11. COMPACT LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPH – FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER  
FUNDING – FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER

Recommendation is to accept the low bid meeting specifications from Quantum Analytics in the amount of $28,486.80.

12. PASSENGER VANS – FLEET MANAGEMENT  
FUNDING – FLEET MANAGEMENT

Recommendation is to accept the low bid meeting specifications from Rusty Eck Ford in the amount of $44,156.

13. PASSENGER EXTENDED WHEEL BASE FULL SIZE VANS –  
FLEET MANAGEMENT  
FUNDING – FLEET MANAGEMENT

Recommendation is to accept low bid meeting specifications from Don Hattan Chevrolet in the amount of $134,675.

14. LAWN/GROUNDS KEEPING SERVICES – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
FUNDING – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Recommendation is to accept the low bid from Choice Landscaping and Lawn Care and establish contract pricing for one year with two one-year options to renew.

15. DIESEL FUEL ADDITIVE – FLEET MANAGEMENT  
FUNDING – FLEET MANAGEMENT

Recommendation is to accept the low bid from NCH Corporation in the amount of $43.96 per gallon, and establish contract pricing for two years. Be happy to answer any questions, and I recommend approval of these items.”

Chairman Parks said, “Are there any questions of the Bid Board?”

MOTION

Chairman Parks moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.
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Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh    Aye
Commissioner Norton    Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn Aye
Commissioner Welshimer Aye
Chairman Parks         Aye

Chairman Parks said, “I’d like to yield the floor to Bid Board member, at this time, David Spears.”

Mr. Spears said, “Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, David Spears, Director of Public Works. You may want to take a second to look at Item 2 and have a slight bit of discussion on that. This is the second time that we have bid this project. This is a special assessment project. Mr. Weber is here, he’s familiar with all the details of it. But you’ll notice that we recommended acceptance of Linden Street, it came in under the engineer’s estimate. MacArthur Road, which is the other half a mile, last year we cold mixed a half a mile and this development was going to hot mix this half a mile.

“We bid it twice, both times it’s come in over the engineer’s estimate, and what’s allowed on the petition, so the discussion I want to have is, we do need to pave that other half a mile, and what our recommendation would be is to go ahead and cold mix that with our own forces this summer. We believe we have enough materials. We usually do one mile per district, five miles, and this year we do five and a half-miles, it’d be a half a mile there. So I did want to bring that up because we have been attempting to get this done and have been unable to.”

Chairman Parks said, “Can you see us individually during the week and kind of bring us up to date on that and give us some more information?”

Mr. Spears said, “Sure.”

Chairman Parks said, “Maybe we can have that on the next week agenda. Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well the unpaved area of that road, it’s just been a real source of frustration to the whole community down there. So, you know, I agree, we need to go ahead and at

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least fix that road so that it’s not, it’s in a better condition for them to be able to travel on it. If we can’t do it the way it was planned in the first place, then we need to come up with the next best.”

Mr. Spears said, “Well, our main concern is safety of the public…”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Yes.”

Mr. Spears said, “…and we really don’t like to have a half a mile of paved road and then a half a mile of gravel road…”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “No.”

Mr. Spears said, “…for somebody to be traveling at a high speed and go from paved to gravel and then they could go out of control. So we think something ought to be done.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “When will you start this project?”

Mr. Spears said, “Well, we would do it this summer if that’s the will of the Commission.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Okay. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Mr. Euson, since we’ve made this motion to accept the bid board, is there any problems with going ahead with this, with the project as it stands now, with the information we have?”

Mr. Euson said, “I don’t think so. I think Dave's comments were for informational purposes only…”

Mr. Spears said, “Yes.”

Mr. Euson said, “If I understood him correctly.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Thank you. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “How did we get to a half-mile in the first place, the paved and the unpaved?”

Mr. Spears said, “I’ll have Mr. Weber respond to that.”
Mr. Jim Weber, Deputy Director of Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The short answer is that this project, this plat, was coming through right at the time when we were implementing the Urban Fringe Development Policy and changes in the Subdivision Regulations. This one came in really a little bit before, but we were able to work with them and get them to submit a petition to pave, the current policy would have you pave that half-mile as a cost to the subdivision. This one was a little before the policy was in place, so we worked it so that we would split the cost of that half-mile for this subdivision.

