

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

March 4, 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 4, 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, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. John Crosby, Emergency Management Service; Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Director of Human Services; Ms. Marilyn Cook, ComCare; Mr. Brad Hoch, Lieutenant, Sheriff Department; Mr. Terry Parham, Captain, Sheriff Department; Mr. Kevin Myles, Fleet Management Director; Mr. Richard Vogt, Chief Information Officer; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Linda Leggett, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Joe Pajor, American Red Cross
Mr. Neil Guthrie, Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board
Ms. Cathy Feemster, Sedgwick County Physical and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board
Mr. Shawn Farney, Wichita/Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission

INVOCATION

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES Regular Meeting February 4, 2009.

Chairman Parks said, "You have all had a chance to read the Minutes, and what is the will of the Board?"

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 4, 2009.

Commissioner Norton 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, "Clerk, call the next item."

PROCLAMATIONS

A. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 2009 AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH.

Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I will read this in for the record."

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, for more than a century, the American Red Cross has been at the forefront of helping America prevent, prepare for and respond to large and small disasters; and

WHEREAS, for more than 90 years, the Red Cross in Sedgwick County has relied on the everyday heroes who donate time, blood or money; heroes who help coordinate blood drives; heroes who drive elderly citizens to and from the doctor; heroes who rush to the scene of a fire to help families begin recovery; heroes who teach lifesaving CPR and first aid classes; heroes who keep military families connected; and

WHEREAS, The Central Plains Blood Region in Wichita provides about 500 units of blood each

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

day to more than 100 hospitals across Kansas and Northern Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the Midway-Kansas Chapter and Central Plains Blood Region and their nearly 3,000 volunteers and donors provide valuable tools and education to individuals, families, Workplaces and schools making us all stronger and more resilient.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Kelly Parks, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 2009 as

“AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH”

in Sedgwick County and encourage all citizens to continue to give your time, blood and money to make a difference in the humanitarian fabric of the community. We help each other when we help the Red Cross.

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

Chairman Parks said, “By the way, I did just last week did my duty and gave blood. They said we’ll see you in 56 days. They do have a big need, there is a lull going on. So if you haven’t given for a while, consider going over and giving. It was painless, it was a real good experience for me and took about 45 minutes out of your day. A lot of employers will let the employee go do that if they are going for that reason.”

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Ms. Zukovich said, “Yes, Mr. Chairman. We have Mr. Pajor here this morning, Mr. Joe Pajor. He serves on both the Blood side board and also the American Red Cross side board as well, so we have asked him to accept this Proclamation, also maybe tell us a little bit more about that.”

Chairman Parks said, “Please do.”

Mr. Joe Pajor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you very much for your recognition of American Red Cross Month. As you know I have a day job across the street. One of my true passions in volunteerism is the American Red Cross. I am a part of that 97% of the Red Cross Work Force that is made up of volunteers. Red Cross is an organization where you commit your time, your financial resources and your blood, you can help people every day in our community, across the country and around the world. In the last year the Red Cross here in Sedgwick County helped over 98,000 individuals in Sedgwick County and the surrounding area. That’s before we get to the blood products and the blood that was donated in addition to that. It is a great organization. We thank you for your recognition, and we hope to encourage everyone to support the Red Cross and Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for your PSA. I think we’ll roll that off.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I think people think of the Red Cross obviously for blood donations, but they serve the community in so many other ways. You know, if people have a fire that destroys their home, they come in and help with getting people back on their feet, finding them clothing and shelter. Obviously in times of disaster, like tornadoes and other events, they are ‘Johnny on the Spot’ to help out with that, and we forget that most of that organization is put together by volunteers. They are not paid staff. They pull together and help their community every day, with things like delivering meals and blood drives and disaster relief. So thanks Joe, for coming and accepting that in recognition of all the folks connected to the Red Cross, not only in our community, but internationally. It was interesting when we went through the tornado in Haysville, the person that was the lead agent for the Red Cross in Haysville was from Anchorage, Alaska. He had packed his bags and headed this way because he was the lead person for the Red Cross and came from Anchorage, Alaska. So it is an international organization that really does good for a lot of people. Thanks.”

Chairman Parks Said, “Certainly as we run into these more difficult economic times, volunteerism and organizations such as the Red Cross are going to be vitally important. Thank you, Joe. Next item.”

B. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 9-13, 2009 AS SEVERE WEATHER

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

AWARENESS WEEK.

Ms. Zukovich said, "I will read this in for the record."

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, it is estimated that at any given moment nearly 2,000 thunderstorms are in progress over the earth's surface; and

WHEREAS, tornadoes occur in many parts of the world and in all 50 States, but no area is more favorable to their formation than the Continental Plains of the United States, and no season is free of tornadoes; and

WHEREAS, local government has the responsibility to inform the public and promote awareness in an effort to reduce the loss of life, property and personal injury; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service and the Kansas Division of Emergency Management will hold a statewide tornado safety drill Tuesday, March 10th, 2009, designed to test the emergency warning system throughout Kansas; and

WHEREAS, the Sedgwick County Department of Emergency Management will participate in this drill to enhance the public's awareness in this vital area of personal safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Kelly Parks, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, does hereby proclaim March 9th through the 13th, 2009, as

"SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK"

in Sedgwick County, and urges all residents to participate in the scheduled activities.

Ms. Zukovich said, "Commissioners, We have John Crosby who is from our Sedgwick County Emergency Management here to accept the proclamation.

MOTION

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Proclamation.

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

Chairman Parks said, “And thank you, and we do have a presentation, I believe, that will be shown after the Commission Meeting today with myself and Randy Duncan on Channel 8, provided we don’t go too long here. We are going to have somebody from Emergency Preparedness give us some update on that.”

Mr. John Crosby said, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you for your time and notifying the public of the importance of Severe Weather Awareness Week. As was mentioned in the proclamation, Tuesday March 10th will be the statewide tornado drill. In Sedgwick County we will sound the sirens for part of that exercise. As we go into the season of severe weather, I think we are all reminded of the May 3rd, 1999, tornado in Haysville that will have its 10th Anniversary this year, and the importance of taking steps to protect yourself.

“I think we can all remember the foreman at the Norland Plastics when he heard the warning and got his folks to shelter, took that warning seriously, got those folks in someplace where they could be safe, while the building was destroyed around them. So we know the importance of taking shelter and taking the steps to do the right thing. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “We certainly all remember those dates, and the one that sticks in my mind, June 19th, 1990, that I was involved in also. So some of those dates will live on and to be prepared in the future, we just need to be aware of our surroundings, and this is that time of year, so Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, it was ten years ago, about this exact time that we pulled out our emergency plan in Haysville and dusted it off, reviewed it and had a workshop on that because we had been hit by the tornado that was called the Andover tornado some years before

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

that, so preparedness is very important. Not that that got us through the hard days of the tornado, but it certainly prepared us with a mindset to know what to do later. So severe weather is upon us. I often start off talks that I give on preparedness with, if you think it's not going to happen to you, think again. Because we are very apt to have bad weather in this area, and it just comes and goes, you don't know the year or the time, but it is going to happen and we all need to be prepared for that. So John, we continue to admire the work that Emergency Management does to continue to make sure the community is prepared and thinking about these kind of incidents that are going to happen somewhere in the State of Kansas, and we hope not in our jurisdiction or any other jurisdiction, but it is that time of year. Thank you, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Parks said, "And I would like to thank you, Commissioner Norton, for going around the region and in fact the Nation and giving your presentation. I know I've been through several of your classes myself as a first responder, and I will tell you those things happen for a reason, they are just a good thing to practice and be ready for. Commissioner Welshimer."

