

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

August 5, 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, August 5, 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; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; Mr. Ron Holt, Assistant County Manager; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Mr. Joe Brunk, Director, Noxious Weeds; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing; Mr. David R. Miller, Budget Director, Finance; Ms. Jo Templin, Director, Human Resources; and, Ms. Katie Asbury, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. John Todd, 1559 Payne, Wichita, Kansas
Mr. Michael D. Williams, 14721 W. 55th St. South, Clearwater, Kansas
Mr. Lou Rosado, Manager, Best Western Hotel, Park City, Kansas
Ms. Diana Schunn, Executive Director, Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County
Ms. Pam Toon, 14800 E. 45th St. North, Wichita, Kansas
Ms. Jackie Stuart, Vice President of the Board of Directors, Child Advocacy Center
Mr. Charles Peaster, 9453 N. 135th St. West, Wichita, Kansas
Ms. Pat Deshler, 7520 Oaktree Lane, Kechi, Kansas
Ms. Leanne Chase, 4620 Huckleberry, Derby, Kansas
Mr. John Hays, 9000 E. 69th St. North, Valley Center, Kansas
Ms. Janet Hays, 9000 E. 69th St. North, Valley Center, Kansas

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 July 8, 2009
All Commissioners were present

Chairman Parks said, "You've all had a chance to read the Minutes of the meeting. What is the will of the Board?"

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MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to accept the Minutes as read for the Regular Meeting of July 8, 2009.

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2010 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

VISUAL PRESENTATION

Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We have the opportunity today to hear from the public about the recommended budget. We’ve put this document together and you have spent lots and lots of hours going over it. One of the things that I am most pleased about is the good help that we have, the folks who made this happen. The budget team consists of Ron Holt, Charlene Stevens, Chris Chronis, Troy Bruun, David Miller, Kristi Zukovich and Jo Templin, but the heart and their advisers helped make the decision with me about what needs to go in the budget. The real hard work, though, is done by the budget analysts: Pete Giroux, Chris Duncan, Jill Tinsley, Anthony Swartzendruber and Nikki Huntington. They are the ones who do all the heavy lifting. Of course our interns; Angee Fanning, Nathan Law and Phil Laney, do some of the work also. With the great help of Communications, this is published, and the great help of the print shop.”

Mr. Buchanan continued, “And all that effort has gone on since January. The point of that effort is to make sure to assure that we do our jobs, that you make an informed decision about the future

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needs of this community. In those decision making processes, we have come to some agreement, I believe. And saying that without having a final vote is always kind of dangerous, and I know that can change, but this is what I've heard over the last two weeks. Maybe not. What's in front of you on the screen is some of the decisions that we've made. You will see that line 27, over here on the left, is the restoration of the Extension Council for \$100,000 and the mill levy impact of that decision. Line number two is a general pay adjustment at \$75,000; for those folks making more than \$75,000, there would be no pay adjustment, and you can see that that's a \$241,000 reduction in the budget. Item number three is a general pay adjustment, other funds. Now, this has no effect, it's a \$60,000 reduction, but it has no effect on the taxes. These would be grant funds, these will be enterprise funds, but has no effect, no matter what we do there, on peoples' real estate property taxes.

“Item four is the pavilion subsidy. You have indicated you wanted to restore that at \$584,989, and we have done that, and you have suggested that it come from the Arena sales tax fund. Again, that will have no, over in the right hand column, you see that it has no effect; it is not applicable for any tax mill levy or tax levy. Restore the pavilions Coliseum fund, this is a budgetary movement we had to make so that we have the spending authority in the Coliseum fund. It is really just part of what the accounting process is. Again, no effect. Item six is a restoration of, and I am going to move that to the top of the list, Item six is the restoration of temporary mowers at Public Works. You felt that was important. That's a restoration of \$78,000. The Public Works Director has suggested that to reach proximity of that savings, that he thinks he can re-shuffle his work and eliminate a position and that comes out pretty much a wash, more in favor of a reduction, thanks to David Spears for thinking of that. On line eight, you have suggested a reduction in the BoCC (Board of County Commissioners) contingency to, the level would be \$200,000, a reduction of \$315,000 and you can see the savings there. You've capped the commodities that you purchased at \$4,000 and that's a savings of \$6,000. We've gone back and frozen GWEDC (Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition) contract at \$300,000 dollars. This year we were to pay them \$325,000; we'll pay them the exact same amount that we did last year. And you have reduced Riverfest and Flight Fest, with the notion that if those things, when they come to you, that if you choose to do that, it would come out of a contingency fund.”