“That’s been three or four years back. And so, at that time, we thought we’d hot mix the east half-mile because we didn’t want to have the asphalt stop in the middle of the mile. We put the cold mix down last year for the west half-mile. But as Dave has said, this is the second time we’ve bid it and cost of asphalt has just outstripped the inflation factor that’s included in the petitions and we honestly just can’t get there at this point. So it was if, if this plat came in today, that policy would handle this a little bit differently by charging some fees and doing some other things but it was really something we tried to do, kind of on the cutting edge, and it hasn’t worked out so well for us, but…”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay. And it’s the second half-mile is cold mixed as it stands?

Mr. Weber said, “That was done last summer.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay. And all this would be doing is rejuvenating that cold mix or?”

Mr. Weber said, “No, this would be, what we have now is the west half-mile is cold mix and the east half-mile is gravel that we’ve been maintaining since last summer.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Oh, okay.”

Mr. Weber said, “And we would have put down the hot mix if the bids would have come in better and we’d have the whole mile paved. So what Dave is suggesting now is that we need to do something and he suggests that we come back with our forces and material and do the cold mix on the east half-mile this summer and the get whole thing finished up. We’ll do the pavement as requested on Linden, the cul-de-sac off to the north of it. And there’ll be a special assessment in that subdivision for that. And then we’d have this all paved and finished up.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Does the traffic warrant the hot mix asphalt as it stands now or is it, is cold mix going to be appropriate?”

Mr. Weber said, “Well, all cold mix will tell you is five to seven years, sometimes it does better, sometimes not as well. MacArthur, 39th Street is not paved to the east of Webb road. We just took
it over so I don’t know if we even counted it, but there’s quite a bit of development on the north and south side of the road. I mean, it’s probably warranted in the sense that there are neighborhoods out there that need the service, but I don’t know that it’s a real high count, so cold mix may be a good solution for some period of time.

Commissioner Norton said, “Well certainly, it’s cost effective. We found that out, so I will be supportive of whatever we do. But it seems like cold mix would be a good alternative to get a hard road bid down to complete the mile and then wait and see if at some point hot mix is going to be more cost efficient and maybe even more appropriate based on the traffic warrants.”

Mr. Weber said, “Okay. That’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Parks said, “Did that clear up the questions of the Commission?”

Commissioner Unruh said, “I just have this one.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “I just, thank you Mr. Chairman, clarification though, but the item that we just approved on bid board is for Linden Street and the discussion we’ve just been having is about MacArthur road, is that…”

Mr. Weber said, “Right. What we have done, is the first time we bid everything together. And as a total, the package came in over the estimates and over the authorized amount. This time, to kind of give it a better shot, we actually bid three alternates. One was just for Linden, the cul-de-sac, which is on the one petition. The second piece was for MacArthur, which is on a second petition and we had the option for them to bid both of them together and with the idea of looking at the three things.

“And I think we had this discussion with the neighborhood a year ago when they were in. And just the way it’s turned out, the petition amount, with the inflation factor for Linden, is fine. That project is good to go. And those, that developer still wants to see it happen. But when we separate out, or look at the combined cost of MacArthur, we are significantly above the authorized amount…”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay.”

Mr. Weber said, “…in the petition. Even with the inflation factor and everything we could possibly do to it.
Commissioner Unruh said, “All right. Thank you. Well that’s helpful to me.”
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Chairman Parks said, “My question of Legal is just making sure that we didn’t have some kind of a motion that affected some kind of a benefit district, and so, and that is not the case here, so thank you.”

Mr. Weber said, “And I think the reason Dave is bringing it up, the real reason is that we need to be able to have conversations with the neighborhood out there about what it is we are going to do. And I think from the staff point of view, what we are not going to do is go out and pave MacArthur and create a special assessment for them. And there are people out there that need to know that.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Thank you.”

Mr. Weber said, “Thank you, Commissioners.”

Chairman Parks said, “Mr. Manager, the Consent Agenda is before us.”

CONSENT AGENDA

J. CONSENT AGENDA


2. ZON2007-67 – Extension of time to complete platting requirements for the zone change from SF-20 Single-Family Residential to LC Limited Commercial; generally located on the southwest corner of 21st Street North and 159th Street East. District 1.