Commissioner Welshimer, "Well last year in my district we had one of the sirens down and we worked with it for several weeks, we finally got it up and running, and not all the sirens in Sedgwick County are county sirens. Some belong to the cities."

Mr. Crosby said, "Correct."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "But my concern, of course is county sirens, are they all up and running now?"

Mr. Crosby said, "Actually, ma'am, they are not. We have six that are currently disabled at the present time. The vendor is working to repair those. We're waiting on some parts on some, and....."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Parts seems to be the biggest problem."

Mr. Crosby said, "Some of them are quite old, and it takes some time to get some of those parts in, or have some of those parts rebuilt."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay. I guess we need to address that."

Chairman Parks said, "I think when I talked with Director Duncan last week, we realize that the siren system is aging and the technology is going to pass us by if we don't react and make sure that those items are in the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) and the other things in the budget, and I am not going to get into the verbiage about outdoor sirens because at the end of

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

the meeting like I say, this will show and then you can access that on the website where Director Duncan and I talk about when the outdoor sirens are to be used and weather radios and other things, so I will pass this along to Commissioner Unruh for comment.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. John, thanks for being here today, and also want to express appreciation to Randy as his management for our Emergency Management Team, and I see DeAnn Konkell is here. I know she’s very active in the community and training. I think our citizens should be encouraged by the fact that we have a structure that is in place. It is continually refining itself so we can have the best response possible no matter what emergency might arise. But we have professional people involved who have dedicated their lives to this service, and it is a great benefit to our community, and to the entire region. And just want to express my appreciation for the professional way that you all have arranged logical, organized, capability to respond. Thank you. That’s all I have.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. And this is another organization like the Red Cross that has volunteers. We would be remiss if we didn’t mention them, the RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service), ham operators, volunteer firemen and volunteers in our community that go out and keep in contact with the Weather Service and other entities to make sure we are all safe. So thank you for those volunteers.”

Commissioner Norton said “And the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) group.”

Chairman Parks said, “Yes. Thank you, John. Next item. We have an Off-Agenda Item we need to take up.”

OFF AGENDA ITEM

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to take an Off-Agenda item.

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

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

APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION TO KDOT DISTRICT 5 FOR ECONOMIC STIMULUS FUNDING FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY CIP PROJECT B-442, HYDRAULIC BRIDGE.

Mr. David Spears, County Engineer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “KDOT (Kansas Department of Transportation) has announced that \$8 million in funding from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009, the ARRA, has been allocated for distribution by their staff at District 5 in Hutchinson for use by counties in South Central Kansas. The applications for construction projects are due on March 13th, which is a week from this Friday, and must be signed by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC). Public Works has reviewed the project application criteria and determined that CIP Project B442, the bridge on Hydraulic over the Wichita Valley Center Flood Control project is shovel ready and our best candidate to utilize this source of funding. Since there is no BoCC meeting on March 11th, we have asked that the application be taken up by the Board as an Off Agenda Item at today’s meeting. The project is currently included in the 2009 CIP with local funding in the amount of \$1,932,000, and \$7,728,000 in federal funding under existing programs.

“If awarded funds from the ARRA, the existing federal funding could be shifted forward into other Sedgwick County projects. The application is based on current project funding estimates of \$2,070,000 in local funding, and \$8,280,000 in federal funding. The project will bid on July 15th. If bids exceed the currently approved CIP amounts, a CIP amendment will be required before KDOT can sign the final project construction agreements. We request that the Board approve the application and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

MOTION

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

Chairman Parks said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Dave, can you tell me if, since this is over the floodway, will this have any impact in a positive or negative sense on the issue that we've got with FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) and the Corp of Engineers concerning the floodway?"

Mr. Spears said, "I asked that question of staff yesterday, and it has little or no bearing on that. It will be a new bridge, it will not be of an elevation where it won't affect flooding or make anything worse. If anything, it will be better. We've got.....the Corp of Engineers has looked at it. The bridge is designed and ready to go. It is four lane. The Corp of Engineers has approved it and the City of Wichita has approved it. So we're in good shape. It has no effect on getting the certification for the floodway."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Help me out. City of Wichita is involved in approving it. I thought this was in the County."

Mr. Spears said, "It is over the floodway, which is their jurisdiction. We pay half the budget, but they are the administrators of the project over the floodway."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Okay. Thank you."

Chairman Parks asked, "Any other questions of David? I know we studied this yesterday in Staff Meeting, and we had a lot of questions for David. Just to bring up one item since we are discussing the floodway, there are other projects, one in particular in my district up at Park City that's going through the WAMPO (Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Operation) and that's going through channel to get to that, so there will be a bridge that will impact the FEMA plan in that particular avenue that we're getting funds from the stimulus package."

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Mr. Spears said, “That’s correct. That bridge is a problem on the floodway. So we support having that project also receive stimulus funds.”

Chairman Parks said, “That certainly does impact everybody in the County for flood insurance. Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “David, we have obligation for some matching funds?”

Mr. Spears said, “We just have to say that we do have funds available in case there’s something to pay for construction inspection or some sort of testing. And we have all of the right-of-way, we’ve already got that, and then we’ve made arrangements for all the utilities to be relocated.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay. But that’s already within our budget planning?”

Mr. Spears said, “Yes, sir. That is within it now.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Good timing on that. We’ll get that signed. We need to call the vote.”

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, “Next item please.”

APPOINTMENTS

C. SEDGWICK COUNTY PHYSICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD.

1. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING SARAH DEVRIES (COMMISSIONER NORTON’S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PHYSICAL

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD.

- 2. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DR. DAVID WALDIE (COMMISSIONER NORTON'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PHYSICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD.**

- 3. RESOLUTION APPOINTING CATHY FEEMSTER (COMMISSIONER PETERJOHN'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY PHYSICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD.**

Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "If we could take C1, C2, and C3 together. These are all for the Physical and Developmental Disabilities Board. This is a 15 Member Board to which each County Commissioner has three appointments. Items 1 and 2 are reappointments by Commissioner Norton of Sarah Devries and Dr. David Waldie to this Board, then Item 3 is Commissioner Peterjohn's appointment of Cathy Feemster to this Board. I would recommend that you adopt all three Resolutions."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt all three Resolutions.

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

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Chairman Parks said, "I do believe we have somebody here today, one of the appointees."

Mr. Kelly B. Arnold said, "Good morning. Raise your right hand please and after the oath is administered, please say 'I do'."

"I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sedgwick County Physical and Developmental Disability Advisory Board, so help me God."

Mr. Arnold said, "Congratulations."

Ms. Cathy Feemster said, "Good morning and thank you for reappointing me. I hope to do a good job and bring some expertise that I've gained over the last 33 years of having a child with a disability and help out the County."

Chairman Parks said, "We certainly appreciate your volunteering to do that. I know that's a very important board, and I attend some of those meetings myself. Thank you for that."

Ms. Feemster said, "Okay. Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Cathy, just a quick word to express my appreciation for your willingness to serve. It is a pleasure to have a person I've had a chance to work with in a variety of other capacities, and we were both active in Wichita Independent Business Association. Great to be able to appoint you, and in your case, in this case, be reappointed to the board. Thank you for your service."