“You also have said, the last item we talked about yesterday, was to restore the drug co-pays. If you recall, I had recommended that the co-pays for prescription plan for employees be changed so that we could reduce the amount of the cost increase. The cost increase to Sedgwick County is around 13 percent. With this reduction, it would have taken it down to eight. You have suggested that we

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restore that and we have, so our cost for health insurance is just a little over 10 percent this year. What this does was keep the drug co-pays the same, \$10 for generic drugs, \$15 for formulary and non-formulary is \$35. So those are the items you have talked about in the last several days. I thought that would be helpful for the public to understand what your thinking was. Mr. Chairman, if there's no questions for me, I would suggest that you open the public hearing and hear from the public."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay. I guess before we get to the public hearing I would want to put a little asterisk by your comments about the drug program that we put back in. Some of those tier 1 and tier 2, if you go from tier 1, that we're on now, to a tier 2, fall off the picture altogether, so our employees will just have to pick up those drugs themselves. It's not necessarily a co-pay, it may be \$160 to \$220 a month extra then on that. It has been my experience in the past with an employee, that going from tier 1 to tier 2, so I just thought I would mention that. If any of the others have any comments on that before we get in to the public hearing. Yes. Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Mr. Chairman, not so much directly on the drug co-pays at this point, but I thought it would be a good opportunity, one of the pieces of information that I think is important in the discussion about the pavilions, that I think are as important to have out there as the details of the exact language from the 2004 vote. If this is not the appropriate time, if you want to wait until after the public hearing or when we want to do it..."

Chairman Parks said, "I think..."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I would like to get that into the record."

Chairman Parks said, "I think that would be good, also. I do want to go ahead and open this public hearing. The public hearing for the 2010 Sedgwick County budget adoption process is in place. Do we have anyone from the public that would like to speak? Okay. Step to the podium. Go ahead. I guess we're going to go from..."

Mr. John Todd, 1559 Payne, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I appreciate your actions relating to the tax funded lobbyist, eliminating that position, the cap on your general pay at \$75,000, moving the cost of the subsidy for the pavilions over to the tax fund, and generally I wanted to stand up as a citizen and thank you for bringing needed tax relief to the citizens of Sedgwick County during these tough economic times. I congratulate you on that. Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you, Mr. Todd. Next person and if somebody wants to go ahead and get on deck there, if you would. Please state your name and your address."

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Mr. Michael Williams, 14721W. 55th St. South, Clearwater, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I am a John Deere dealer and I'm here representing Prairieland Partners Incorporated. I worked for John Deere Company for 20 years and I've been a John Deere dealer for 21 years. I'm getting old. I am here to speak to encourage you, lady and gentlemen, to keep the pavilions open. Don't close them down. We have used those pavilions on and off as John Deere Company and as Prairieland Partners, and we have eight stores in South Central Kansas. This last March, we have a thing called John Deere Day, and it's where we invite in 500 to 800 farmer customers at each of our eight stores. This year we combined them and had them all at the Coliseum, and we looked at having this event in Salina. We looked at having it at the fairgrounds in Hutchinson. But because of the size of the doors and the amount of the equipment we brought in, the pavilion, [Sam] Fulco Pavilion, we call it PA-1, that worked out very fine for us. we were amazed at how many farmers and consumers came in to our big show, our three-day event, from areas southwest of Kiowa, from Sedan, from north of Marion, north of McPherson, Kansas. We were concerned; can we get our customers in here? Can we get our clientele to come to Wichita, Kansas? We answered that, the answer is yes, they will. Farmers are more mobile than they've ever been and they will come to that. We had training for farmers; safety training, technical training, a lot of things that we do at the dealerships during the year, we accomplished those events at that big John Deere Day. So I speak for that.