3. Establish Additional Budget Authority in the SCA fund.

4. Staffing table addition of position 20005652 and position 20005653 to the District Attorney staffing table as a result of the receipt of a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) – Edward Byrne Discretionary Program Grant in the amount of $447,174 that will be used to enhance the existing records management
system in the office of the District Attorney. On June 11, 2008 the BoCC approved the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) – Edward Byrne Discretionary Program Grant application and establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

5. 2009 Wichita Open Sponsorship.

6. One (1) Easement for Right of Way for Sedgwick County Project 600-11-2775; Bridge replacement at 23700 West 77th Street North. CIP# B-368. District 3.

7. One (1) Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Bridge Maintenance Project B-634-10-2523; 63rd Street South between 247th & 263rd Streets West. District 3.


9. Two (2) Easements for Right of Way for Sedgwick County Project 634-27; widening to 4-lanes on 63rd Street South from Hydraulic to Broadway. CIP# R-302. District 2.


14. Plat – USD 262 Addition

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
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Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, “Just a little bit of discussion. The number three in our backup might better read ‘establish reallocation budget authority’ instead of ‘additional budget authority’ for that item. I think that we realized that. Are there any other further discussion, Mr. Manager about any items on there?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “No, sir.”

Chairman Parks said, “Any questions from the Commission?”

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh   Aye
Commissioner Norton   Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn   Aye
Commissioner Welshimer   Aye
Chairman Parks   Aye

K. OTHER

Chairman Parks said, “I was going to introduce L’Oreal from the African American Museum, but the item went past in the Bid Board and I guess she left, but we do have a new director at the African American Museum. That’s part of my ‘other’, I guess, that I was going to bring up. Also, the oldest one-room church still having services west of the Mississippi is having a function this Saturday and I thought I would just bring that up. A little historical event, as well as fundraiser for the spring out at Bentley. I know it’s not in my district, but I have a lot of friends out there. So, from 5 to 7 on Saturday. If you haven’t visited there recently, it’s quite a historic little church there. So, having said that, I will open it to other comments for the other Commissioners. Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well, last week, March the 11th, the Wichita Downtown Development Corporation invited a Yale professor by the name of Alex Garvin here to look over our downtown Wichita and give us some ideas on how to move forward with downtown development. Professor Garvin is also an expert in urban planning. It was quite interesting. We had a breakfast with Professor Garvin, and then in the evening there was a meeting where Mr. Garvin spoke to us and gave us some of his ideas on downtown Wichita, 450 people attended at the
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Scottish Rite Temple, so it was a big success for the Downtown Development Corporation. And it was considered their annual meeting and they plan to do that, something similar to that again next year.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you for that. And I’m going to be reporting next week a little bit on some of the things that came up at NACO that’s not going to be reported on today, but I believe Commissioner Norton has some items that he wants to bring up on that also. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, we were, several of us were at the National Legislative Conference in Washington for the National Association of Counties, which is NACO. We went to a lot of different kinds of meetings. I reported before I even left that I’d be working on health, my Health Steering Committee.

“I made it to several sub-committees, one on health disparities, one on health reform, one on long-term care, one on indigent care and the uninsured and several others, so I spent probably an inordinate amount of my time working on healthcare issues. But I think that’s appropriate because I moved forward their health access project here. I work hard on the Board of Health, so that’s kind of where my interest lies, but I did make it to a lot of those different sub-committees and committee meetings and I’ve got a lot of notes and a lot of reading material that I haven’t digested yet.

“If people do want to know more about those issues, I’ve already written my ‘A Word in Edgewise,’ that will be on my website, and it talks about many of those issues and I’ll continue to talk about them over the next several weeks, as to more of the details of what I learned. A lot of the talks talked about how many people in the economy are going to drop into the uninsured ranks and what the stimulus money may do to offset some of that. Pretty complicated as to how we’ll use the stimulus money for health access and finding a way to help people that have dropped out of an insurance program and doesn’t have a Cobra plan or whatever. That’s going to be interesting.