Ms. Feemster said, "Thanks, Karl."

Chairman Parks said, "Next item."

D. SEDGWICK COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

- 1. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING NEIL GUTHRIE (COMMISSIONER NORTON'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD.**

Mr. Euson said, "Commissioners, this is four-year appointment to this board. We have prepared the Resolution of reappointment. I recommend you adopt it."

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

MOTION

Commissioner Norton 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
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Parks	Aye

Chairman Parks said, "We have a gentleman here to be sworn today."

Mr. Arnold said, "Good morning. Raise your right hand please and after the oath is administered, please say I do."

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

Mr. Arnold said, "Congratulations."

Mr. Neil Guthrie said, "I've enjoyed my time with the ComCare Advisory Board and I think it is a very important part of our community, and if Kelly Parks doesn't hold it against me, I grew up in Valley Center, then continued to do this good work."

Chairman Parks said, "We have a lot of volunteers from that north end and Valley Center area. So appreciate your work, and turn this over to Commissioner Norton to elaborate on that."

Commissioner Norton said, "Gee, Neil, I knew you from Haysville, I didn't realize you had a Valley Center connection. I might not have reappointed you."

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Mr. Guthrie said, "I was in the tornado there. I was at the Board of Education meeting that night."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, Neil and I go back quite a few years from when he served in the school district in Haysville. He is now in the school district in Wichita, and does a great job on our Mental Health Board. I appreciate your service, Neil, I really do."

Mr. Guthrie said, "Thank you very much."

Chairman Parks said, "It is a pleasure to see all these volunteers serving. Call the next item."

E. WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COMMISSION.

1. RESOLUTION APPOINTING SHAWN FARNEY (COMMISSIONER NORTON'S APPOINTMENT) AS DISTRICT 2 APPOINTEE TO THE WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COMMISSION.

Mr. Euson said, "Commissioners, this Resolution will appoint Mr. Farney to a term until August of this year and then to a four-year term from August of this year until August of 2013. I would recommend you adopt the Resolution."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh

Aye

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

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

Chairman Parks said, "Is Mr. Farney present?"

Commissioner Norton said, "He is."

Mr. Arnold said, "Good morning. Raise your right hand please and after the oath is administered, please say I do."

"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 Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, so help me God."

Mr. Arnold said, "Congratulations."

Mr. Shawn Farney, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I appreciate the honor to serve and look forward to doing it."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, before Shawn gets out of here, I've known Shawn for many, many years. Kind of watched him grow up. I hate to say I'm that old, but I did. His family is very well respected in the Haysville area, and I look forward to maybe putting some youth on our Metropolitan Area Planning Commission (MAPC). I know he'll serve well, and I appreciate him volunteering to step forward. I would like to acknowledge Michael Gesik, who was my appointee had to move to Oklahoma, and Shawn will finish out his term and then take a second term. Appreciate your service. That's all I have."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Shawn, I wanted to express my appreciation for your service also. I've had some business dealings with Shawn and some real estate transactions. I know you're

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

aware of some of your requirements that are necessary to serve on the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission. I just wanted to ask, did Commissioner Norton inform you of the task that's before you. Because this is a little bit of work."

Mr. Farney said, "He did. I look forward to it. I have already started some research and doing information searching. So I look forward to it."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Very good. We appreciate your willingness to serve, as it has been said of all of our citizens who want to serve on these different boards, the MAPC is especially important. So thanks for your willingness."

Mr. Farney said, "Thank you. Appreciate it."

Chairman Parks said, "Call the next item."

F. SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD.

1. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DR. DELORES CRAIG-MORELAND TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD.

Mr. Euson said, "Commissioners, this is a two year term to the board. Dr. Craig-Moreland served as the Educational Representative to this board. I recommend you adopt the Resolution."

MOTION

Chairman Parks moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

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

Chairman Parks said, “I don’t see her in the room, she will be sworn in at another time. New business, call the next item.”

NEW BUSINESS

G. CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF WICHITA TO PROVIDE “HOUSING FIRST” APARTMENTS.

Ms. Deborah Donaldson, Division of Human Services, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I’m here to ask your approval for a contract with the City of Wichita to provide ‘Housing First’ Apartments, which is part of the plan to end chronic homelessness. The implementation is currently being overseen by an oversight committee, and I would like to recognize Ray Fredic, who is in the audience today who’s a member of that committee. We have seven people on that committee right now. Housing First is one of five parts of that plan. This plan was developed through a task force that was appointed by Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita in 2006. They worked over a year to get this plan and they asked for, received and included extensive community input into this plan and I believe had a tremendous amount of community support.

“So we’re really excited about that, because quite frankly we’ve seen many homeless plans that have tweaked the system a little bit and mostly gathered dust. This isn’t going to be one of those. This is going to be a plan that’s going to make a difference. I believe that and I think we see that happening now. Housing First is an evidence based approach. Which means that it has been scientifically proven to be affective. It is one of the very few, quite frankly at this point, that’s had enough scientific kind of scrutiny to meet that level....effectiveness. So we’re really excited about that. We’ve seen these across the country, and we are very pleased to have it here. It is also proven to be cost effective. If you look at the New York Program, what they found is keeping the chronically homeless on the street costs about \$41,000 a year. If you have them in a shelter, it could cost between \$27 and \$35,000. If they went into Housing First, it is \$2,000. So it is cost effective.

“The chronically homeless is defined. This is not your more general homeless population or the general population in any sense. This is a group that is unaccompanied adult, who has a disabling condition, has been homeless for over a year or has had four episodes of homelessness

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

in three years. This money will pay for 32 units, and the City of Wichita will pay for the other 32. We are putting in the county mill levy dollars, \$191,368. The importance of these local dollars, it allows the flexibility that is important to make this program work. There's a lot of housing programs, but all of them have money that have strings tied to them that do not work, particularly well for this population. So this is part of what makes this effective. Those other housing programs are great for many people in the general population, or the general homeless, but not here. So far we have seven people housed through a pilot project that the United Way paid for to show and demonstrate the effectiveness and to help us learn what needs to happen. We have currently seven who are housed through this program. We have one person scheduled to move into an apartment next week, and we have five folks who are currently pending or looking at apartments and we are hoping to have something selected fairly soon. I will be glad to answer any questions."

Chairman Parks said, "I do have a comment and a couple questions. Last year when the budget was done and we appropriated some of the money for this, I was critical of the program that in that I stated that the faith based communities hadn't stepped up and really..... they initially said that they were going to kick more into this program and help us out on this, and in fact Jack Poach was is in the audience at the time, working with this, and he acknowledged that by shaking his head yes that that had happened. When we went to pass a budget, I went ahead and voted for the budget to put this in here, but I did have a couple phone calls last night and I wanted to ask a question about..... do we have people that actually have warrants out for them that we don't check that at all when they go into the application process for the apartments?"

Ms. Donaldson said, "Part of the issue is because when you have people who have serious mental illness, substance abuse problem or sometimes other disabling conditions, it would not be uncommon for them to get involved in some kind of nuisance crime or the thing we have talked over and over about that put people in the jail. The population that is served through scope would be a good example of that and so of course some of these folks are going to have some kind of background that might involve an arrest or having spent some time being incarcerated, so that would be true."