"I heard a little bit of talk about taxes. Been living here thirty years in Sedgwick County. Don't mind paying taxes if there's some revenue, if I'm getting some return on my investment, it is a good deal, don't mind a little tax increase. I've never fussed about that when there's some payoff. We had \$80 to \$100 million worth of equipment up there. We had, at that three-day event, we fed, I wrote the check for it, it was 1,300 to 1,500 people a day, and there was probably more than that that didn't participate, that didn't eat. We want to do more of that, we plan to do more of that, and I think those facilities are very conducive to our eight stores. On a personal note, been involved with the Kennel Club long time, Facilities Chairman for 12 years or 13 years, I don't know, I've lost count. I'm not Facilities Chairman now, but I can tell you that the changes that were made up there; the roof doesn't leak, there's paint on the walls, the restroom facilities are nice. Not one complaint from anyone, and the people came in here from all over the world to go to one of the top five dog shows in the country. No complaints. Our Prairieland Partners, John Deere, no complaints on the facilities. Electricity, everything, is great, and we thank you for, I think it was \$6 million, that's what I heard, I don't know what it cost, but those improvements and upgrades made out there, very good."

"I'm going to close on a more personal note. My wife trains golden retrievers. Right now we're doing WC, you don't know what WC is, I am not sure that I do, it is Working Certificate. It's where you throw things in the water and the golden retriever goes out and picks it up and brings it back. We go up to the Sedgwick County Coliseum area every Sunday. I don't know if any of you lady and gentlemen have taken any time to spend any time up there, but I was sitting there and watching

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this last Sunday, and I thought, my goodness, we are just moving so fast and so furious that we work long hours, and I was thinking, some thoughts came to mind. What a great facility; Britt Brown, the way it's all put together; prairie grass, lots of nice grass, and talking to the campers out there, what do you think of this, how do you like it out here? They are just going through. What a great area, what a great opportunity that the citizens of Sedgwick County have to watch their dogs and go out there and participate. So on a personal note, very well done up there. Thank you. And we ask that you consider keeping those pavilions open for us. Let me tell you, if it's successful, Prairieland Partners are going to stand with you. If it's not successful, we're going to be standing with you, too. So thank you very much for letting me have the opportunity to speak."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Next person. Come to the podium, state your name and address, please. We are limiting it to five minutes and we are on the timer."

Mr. Lou Rosado, Manager, Best Western Hotel, Park City, greeted the Commissioners and said, "My objection to the closing of the Coliseum and the pavilion is due to the fact that with the American Miniature Horse Association, EquiFest of Kansas, Heartland Mini[ature] Horse Club, Heart of America Newfoundland Club, the Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Quarter Horse Association, [inaudible] Club of America, Welsh Springer Spaniel, last year alone, this group generated \$93,000 in rooms. That's not counting the food part, okay. I don't see these people going down to the Arena downtown. You got no parking for the trailers that are going to come, so it is strictly personal and that I feel that you take that away from us and we might as well drop down, because we have to survive on what the Coliseum gives us. I mean, that's the truth. Right now, I got some groups coming in for the Coliseum, but it is not enough. You know? My business has been hurt because of the recession, and to take this away from me, or from us, is going to be pretty hard. We may have to close some of the rooms or something, because I can't go on this way, okay? So my thought is, keep it open. Keep it open. You guys got a hell of a project down there, and to close it up, you don't leave anything for anybody. And that's all I have to say. Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Lou, I did want to..."

Mr. Rosado said, "Yes, sir."