“I also made it to some meetings on housing and veteran’s affairs and those were all tied together, actually, with healthcare. So it all worked out pretty well. Overall, a really good meeting. I was pleased that it had snowed three days before and looked like it was going to be miserable there, but the weather turned out pretty nice for us while we were there. Great meeting, a lot of information. We heard from some several of the new secretaries, Secretary Napolitano and several others at our major sessions. And then we did get to go up to the hill. We met with Congressmen
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Moran, Tiahrt, Jenkins and Dennis Moore and we also got to meet with Senator Brownback. I think it was worthwhile.

“The three issues we talked about the most that I was concerned with was health reform, we did get to visit a little bit about that. We talked about levy certification, which is very important to our community and then we talked about technical training, aviation training and the aviation industry and how important that was going to be as we move forward. So I think we got our issues on the table. I think we had a good ear from our congressional delegation, and I think we’ll hear some positive things coming from them because I think they understood our conditions here on the ground and I was really encouraged, particularly about levy certification that they would get involved, contact FEMA and that maybe we could work through Secretary Napolitano to give us a little more time on that very important issue. So, good session, a lot of information and hopefully we’ll get it digested and what we learned will make a difference in Sedgwick County. That’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Parks said, “Then I might just add at this time, one of the surprises that I had up there was that every seminar, every meeting that we went to where they discussed whether it was from agricultural to zoos, literally A to Z, that everything tied back to the stimulus package. There’s a lot of tie-in with the stimulus package. Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chair. I won’t rehash the report that Commissioner Norton gave about our trip to Washington, D.C. I think he gave a good recap except to say that my involvement was primarily in the areas of justice and public safety. I attended the subcommittees that are relative to that, especially with focus on juvenile and adult recidivism and corrections, juvenile justice. They are a lot of County Commissioners and professional staff who are wrestling with the problems of our population that gets involved in a criminal justice system and what we face in Sedgwick County is typical, I think, around the country. The difference is, I believe, that through our corrections and public safety efforts and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, we are really implementing a lot of the suggestions and ideas that are across the country and so I would want our citizens to know that we’re kind of on the leading edge of how we deal with our incarcerated populations, corrections issues, and re-entry issues.

“So as Commissioner Norton said, it was a good productive time in Washington, D.C. One meeting that Commissioner Norton and I attended, that I didn’t mention, was the National Association of Mental Health Directors had a couple of sessions with congressional folks and one particular meeting, Congressman Patrick Kennedy spoke to us and he has a real passion about mental health issues, which mental health in the United States is some describe it as being an epidemic problem because so many folks are plagued with that illness issue. But a lot of folks are involved who are trying to deal with it in their communities and Sedgwick County is no different. I’m proud of the effort that we have here in our county.
“Switching from that, a couple of other items we want to talk about. One is the Sedgwick County Zoo. I was out there last evening and as we were in our board meeting, the report was made that there were a little over 10,000 folks in attendance at the Sedgwick County Zoo yesterday in one day. Huge, huge day, especially for March. There’s some wait at the entry trying to get in, trying to process that many people, but I just want to encourage our citizens that great weather and a great zoo and you could have 15 or 20 minute wait getting through the door, but be patient. The zoo is worth it.

“We’re just really pleased with the turnout. It won’t be too long, another 60 days, and we’ll get to see those tigers that we’ve been talking about. The exhibit is going to be just terrific. You’re going to be able to get pretty close to those tigers and they’re an active, playful group, at least the two that I saw last night, a couple of female lions. They’re nearly 300 pounds and they kind of like to roll around and run into one another and a fascinating animal. So our citizens are going to really enjoy that exhibit when it is open. I want to make a couple other comments, if I might, about what we’re doing here in terms of business. Our budget process has started and the Manager is giving a budget targets to all our departments and so I just want our citizens to know that we are aware of the financial situation and all of our departments have very slim budget targets. They’re going to be asked to hold a line without increases and we’re beginning that process and we’ll get continual information on how we’re making progress. But we’re working on it, so we can do the best job of financial responsibility and accountability.

“It’s been mentioned about the stimulus packages and I know the managers had all our department heads to do some preliminary work on seeing how they might avail themselves of some of that stimulus money. There seems to be, as we learned at the National Association of Counties, a somewhat disorganized, chaotic approach to how this is all going to be administered. I mean everybody talks about it, but no one seems to know quite what’s going on. So I think what we’re doing here is the best approach and that’s to have each one of our department heads specifically look at what’s available and how they might use it and how we might apply it. Because there doesn’t seem to be, at this point anyway, any overarching organization to it, we are on it.