Chairman Parks said, "Active warrants, then, those aren't screened or turned away then?"

Ms. Donaldson said, "We haven't done that, but of course our case managers who become aware of those work with people to actively make sure they get to court and those warrants are taken care of."

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Chairman Parks said, “And I did see in the scope of the project one thing that is definitely back over that I am in favor of, it says that touch a little bit on working with the disabled people also and how that would be worked in the logistics behind the disabilities in identifying those.”

Ms. Donaldson said, “That’s an important thing. Thanks for bringing that up. Because while they are not required to have treatment when they go in, they are required to have a weekly visit by a case manager. The experience has been that once people are housed, they are more amenable and treatment is more effective with them, then you actually see people benefit which does not happen when they are on the street. Let me back up a little bit, with the faith based community, I would like to recognize them in terms of part of this plan was the overflow shelter, and you know we funded that every year for I don’t know how many years. This year we did not fund it. They knew we were doing this. They stepped up and they funded the overflow shelter. I think they’ve done a very good job and it's gone very well this year. They have gone out and solicited funds, used their own money and made it happen. In terms of another piece of this plan is that this kind of day program for folks to go through, and they are literally raising millions of dollars to make that happen. So they are making that available to folks. So they have truly stepped up at this point.”

Chairman Parks said, “I also hope they realize that with some of the budget constraints and things that we’re looking at for next year that the maintenance of these apartments may fall back on the faith based community also. We may not have a lot of funding for the maintenance and the upkeep of that. Would that be a statement you might agree with?”

Ms. Donaldson said, "We'll have to go through the budget process and I'm sure you guys will determine those priorities."

Chairman Parks asked, “Mr. Manager, would you like to address that.”

Mr. William Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I sure would. It is my understanding Commissioners, the agreement would be with, the lease would be with the City of Wichita Housing Authority. There are provisions in there for the landlord to take care of routine and regular repairs. There is a deposit.... for a deposit is made on the apartments for damage that might occur. So I can’t imagine in this relationship, in relationship as a person who is helping with the lease of the apartment, we would be involved in repairs at any time.”

Chairman Parks said, “I usually discuss these things with staff. I did get some phone calls last night and one email. I just wanted to pass that along, kind of address some issues brought up at the last hour. I believe Commissioner Norton was next.”

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, I worked on the Homeless Task Force for a year. Ron Holt, Bill Buchanan was active in that participation and staff was on the sidelines giving information and absorbing information and getting back to us. There are five or six tenets that came out of that. I wanted to describe them. Housing First is a piece of that. It is a very comprehensive thought process that went into the plan of dealing with chronic homelessness. In fact the debate raged as to whether we focus on the chronic homeless, a smaller population, or homelessness in general, which is a much broader thought process. We really defined it based on the national model of chronic homelessness and I think Debbie described who that person is. That's what we worked on as a group. What is chronic homelessness? What you find in communities is the chronic homeless eat up a large amount of services and cost the most. You have to attack that first to get them out of the stream. We set up an oversight board which is very important. That was one of the tenets that we came up with. That we have a group that looks at this, analyzes it, community volunteers, that we don't just start this program and then never look at it again. We have a community based organization that oversees it, makes sure it works. Secondly, we put in motion the one-stop center, open door center, and you're right, they are doing fundraising, that's faith based. It will be a place, not a place to house the homeless, but a place for them to stop by, make connection with services, whether it be veterans services, mental health, it is a place to pick up their mail, maybe connect with Social Security Administration on that, SRS (Social Rehabilitation Services), whatever their needs are, so that they have a place to be during the day and I think that's going to be powerful.

"One of the problems of chronic homelessness, their place to be is in the library or other public facilities. And they don't get services there, it is just a place to house for the day. So getting them into a one-stop place that's run by another organization, not government, will coexist there, but it is really not our thing to run, will be powerful.

"Another point was the point in time count that we do every year. To really try to figure out who the chronic homeless are, where they are at, how many are there, are we reducing the population, or is it growing. I think that's part of the conversation we had. Certainly the overflow shelters were that and over the years there's been a struggle with what's enough overflow shelters on cold nights, who supplies that space and how many beds you need and the faith based community did step up and take that away from Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita and United Way so we are not dealing with it. Then we talked about wrap around services that once you get people housed, the chronic homeless population, you wrap services around them. You help them make connections with family, you get them mental health and drug treatment, you make sure that they are connected to the sources of income they might have or revenue through SRS or Social Security or other plans. So if they don't have a place to live, they are out on the street, they are probably not connecting to those services that can help find

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

them a job, get them back into society, and maybe keep them from being a drain on our resources as opposed to maybe giving back a little bit.

“Then finally all the United Way Agencies have been at the table very open to be part of this. Then the final piece of it that we looked at was what comes to us today, Housing First. Evidence based, national model has been proven over many years to work in almost every jurisdiction that’s been launched in, and very cost efficient. We could keep doing what we’ve always done, let the population grow, affect the downtown and affect our society, or we can try these new models. I think they are going to work and be powerful, and not only help the chronic population, but help the pipeline of people, because of economics, family conditions, domestic violence issues, whatever it is, continues to fall into that population. This group utilizes a lot of services. There’s a large percentage of them that are veterans that we need to be sure that we take care of, administer to and connect them to services through the Veterans Administration.

“And I think it is something we need to look at for a couple of years and analyze it, let the oversight board bring us back information to make sure that it works and that the money is spent properly, but I’m very hopeful based on the work we did that Housing First is a great step along with the one-stop center to solving this problem. That just a little history Mr. Chair so...we reiterate how we got to this today. It wasn’t something we just came up with yesterday. We worked on this pretty hard for a couple years.”

Chairman Parks said, “Sure. I will respond to a couple of those things. I do know that the State has closed down mental institutions over the past 15 years, that they had served, some of these people might be better served with that situation and the Federal Government has closed out some areas for veterans and other things. So that’s what I am certainly going to hold the board and be watching closely the scope of this, and the people with the disabilities, I think right at this point I’m not ready to turn my back on them for \$190,000. So Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “I don’t know Debbie or the manager could answer this, last year we pledged a certain amount to the homeless, was it \$200,000?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “This is what we’re talking about.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “This is the money, the use of that money that we pledged last year?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “ Yes, ma’am.”

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Okay. The only other thing I have, it is my observation that the faith based community, I guess if you want to call it that, particularly First United Methodist Church downtown here has actually adopted some homeless challenges and they’ve been working one on one with these people, and it is very commendable, actually. It is just one more thing, one more role they are playing in this, and so I feel pretty good about the fact that we have good cooperation, that everyone is working towards the same goal.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Debbie, I’ve got several questions for you. In the agreement, Appendix B, Purpose and Outcome with the City of Wichita, Section 2 has two provisions. Section B saying ‘housing is not contingent on the consumer’s willingness to accept treatment services’, in other words, we have been putting people in this house and they would not have to agree to do anything, is that correct?”