Chairman Parks said, "...thank you for your business and it is one of the bright stars in the north end. If people haven't been there, I am going to do a little advertising for you here, I guess. But it is a well-rounded facility that you have, and we on the north end do appreciate that."

Mr. Rosado said, "Thank you very much. I appreciate it."

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Ms. Diana Schunn, Executive Director, Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I have had the privilege of meeting with all of you several times in the last several months. I appreciate the opportunity again to be in front of you. I want to thank you for your time in learning about the Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County and the services that we hope to be able to provide children who have been sexually, physically abused, or even those that have also been affected by internet crimes and exploitation. The Child Advocacy Center is a model where we seek to improve our services that are available to children and their families. Our primary goal is to be able to improve the coordination and efficiency of our services that are needed, and that includes working together as groups including law enforcement, social services, therapy, medical, advocacy, and prosecution. Over 100 children every month in Sedgwick County are serviced by a host of different service providers right now who have experienced this kind of abuse. Unfortunately, that 100, or over 100 per month, is only the tip of the iceberg. It's estimated that only 15 percent of all children who have experienced some kind of abuse ever come forward with that information.

"A supplement was drafted for the Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County that would allow us to be able to provide funding that would be initiated to assist us in renting a facility. That funding has not been added to the budget this year, as we had hoped. We continue to need approximately \$240,000 per year to be able to assist us in that rental and utilities expense, and we requested the County for \$120,000 of that per year to offset some of those rental and utility expenses. We would respectfully request that you consider adding this supplement. If you are not able to do that in this budgeting process, we would respectfully request your assistance in the very near future. Abuse does not have just a short-term impact. Unfortunately, child abuse affects us as we continue to look throughout the life span. If we look at one simple factor of healthcare; healthcare expenses across the life span are increased an estimate of 16 percent for women who have experienced child sexual abuse. For women who have experienced both sexual and physical abuse, it is estimated that their healthcare expenses increase 36 percent. This is just one example of how sexual abuse affects us and our community throughout the life span."

"Our ability to more efficiently coordinate our services, to access therapy for our children in a timely manner, and to more efficiently communicate among our multiple different team members is essential in child abuse cases. The Child Advocacy Center model is not a new model, and Sedgwick County is joining the ranks of 18 other child advocacy centers across the State of Kansas in advancing the child abuse investigation process. The National Children's Alliance has recently completed a study that estimates that communities where child advocacy centers are in place can save over \$1,000 per case. If those numbers are applied to here in Sedgwick County, we can anticipate saving over a million dollars just in working our child abuse cases differently than what

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we currently are. We have recently been awarded our National Children's Alliance Associate Status membership. To be able to implement many of the needed services at this time, a new space is essential for us to be able to move into. Your financial support would allow us funding for these spaces to house nearly 50 employees from multiple different agencies as we work together to serve the children who have been abused in Sedgwick County, Kansas.

"We are requesting your assistance. I would like to recognize several of our board members who are present here in support with us. Steve Edgar is the Chief Operating Officer from Wesley Medical Center and he is here as one of our board members. Marilyn Cook is also here from COMCARE and is one of our board members. Mike Stover is also one of our board members from the County here. And I would also like to introduce Jackie Stuart, who is our Vice President. You will be hearing from her in just a few moments. It is also my pleasure to introduce to you Pam Toon. She is a new volunteer for the Child Advocacy Center and she would like to share a few words with you in regards to some of the efforts that we are doing. I recognize that you have many important and difficult decisions to make, and I thank you very much for your time and attention in this extremely important matter."

Chairman Parks said, "I want to reserve a question time for you also. I think we might have a couple questions. Go ahead."

Ms. Pam Toon, 14800 E. 45th St. North, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here as a concerned citizen. In 1996, my son was molested by our neighbor who was a vice president of a computer corporation. This is not something I was prepared for because it was just a crime that happened to someone else. Because of our affluence and our education, it's just not something you think about happening. Without the services of the detectives and the counselors of an organization like the Child Advocacy Center in San Antonio, Texas, we would not have known what to do. I called the police; they said we will just give you a case number. I felt so lost and abandoned there. But I was pretty aggressive and took it a step further."