“And last thing I would want to mention is that the 143rd Street bridge in District 1 is under way and I’ve seen some pictures of the bridge in its current condition and citizens in east Wichita are going to be delighted to the increased capacity of that bridge and the safety factor because it was an unsafe bridge. So I’m happy that we’re on it. The folks have to be patient until about Christmastime, I think, before that bridge is ready, but it’s under way. And with that happy note, Mr. Chairman, that’s all I have.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Thank you. I’m going to take the order of requests for speaking out of turn a little bit because I think Commissioner Norton wants to speak a little bit more on NACO.”

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Commissioner Norton said, “Well, Commissioner Unruh reminded me of a couple of things that I think are important to report on. If you talk about stimulus money and how it’s going to be used, we’ve already gotten some announcements and some flow-through for our federally-qualified health centers here locally.

“Center for Health and Wellness, GraceMed, Hunter Health have all gotten stimulus monies moved towards them and it’s going to bring in a couple million dollars, I think, to our community to build health capacity in our community and I think that’s exciting. GraceMed just got their federal qualifications earlier last year and then the Center for Health and Wellness just got theirs, and then that qualified them for some stimulus money, so I think that’s good news. I think there’s a lot of other areas where we don’t know so much, but I thought that was good news.

“And final thing, you talked about mental health and NACO had lobbied for, and was just passed recently, the Mental Health Parity Act. That talks about putting mental health parity with medical health in the nation, which means there will be more emphasis and reimbursement for mental health kinds of issues and it’s always kind of been secondary to medical health in that area. So I’m pretty excited that mental health is taken on as much of a profound issue in our nation as medical help. That came out of Patrick Kennedy's hard work in the Congress. Just an add-on to what Commissioner Unruh had to say. That’s all I had Mr. Chairman. Thanks.”

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

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had several items, some of which were touched on in the earlier comments, because last week I did make a trip up to Topeka and did get a chance to visit with a number of legislators on one day, as well as attending the breakfast that Commissioner Welshimer mentioned earlier. I think there was some important comments from Professor Garvin that he stated during his visit that I think will be very helpful for the community in terms of examining our strengths and weaknesses as a community, in the city of Wichita and in particular, in Sedgwick County in general.

“I wanted to toss out, kind of a note, and Commissioner Unruh touched about the fact that the crowd and the number of folks going out to the zoo. My calendar, spring is going to be arriving here later this week and we had a wonderful spring day yesterday, even though it was technically still a little bit of winter. But I would mention to the chronologically gifted out there, like myself, that it’s as big a risk in the springtime and whether you’re going outdoors to enjoy yourself at the Sedgwick County Park, at the Sedgwick County Zoo, you go down to Exploration Place to see their new exhibits or get out and do anything else in terms of spring weather, if you’re doing some things you haven’t been doing in the past, ease into it a little bit. It’s a little, this is kind of a difference, in the winter we alert you when the first snowfall occurs to remember your winter driving skills. Well in terms of your outdoor activities in the spring, to do the same.
“And I’d also like to touch upon the budget side. This is my first go-through on the budget issue, but this year we’ve got particular challenges because of the situation we find ourselves in economically and the fact that both the state and the federal government will be operating a little bit differently and we’ve got federal money coming through the state that many may end up coming through to local level too. This is creating more uncertainty than I think we’ve had in the past, but I really appreciate the comments from the citizens out there, in terms of what the County is doing and how we’re doing it, and I wanted to kind of touch base because, on the budget side of the issues, because that process is under way and I think it’s very important for every citizen in our county. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Seeing no further action, just make sure that you let your representatives in this, and whether it be from City Council to U.S. Senate, make sure you let them know if you have an item that you feel strongly about or have an opinion about. Do contact them. We’re not mind readers and we’re trying to represent the citizens out there. So please call us and let us know how we're doing or if you have an item that you want to bend our ear on or let us know about, please call us and contact us. Seeing no further action, this meeting is adjourned.”

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.
Regular Meeting, March 18th, 2009

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TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

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KARL PETERJOHN, Commissioner
Third District

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GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

_________________________
Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_________________________, 2009