Ms. Donaldson said, “They have to agree to see a case manager every week. It has been our experience with these programs if we spend a lot of time making people housing ready, we’ve been managing homelessness like this for years with this population, it doesn’t work. You have to get them in a stable situation without those kind of strings, and then you will find that they are willing to accept and benefit from treatment. I think..... actually there’s some real common sense to that. If any of us have tried to make any personal changes or something, whether it’s losing five pounds or quitting smoking, you don’t tend to do that when you are at a high stress situation, like living on the street, worrying about your safety and where you are going to sleep that night. You wait until you have a little more level or stable time in your life. Those are pretty minor things compared to conquering and dealing with a serious mental illness or substance abuse problem.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “You mentioned that this was kind of modeled on what’s been done in New York City in the past and I had a chance with some other County staff to see a presentation. Can you provide any clarification in terms of how this differs at all from what’s been tried in New York in the past.”

Ms. Donaldson said, “It is similar. We have similar components to things that will be fidelity to the model. New York City, I’m sure there are some things that they are going to have to do

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

differently that would not be applicable here, and vice versa. But the basic components are similar.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Okay. Because Subsection 2c in the Appendix and in the agreement it says ‘consumers,’ and I’m presuming this means homeless population you are trying to reach.”

Ms. Donaldson said, “Yes”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Are encouraged, but not required to take medications or abstain from using substance to participate.”

Ms. Donaldson said, “That’s correct. Because that’s the old model we have been using for years, and it doesn’t work. So we don’t require anything except the case management contact.

“That is when we find that people are amenable to that. I know you saw that what we call the Footy Video, where they followed an individual, they did not require him to be sober, even though he did also have a substance abuse problem. All of a sudden as you noticed when he got into the apartment, he didn’t want to drink when his case manager came by or the people helping him with his medication, because he didn’t want to look like that to them. I mean, he was taking those first steps towards sobriety, and doing important things that literally he probably would have died on the street before he would have done if we required..... if he had been required to do that prior to being housed.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you, Debbie. I would like to make a more general comment as the new commissioner coming in on this issue kind of in the middle of the process. Yesterday I just googled New York City Homeless 2009 to see what popped up, and came across a number of interesting posts, talking about the degree to the problem, as a matter of fact the city of New York has actually shut down some of the faith based shelters inside New York City, for whatever reason, but Mayor Bloomberg had established back in 2004 the goal and many people, I would certainly agree, it is ambitious and laudable goal to reduce homelessness in New York City by two thirds by 2009. And unfortunately, the cursory search that I looked at indicated that the homeless problem continues to be a major problem in New York City, and these goals weren’t met and in fact arguably they are in as bad a shape today as they were five years ago. I am very much concerned that this would be the first step to kind of institutionalizing and if we don’t require people who have been deinstitutionalized and have no

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

mental problems that can be helped by medication, I really have some major concerns on the direction we're going, and particularly these two sections of 2b and 2c are troubling to me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Debbie, can you enumerate some of the avoided costs that we'll have by implementing this program. In your presentation you indicated it was much more expensive to do nothing than to be helpful and so that implies we won't be spending much....is it possible to enumerate those?"

Ms. Donaldson said, "Well the different cost..... obviously the biggest cost is unfortunately with this population, they tend to frequent emergency rooms, which are extremely expensive. So you typically will have a number of emergency room costs. As I mentioned before, the population which typically is on the street a lot, get involved in what we call 'more of our nuisance crimes', so they get through the jail, they make their way through the jails a lot. "And then whatever cost to the shelter, attempts at treatment which aren't successful because of the current status, these kind of things just mound up and you end up with those kind of dollars."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay. This contract that we're considering today is just a one-year contract is that correct?"

Ms. Donaldson said, "It is."

Commissioner Unruh said, "And included in our budget."

Ms. Donaldson said, "Yes."

Commissioner Unruh said, "To continue with it requires subsequent approval by the Board of County Commissioners?"

Ms. Donaldson said, "Yes."

Commissioner Unruh said, "And at that time we'll see if we can examine the success of it and it may be the same amount, less or more, depends on the circumstances."

Ms. Donaldson said, "After a year we should have some really good data about, you know, its effectiveness, how it is working in our community, and, you know, so I think we'll have that

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

within a year, and we will we could have a very good sense of that. Plus, the oversight committee plans on coming and speaking to the commission several times over the next year to give updates and reports on the full plan, not just this piece, but of course this piece will be included.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay. Well, I have.... I mean, frankly some of the same instinctive reactions expressed by Commissioner Peterjohn. On the other hand, in my trying to understand our effort in the areas of our services for those who have mental health problems, in our efforts in community corrections and some of those other human services that we provide, it’s clear to me that the evidence based practices that we try to apply are effective and not only in terms of the human services aspect of it, but also in of terms of budget considerations. So in light of the fact that we’re trying to follow best practices, evidence based practices that in light of the fact that this was thoroughly analyzed over a long period of time by large group of citizens trying to do the right thing, in light of the fact that it is a budgeted expense, it is for one year, and the target here is according to our agreement with the City of Wichita that our funds will be used, only be used to serve chronically homeless individuals with a disability. “I think all the parameters are in place that gives me a certain amount of confidence that we can be successful. I’m comfortable with what we are doing. I am going to be supportive. Appreciate your response.”

Ms. Donaldson said, “Appreciate that. Just one point in terms of the field that even if someone is in an institution, they cannot be forced to receive medication or treatment short of a court order.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “So, okay. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “My vote is certainly going to reflect those people with the disabilities and the veterans. I think on the money saving side, if we can keep the vets that steal the hot dogs at the Quik Shop, or out of jail...that’s a goal there that we may see some money savings on another or in some way. Having said that do I hear a Motion?”.

MOTION

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Commissioner Norton said, “Well just based on the conversation which I think has been a good one, I can guarantee you after the 18 months I spent on this, I’m going to be watching this real close. Make sure the money is spent right, that we do challenge the oversight committee to analyze it, and make sure it is getting us the results that we want. But I do know that if we keep doing what we’ve always done, we’re just going to keep pouring money down a drain that is getting us very little results. The truth is ‘veterans on the street, people with mental conditions, dual diagnosed severe and persistent drug addictions are not going to go away in our community and if we don’t change what we’re doing, and try something, we’re going to find ourselves with a bigger problem than we’ve got today. I don’t know...I understand what Commissioner Peterjohn and Commissioner Unruh are thinking about this....believe me for 18 months I analyzed every bit of this about...’is it going to be cost efficient...is the money we are going to spend on Housing First going to be advantageous to the community or just more money down the drain’. I guarantee you I’ll be on the frontline analyzing this and not three or four times a year, but consistently. “To be sure we get the kind of results that we wanted and expected when we started out on this journey. Thank you, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Well I think the goal is audible trying to reduce the impact on homelessness, but on my experience and my research, makes me very concerned that the New York model is not one to emulate. I will not be supporting this motion. I am very concerned about the idea that simply by providing housing, this is going to be reducing the demand for other services or make it more likely that we are going to be keeping people out of jail. I think those problems will continue and my experience as an economist, if you provide incentives and you provide negative incentives for misbehavior or improper behavior, you will get more of it. I wish that we would be proceeding down a path that would be actually likely to succeed in reducing the homeless problem in this community. I am not comfortable that this is going to succeed. I appreciate everyone’s attention and time on this subject.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “I can understand Commissioner Peterjohn’s concerns and I think one of the things is if you’re not right on target with a program like this, you’ll have a difficult time achieving any success. Sometimes, particularly the chronically homeless is bound and determined to say stay that way. But the community has seen this as a concern from every part of this community has pulled together to address this and so I think we have to give it a chance and I am going to be voting it for it.”