Ms. Toon continued, "The first question my son asked when he had to go testify was, 'Am I going to have to see him?' The thought of having a victim and a perpetrator be in the same room, as it is now, is devastating to me. I can't imagine what would have happened. My son, our statistics kind of go along with the national statistics that Diana presented, in that he was a straight 'A' student, this took him to being a high school dropout, it took him to drugs, but those counselors were available for us, for me to continue to go back to, to ask for guidance. I cannot ask you enough to please fund this. And I would hate for the children, and I would have hated for my son, to be abandoned by a system because of lack of funding. It is just so necessary. It is a crime that's on the rise. Thank you."

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Ms. Jackie Stuart, Vice President of the Board of Directors, Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I am here today to talk to you just very briefly, I am a woman of few words, we all know, but about, I guess, perspective of law enforcement. I offer to the Board of Directors experience of 22 years law enforcement in Sedgwick County, so I have a pretty good picture of child abuse, neglect and exploitation in our community, and I think that while our system isn’t broke here, we certainly can improve upon it. I’ve seen the system fail. I’ve seen kids drop through the cracks. I’ve seen them placed back into homes that were a danger to them, and later be the victims of a re-offense. I’ve also seen the system work, and the system works best when partners work together. Every single day, as Diana said, in Sedgwick County a child walks through the doors that’s been victimized; physically, sexually, and that particular case gets handled by a minimum of five to six agencies. What happens invariably is a disconnect of communication, of cooperation, you know, people with the best intentions in the world, we still end up with tragic, tragic cases.

“But the system can work, and it does work best when it’s well coordinated. The child Advocacy Center model offers that streamlining, that seamless service delivery. We know the cost. I don’t believe that the community of Wichita and Sedgwick County is willing to bear that cost. We, as responsible citizens, as elected officials, have the responsibility to talk and speak up for those that have the least ability to take care of themselves, and I can tell you that in this room today that group is the exploited, neglected children of Sedgwick County, so we ask that as you go through your deliberations for budget, extra money, however you’ve got this organized, and for next year, to think about us and to think about the children of Sedgwick County. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Anybody else from that group want to speak before I ask Diana to come back to the podium to answer a couple questions?”

Ms. Schunn said, “I don’t believe so, sir.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. This void that was created, as Ms. Stuart said, really isn’t broken, you just want to improve it. This void that is out there, was that due to some State cuts that have been going on?”

Ms. Schunn said, “There’s been some ongoing challenges with funding, absolutely. Some of the State cuts are certainly a contributing factor to that. Our timing probably is, you know, never of a great timing, but we started this project in February of ‘08 and certainly didn’t anticipate some of the challenges with the economy, much like you, in relation to that. Certainly we hope, and continue to hope, that the community will continue to embrace this endeavor, once it is up and running, and we’ll certainly see the benefit in relation to that. But the shortfall at this moment is our ability to be

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able to get into a building and to be able to implement that collaborative effort in providing those services and to really enhance the services that are needed for the children at this time.”

Chairman Parks said, “And I certainly know where Ms. Stuart and you all are coming from, being in law enforcement myself. I know when you talked with us, there are cramped quarters, there are other things that could certainly be improved upon. I really don’t feel that there is going to be some of those slipping through the cracks if we don’t do this, but what I do want to say is we’ve seen a lot of private companies giving lately, whether it be golf or parties or whatever, and you know I really think that to step up and get \$120,000 dollars from some private entity to fund this until we can get in better economic times would be another way to go. But there are certainly grants out there, and when you spoke with us individually you did mention some grants. I didn’t know if there were any updates in status on that or not.”