Chairman Parks said, “We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? Seeing none, call the vote.”

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	No
Commissioner Welshimer	Aye
Chairman Parks	Aye

Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

H. AGREEMENT WITH WICHITA CHILD GUIDANCE CENTER AND COMCARE TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL PSYCHIATRY & SUPERVISION SERVICES. .

Ms. Marilyn Cook, Executive Director, ComCare, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is a renewal of an agreement we have had with Wichita Child Guidance Center for a couple of years. It allows one of our very rare in this community Board Certified Child Psychiatrist, Dr. DeAnn Jenkins to provide guidance three hours a week to two advanced nurse practitioners at the Guidance Center who are working with some difficult cases, difficult diagnoses and medication regimes. At times, this involves the advanced nurse practitioners bringing a case to her for consultation. Sometimes these are more supervisory in nature. In talking with Dr. Jenkins about this, she describes her role in this process as encouraging collaboration between systems and sees it almost the most critical component to this agreement.

“She had told us when she came to work for ComCare that one of the things that was so appealing to her was the ability to work with a multidisciplinary team rather than as an independent physician. She also told me about a difficult case she’s working on right now with the Guidance Center where a young child was had experienced a very disruptive and abusive childhood in early life and had been placed in foster care as a result of that. This little girl has very significant issues around trusting adults, as you might imagine. Had very aggressive behavior. She’s also experienced at a young age several acute psychiatric hospitalizations and is almost always at risk of residential placement outside of the community. Dr. Jenkins says that, with the team approach that they have adopted in this case, she helps coordinate the treatment for this little girl with child guidance staff who are providing the medication. ComCare’s providing some case management, mental health association is providing some attendant care.

The Child Welfare System is involved in these planning meetings and the school has some input. Because of this, they’ve been able to keep this little girl connected to the foster parents that are raising her at the moment and staying attached to other adults in her life who are significant to her

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

success and a significant part of keeping her out of residential treatment. So I thought that was a good description of does this kind of collaboration work. We are going to recommend that you approve this agreement and be happy to answer any questions you might have.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

I. SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

1. SHERIFF DEPARTMENT SUV RECLASSIFICATION.

Chairman Parks said, “As we see Sheriff Hinshaw is not present but we have Captain Hoch here today.”

Mr. Brad Hoch said, greeted the Commissioners and said, “It is Lieutenant Hoch, thank you sir. Our agency currently has three Ford Explorers purchased in 2003. These vehicles have close to 150,000 miles and are ready to be replaced. Our agency is requesting that the Explorers be replaced with three half ton four wheel drive crew cab pickups. Interior room has become very important and vital to Law Enforcement. It seems every day more equipment is added to these vehicles. For example, mobile video recording systems, mobile computers, dual shotgun, rifle mounts, police radios, personal protection gear, paperwork and supplies. The Ford Explorers that we currently have are driven by Road Patrol supervisors and serves as their office

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

every day as they meet the challenges of working on the streets. Over the years, we've learned that the Ford Explorer simply doesn't have enough room to handle our personal needs and the equipment. We feel the half ton pickup would give us ample room to meet current and future needs. The versatility of the pickup would allow us to recover large evidence items like a bicycle without calling out other personnel or specialized vehicles. The pickup would have increased towing capacity compared to the Ford Explorer. Having the four wheel drive would give us the ability to function under bad weather, patrol areas of the County where a patrol car could not go. For example like the Valley Center Flood Way, the Arkansas River Basin area, et cetera. County Fire has been utilizing the pickup for several years and speaks highly of its abilities to meet the needs of a first responder. The Sedgwick County Sheriff Office would like to add this type of vehicle to its fleet. I thank you for your time and would answer any questions."

Chairman Parks said, "I certainly appreciate the mentioning of the flood way. I know most of the things that can go on in that venue, hard to get the Crown Vics up there."

Mr. Hoch said, "Yes."

Chairman Parks said, "Also the danger of the clearance with the fire and the catalytic converter. Any other questions on this? Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Full size pickups, are these going to be crew cabs or."

Mr. Hoch said, "Yes. They will be crew cabs."

Commissioner Norton said, "You will have some capacity within the cab to store things and give you a little more space."

Mr. Koch said, "Yes".

Commissioner Norton asked, "Will you be transport..... will this be fixed up where you can transport humans too?"

Mr. Hoch said, "No. This will be primarily for a supervisor. Sometimes the vehicle, especially on a scene, that becomes the command post."

Commissioner Norton said, "Absolutely."

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Mr. Hoch said, "We need the ability to put other people inside there, especially if we're talking about sensitive issues."

Commissioner Norton said, "Midsize S.U.V'S over the years have had problems with turnovers and rollovers and everything too. Will a pickup be more stable in that category too as far as safety?"

Mr. Hoch said, "I spoke briefly with the County Fire and they seem to think as a First Responder, they like it a lot better. So that's why we're leaning towards that direction."

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. Good. That's all I had, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Parks said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Yes, Lieutenant. I was curious, you mentioned towing capability. Will these have the accessories.....so that you could tow, the items with it under the specs?"

Mr. Hoch said, "Yes, it will."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Commissioner Norton asked the other question I had so I'll thank him for that."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay. Seeing no other questions of Lieutenant Hoch."

MOTION

Chairman Parks moved to approve the reclassification of vehicle from mid-size SUV to full-size pick-up

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

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Chairman Parks

Aye

Chairman Parks said, "Call the next item."

2. SHERIFF DEPARTMENT VAN RECLASSIFICATION.

Mr. Terry Parham, Sheriff Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm requesting the reclassification of a Sheriff Office vehicle from a midsize four-door sedan to a full size eight passenger van. Vehicles assigned to the training section are shared and may be used by recruiters, background investigators or training instructors.

"One of the vehicles assigned to the training section, a 2002 Chevy Impala has met the required age and mileage requirements to trade for a new vehicle. Sheriff's Office is requesting it be replaced with a full size eight passenger window van. The van would be used to transport the equipment and materials we need for the recruiting booth. The van would also be used to transport recruit classes and allow them to carpool rather than drive multiple vehicles to outside training functions. The eight passenger van is a common configuration for sheriff vehicles and would not require any special equipment and will be unmarked as the Impala it is replacing. I'd be happy to take any questions you may have."

Chairman Parks said, "Well I certainly was at Valley Center when we bought our first van. It was a very useful for all the things that he mentioned. I have questions from Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Captain, can you remove the seats so you get more hauling capacity I mean, is that part of what this does or is it locked in seating for eight people?"

Mr. Parham said, "At least one row of the seats are removable in the ones that we've been looking at. I am not certain if you can take them all but that would give us the..... taking one row out to give us room to put all of our recruiting equipment in there and transport it."

Commissioner Norton said, "So it has the flexibility that you need to do those multiple kinds of things?"

Mr. Parham said, "Yeah. That would be in our specifications when we select one for purchase."

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Commissioner Norton said, "It just seems like to haul things, fixed seating really makes it problematic. A lot of them have things that fold down but it's not as good as being able to remove the seats for some hauling."

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

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

Chairman Parks said, "I'm assuming this is gasoline that might be something for Kevin.....Kevin is shaking his head yes."

Mr. Kevin Myles, Fleet Management Director, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yes, the ones we're looking at right now are gasoline powered. We've looked at the GMC Savanna along with the Chevy Express Cargo and the Ford Econline Wagon and all are gasoline powered."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Commissioner Welshimer."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Is there a reason why..... we don't..... we have not added the gas saving particulars to this van? Are they making vans with hybrid or alternative fuel uses?"

Mr. Myles said, "Actually, right now they don't have a lot of vans that have hybrid technology, but we do believe that this will be a cost saving technology if we add it into the fleet because it will allow for the Sheriff's Department to carpool. That was the benefit that we were looking at. If they could carpool to various venues instead of taking two or three Crown Vics out to a venue, we thought that would be a cost saving measure."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay. So you're just using this for training and the uses that you have described to us here and you are not using this for transporting detainees no?"

Mr. Parham said, "This vehicle is assigned to training fulltime. It will be used for the recruiting and the background investigators who are signed up there at times may use it if they need a vehicle. The vehicles are shared up there. And used by the training instructors when they need to take a class or a portion of a class to outside training, they can all get in the van and go together rather than take multiple vehicles."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Thank you."

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Chairman Parks said, “If I could elaborate a little bit more on that. There are a lot of national programs that have been regionalized and Kansas certainly jumped on the bandwagon for that also. If you can go to Salina rather than St. Louis or something like that for a regional advanced investigative training or something like that, that’s a good use for that.”

Mr. Parham said, “Oh, yes. A considerable savings when it comes to driving distances like that.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “This is a question for Mr. Myles. Are the specifications designed in such a way that we can..... there’s really some great values out there from car manufacturers and car sellers are very motivated at this point in time. I am particularly interested in not only the county getting good vehicles but good vehicles at a good price. Are these specifications set up in such a way so that we can get a wide selection from a variety of manufacturers who can bid on them.?”

Mr. Myles said, “Absolutely. What we do, whenever we draw up a spec, our goal is to find at least two or three manufacturers who can actually bid that spec. In this case, these specs haven’t been completely drawn because we need to get the BoCC approval before we move forward with the purchase. That is one of the considerations we look at when we put together the final specs.”

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

Chairman Parks asked, “Any other questions? Do I hear a Motion?”

MOTION

Commissioner Peterjohn moved to approve the reclassification of vehicle from mid-size to full-size van

Chairman Parks seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh

Aye

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

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

Chairman Parks said, "Call the next item."

J. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 26, 2009.

Mr. Joe Thomas, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "There are six items for consideration that resulted from the meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts of February 26th.

**1 TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND MAINTENANCE for the GATEWAY BUILDING at the NATIONAL CENTER FOR AVIATION TRAINING – DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS
FUNDING – DIVISION OF INFORMATION & OPERATIONS**

"Item one is Technology Infrastructure and Maintenance for the Gateway Building at the National Center for Aviation Training for Division of Information & Operations. Recommendation is to accept the low responsive bid from Alexander Open Systems. In the amount of \$181,245.67. There is a clarification for the notes to this. At this time no official contract has been established for managing the NCAT.

**2 MICROFILM BACKUP PROJECT – REGISTER OF DEEDS
FUNDING – REGISTER OF DEEDS**

"Item two is Microfilm backup project for the Register of Deeds. The recommendation is to accept the low proposal from Imaging Office Systems and establish contract pricing for the duration of the project.

**3 LED LIGHT BARS – FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING – FLEET MANAGEMENT**

"Item three is LED Light Bars for Fleet Management. Recommendation is to accept the proposal from Code 3, Option 1 in the amount of \$1,623.00 per each unit and to establish contract pricing for

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

two years with three one year options to renew..

**4 LARGE INTERMEDIATE SEDANS – FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING – FLEET MANAGEMENT**

“Item four large intermediate sedans for Fleet Management. The recommendation is to accept the low responsive bid from Don Hattan Chevrolet in the amount of \$352,700.00.

**5 SMALL FOUR DOOR SUV – FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING – FLEET MANAGEMENT**

“Item five small four door SUV for Fleet Management. The recommendation is to accept the responsive bid from Steven Ford- Mercury in the amount of \$18,000.00.

**6 ½ TON 4x4 CREW CAB PICKUPS
FUNDING – FLEET MANAGEMENT**

“Item six 4x4 crew cab pickups. The recommendation is to accept low bid from Don Hattan Chevrolet in the amount of \$57,588.00. I’ll be happy to answer questions and recommend approval of these items.

Chairman Parks said, “I did have one question on or a comment on number four. That wasn’t the low bid, however, I am glad to see the bid board is doing its homework and due diligence on making sure they have all the requirements and I do think that the KSA 1773-01, doing business in Kansas is an important thing. That we have the Secretary of State have them signed up and doing business with this for a variety of reasons. Certainly going to be supportive of the bid.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, “There’s a little bit of discussion here. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “On item one, I see Richard Vogt here. As we talk about the NCAT and the training center, it’s going to be important that we have the technology and the infrastructure built into that facility because it is going to be very technologically..... has to be

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

sound in that realm because that's what we will be delivering is high technology and a lot of computerization. Does this get us there, Richard?"

Mr. Richard Vogt, Chief Information Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yeah. We were very pleased with the bids that did come in. It came in about 20 to \$25,000 under what we thought they were going to be. Yet, we are getting the high quality that we need for the Gateway Building. This is going to be the building that where the administrative staff works and that's going to be the heart of their operation and then on top of that, we are going to build the technology.... have to put the technological training tools to integrate into an entire network. We have a beefy system there. It's a strong system. It's capable of growing for the other two buildings and we believe other things may come along."

Commissioner Norton said, "You feel it has the flexibility and the ability to gain extra capacity as that grows and we add on."

Mr. Vogt said, "Yeah. The key thing with any network is the speed with which the traffic, network traffic can flow. So it's a fiber optic network throughout all three buildings. That's the plan. We call it a ring topology which allows, for whatever reason a break in one of the areas. It will continue to.... it will wrap around the other direction and continue to function just fine. Fiber optics, the scientists will tell you that it's almost limitless as to how fast it can go. It just needs the routers and the switches to make it go that fast. As time goes on, if we need faster traffic, we are confident that the switches will be there to accommodate it."

Commissioner Norton said, "Don't get too technical on me. Yes would have been good enough for me. You start talking that computer speak, I'm lost. Thank you. I want to be sure as we move this forward, that infrastructure, that early technical infrastructure is going to be important to the usability of the facility. Thank you, Rich. That's all I have, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Parks said, "Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you. Question I suppose for the manager. Long-term maintenance and upgrading of this is the responsibility of the college according to our agreement."

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Mr. Buchanan said, “Yes, sir. It was noted we don’t have a signed agreement yet. We’re still working on that. I understand the road to hell is paved with good intentions. It’s our intention to make sure that agreement is done and done soon.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you. Do we have any other discussion? We have a motion and seeing no other discussion. Call the vote.”

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, “Next item.”