Ms. Schunn said, “We did just recently receive a grant from the State, about \$112,000. We still have several stimulus grants that I have written and have not heard back in relation to that. We have multiple other grants that we continue to look for, and have written several, and just wait to hear back. We have approached many private donors in relation to the community, and all are very supportive of the efforts of what the Child Advocacy Center can bring to the community. Basically, the take home message from the largest majority of those private donors are, we would like to see you up and running, we would like to be able to see the facility and the services in place and then come back to us. Of course that puts us in a challenging position to be able to move into a building. It requires money in order to be able to do so. So I agree, I know that the community is in support of our children, and it is one of those, kind of the chicken before the egg circumstances.”

Chairman Parks said, “Well maybe this discussion today will prompt some funding into your group. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Diana, talk about who the partners are. I’m familiar with that, but, you know, I know that there’s multiple agencies right now, also talk about where you are co-located and where you are not, because you’re fragmented and in different locations, so talk about those two things first. And then I have some other questions.”

Ms. Schunn said, “Certainly. Our primary partners include Wichita law enforcements of both Wichita Police Department and Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Office, as well then as the other primary component to that is SRS (Social and Rehabilitation Services). Those three components, the law enforcement and social services, those components have comprised in 1985 and developed the Exploited and Missing Child Unit, so they have been doing joint investigations for a significant amount of time. With that then, when a child comes in, they may need to visit a variety of different

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other places, and that would include medical services, either at Via Christi Regional Medical Center or Wesley Medical Center. One of our big challenges that we're having right now is being able to find therapists in an appropriate time. Many of our children are referred to therapists throughout the community but oftentimes have to wait two to three months before they're able to get in, so COMCARE has designated a particular position just for the Child Advocacy Center and allowing us to be able to get children linked into that system in a much more quick fashion. Then our improvements in the advocacy component; the Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center does provide, and continues to provide, advocacy but one of the specific strengths that we would be increasing would be a child/family advocate who would be available for every family when they come in.

"Some of the services are certainly in place, we continue all the collaboration with that, we're not looking to duplicate any services, but only to enhance and improve and then certainly to add some additional new services that will absolutely streamline the service and the process. So a new position through the stimulus grant that we wrote for is the multi-disciplinary team coordinator, a person who coordinates all those different team members. So instead of the family going out to five to seven different places throughout the community, they would be able to come to one place. Another component of that, team members would also be the prosecution. So all of those, again, are in place at this current time, it's just that they're spread throughout, which does make it difficult for family members. It's kind of if you think about a six lane highway, we're the agencies all going in one direction and it's the families that have to try to cross all those lanes in order to be able to receive the services that they need. I think we can more efficiently work that and we know that model has worked nationwide. And I'm sorry, I think you had a second part to the question..."

Commissioner Norton said, "Oh I've got several."

Ms. Schunn said, "...that I've forgotten."

Commissioner Norton said, "\$120,000 is what you're asking for, where are the other funds? You had \$240,000, that's about half."

Ms. Schunn said, "Correct."

Commissioner Norton said, "Where would the rest come from?"

Ms. Schunn said, "We have continued to have communication with the City as a portion of that as well and then we will continue to look at private donors in relation to that as well. We need a leader right now and we're looking for you to be our leader in stepping up and starting us in this process and pushing us forward."

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Commissioner Norton said, “Well, certainly as we go through the budget season, we’ve understood that we may be a little better off than the State and the City, as they deal with their budget problems. You have any hope that the City could step up, they’re eliminating resource officers and...”

Ms. Schunn said, “I know they are creatively...”

Commissioner Norton said, “...other kinds of things?”

Ms. Schunn said, “...looking at their budgets, and I certainly have hope because without hope, where would we be? How realistic that is, I don’t know that I can answer that, but I do know I’m confident that that money will come, and it may not be as quick as we would like in some circumstances but I’m confident that money, we will continue to look, whether it’s from the City or from other funding sources, but to give us that jump at the beginning we need a significant contribution at this time.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay. How many children do you serve a year? You kind of gave a monthly number, but over a course of a year, how many children do you touch?”