CONSENT AGENDA

K. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Agreement with Wichita Child Guidance Center to develop a collaborative project to provide community based services for children with a serious emotional disturbance (SED) receiving services at the Wichita Child Guidance Center.**
- 2. ZON2000-62 – Extension of time to complete platting requirement for a zone change from SF-20 Single-family Residential to LI Limited Industrial. Generally located east of Greenwich and north of K-96. District 1.**
- 3. ZON2000-23- Extension of time to complete platting requirement for a zone change from RR Rural Residential to LI Limited Industrial. Generally located east of Ridge Road between K-96 and 45th Street North. District 4.**
- 4. Range Reallocations for Human Resources.**
- 5. Cereal Malt Beverage License Request for the Lake Afton Park Bait Shop located at 25313 W. 39th Street South in Goddard, Kansas.**

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

6. **General Bill Check Register for the week of February 18, 2009 – February 24, 2009.**
7. **Payroll Check Register for the week of February 14, 2009.**
8. **Order dated December 31, 2008 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
9. **Order dated February 25, 2009 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**

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

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion

Chairman Parks said, “I have a motion and a second. Let’s get into some discussion. Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Yes. A question for the manager. I noticed Item 4 range reallocation for Human Resources, I understand that this is done several times a year. I would appreciate a brief discussion on how frequent this occurs and how many positions are impacted.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “The Human Resources Department (HR) reviews our positions on a routine and regular basis. It takes a group of employees and checks to see if we’re paying them according to what the market’s paying. Some positions are more sensitive to that than others. We have in the past year or so brought back significant range reallocations for Sheriff, Detention Workers, Deputies and some people in DIO (Department of Information & Operations) and some nurses in our Health Department. So the process is that they routinely check groups of employees and they have a system in place to do that. A department head or division director may request an employee or group of employees to be reviewed to make sure that they’re paid according to market or equitably within the department. We have had people change duties and the not compensated the same as someone who is exact same duties. We try to avoid that. So those are the two ways in which it can get reviewed. Staff at HR then does a pretty comparison, market comparison of jobs and salaries. That’s reviewed by Jo Templin who makes a recommendation to me. We review that and go over that with Finance and then we

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

bring it to you for approval. In this case I don't..... in this case, do you know how many there are 21 positions who are being reviewed, requested for change in this allocation.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you. Thank you Mr. Manager.”

Chairman Parks said, “Just a little bit of a follow-up question on that. Do you know if this is \$100,000 or \$500,000, impact on the annual budget.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “We do know that.”

Ms. Kim Walker, Deputy Director, Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We do know that. It's just under \$95,000.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Any other questions about the Consent Agenda? Have a motion. Call the vote.”

VOTE

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

L. OTHER

Chairman Parks said, “At this point at times we have gone into executive session. But I want to take the other first if we could. In that, I think we lose some of the television crowd and some of the other people when we take this before that. I think that in ‘Other’ that some of our commissioners have important things that they want everybody to hear. For that, I guess I’ll start a little bit by saying we’ve been in contact with our State Representatives and over the years, not only this particular session and other sessions and other congressional sessions and federal things that trickle down is taking a whole new meaning. When they say well, we are going to allow you to do things on your own now, that means more money and more responsibility back on the counties. We are trying to stop the bleeding there a little bit. Telling them, hey, if you get tough on certain crimes, make sure you have the prison beds, not a county jail to facilitate these tougher crimes that we’re looking out there that are felonies. We are not going to have a meeting next week, we will be meeting with some..... some of us will be meeting with some congressmen and senators and so we will not be meeting next week. Commissioner Welshimer.”

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

Commissioner Welshimer said, "I would like to congratulate our Governor on her appointment as Health & Human Services Secretary for the new President. I certainly hope that congress speeds up her review and gives her that appointment. I want to ask the Manager, last week we had a report from WATC (Wichita Area Technical College) and in keeping with our staying informed on layoffs, jobs and job training, do we have someone lined up for the month of March to bring us a report?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes ma'am."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Which meeting would that be?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "Closer to the end. Mr. Gustav is going to be out of town in a little bit and so we have not pinned down the exact date. But we have talked about it."

Commissioner Welshimer said "You will be bringing him back."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes, ma'am."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have several things. I had a chance to stop by Saturday at Exploration Place to see the Whales Tohora Exhibit. Took a grandchild and Susan and I and Skyler stayed for a couple of hours just in whales. I would urge the public to go and see this wonderful exhibition. It's only going to be two places in the United States. This is the only place in the Midwest. It's a complete exhibit on whales with skeletal and other exhibits. Kids will love it. Adults will love it. It also tells the story of the Maori people, who are whale riders and finding the whales very much a part of their society and their culture. I would urge people that want something to do that's a little different, that's very educational and fun to stop by Exploration Place and take advantage of Whales Tohora.

"Secondly, I'd like to congratulate the Center for Health and Wellness. We got the news yesterday that they have been selected as federally qualified health center. As part of our health access project, one of the things we have advocated for is to build capacity in our community health centers. When we were in Jacksonville, Commissioner Unruh and I learned that they had seven qualified centers and Wichita had one at the time. One of our goals is to continue to advocate for that. I'm proud of the Center for Health and Wellness. It's now become a federally qualified health center. That brings in real dollars. I think it's over a million dollars of federal money that will bring into our community as a capacity for folks that need access to health that

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

may not have an insurance plan or find themselves out of a job and without insurance. I think it's exciting that we are building that capacity and that's part of the things we have tried to do in our health access project.

“Secondly, several of us will be traveling to Washington to go to our National Association of Counties Legislative Meeting. We have a chance to go to seminars and work sessions. I happen to be on the Health Steering Committee nationally and will be talking about health issues which happens to be one of my things I work on a lot locally and it's nice to be connected at the national level to hear what other communities and entities and jurisdictions are doing. There's also three or four subcommittees that I will attend. Some on prescription drug costs, health access and some other kinds of things. Three things that I will be looking at as we meet with legislators, I am not sure who those will be, but I hope we will meet with the Congressmen Rand, Moore, Jenkins and Tiahrt and also our two senators while we are there. The three things I will be talking about will be levy certifications because we stepped out on that and there's a clock ticking and it seems like it's put pressure on us as a community and I am not sure I know why they have to move so fast at the federal level to get all the floodplains redone when we have assured them we're serious about fixing our levees that we have done the consulting and the studies and now it's just a matter of doing the repairs. I will be talking about levee certification. I will also talk about aviation, not only light plane which is taking a hit because of some of the consternation about corporate jets and private ownership which I think has hurt that industry a little bit. But also the tanker deal. That's a huge amount if you want to infuse stimulus into our community, just pass the tanker deal and put it into America and that will create a lot of jobs, particularly in our community. Finally, I'll be talking about health concerns. I continue to hear huge amount of talk in our community about what's going to happen to our health capacity, the emergency rooms, our community health centers as the economy tightens and people worry with that in their financial condition. It is encouraging. I hope, that our governor will become the Secretary of Health and Human Services. We'll have a connection with her and as we..... three or four years ahead of a lot of communities in the conversation about what we are going to do with health, that maybe we'll have a good ally and partner in Washington along with our congressional folks too. Just wanted to explain that were going to Washington and we have some agendas, things we're going to work on for the people of Kansas. That's all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2009

MOTION

Commissioner Peterjohn moved to recess into Executive Session for 15 minutes to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney client relationship relating to level advice and that the Board of County Commissioners return to this room from Executive Session no sooner than 10:50 a.m.

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

The County Commission recessed into Executive Session at 10:35 a.m. and reconvened from Executive Session at 11:08 a.m.

Chairman Parks said, “There was no binding action taken in Executive Session.”

M. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

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

KELLY PARKS, Chairman
Fourth District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

KARL PETERJOHN, Commissioner
Third District

GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2009