Ms. Schunn said, “A little over 2,500 would be a very common, average number and well over 500 of them a year are sexual abuse specifically and closer to 600 a year are serious physical abuse. I always hate to define things as serious and minor abuse, because any abuse is significant, but the more minor abuse cases are often not the cases that are being referred to what the Child Advocacy Center would be servicing, and those would be taken care of in a variety of other ways. Those would include the serious physical abuse cases, as well as then runaways, the exploited children and the internet crimes.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Yeah. As an expert, are we capturing, because the system is a little hard to navigate, are we capturing every child or do you think that there’s a population out there that a child advocacy center could open up, make it easy for people to report and take care of, that we’re missing?”

Ms. Schunn said, “Without a doubt, I have no doubt, I’m extremely confident in saying we are missing probably the majority of children, because of the difficulties in accessing the system, because of fear of accessing the system, what does that mean? It’s not a child friendly environment. Exploited Missing Child Unit has done the best that it can in that environment. One of the challenges is that if you just walk into the building alone, it’s the [Finney] State Office Building, that’s where we are located currently, in the basement, it’s not an easy system to navigate. First of all, if you can even find parking, and then being able to come in, and in relation to trying to find the

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building, and certainly we've done, again, some efforts in relation to that but there's some very limited capabilities within that system. Family members, mothers and children oftentimes have to sit in the same waiting room that a perpetrator of another case might be sitting in. We certainly try to never coordinate the time in which the same perpetrator of the same crime would be in that room, but that doesn't give a lot of confidence to some folks. I think that that's a situation that we can significantly improve by redesigning and being able to have a larger facility that would allow us to have complete separation of services between offenders and victims."

Commissioner Norton said, "The numbers that I've seen over the years, crimes against children rises when economic conditions are worse in families, is that a fair statement?"

Ms. Schunn said, "It is a fair statement and quite frankly, to children's benefit, thank goodness school is just around the corner, because children will be able to go to an environment that will be less potentially dangerous for them. There's less access for the adults and so we do see a significant amount of our children reporting when they first come back to school, and so that is a very common rise and certainly with the tough economic times, that is only a contributing factor and that is certainly something that has been researched very well nationwide."

Commissioner Norton said, "Usually the first report card date is a time for rise in abuse too."

Ms. Schunn said, "Well, that is possible as well."

Commissioner Norton said, "It is. Talk about internet crime, because that's on the rise, particularly with children on the internet and pedophiles and other folks that would do harm, that's on the rise considerably, is that wrapped up into what this group does?"

Ms. Schunn said, "Absolutely. That is a significant component. The Internet Crimes Against Children, or oftentimes referred to as ICAC, that is located within the Exploited and Missing Child Unit, is the reference and the resource for the entire State, so they are well known, they provide a tremendous amount of outsourcing of support systems and knowledge and information, but certainly just working the cases that we have locally within Sedgwick County is an extremely significant amount of the total number of cases each month of children being solicited on the internet and children being trafficked, in other words being brought in or being brought out of Wichita. Unfortunately, Wichita tends to be a fairly high market for recruitment of very young teens to be trafficked and moved into the sex industry, and that's a significant concern and certainly something that we continue to take a very strong look at as well. The internet crimes and the exploitation are a significant part of the investigations that happen through the Child Advocacy Center and specifically through the Exploited and Missing Child Unit."

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Commissioner Norton said, “It seems to me that there was a grant, and we put some matching money in for ICAC recently to expand that, knowing that it just continues to grow, is that truthful?”

Ms. Schunn said, “Absolutely, and that position is a new detective position through ICAC and they are currently looking for an office space to be able to put that desk. They have a little over 7,000 square feet and we have 34 employees in that 7,000 square feet, so they are elbow to elbow already and we’re just trying to create a space where they can have a desk and go to work. But absolutely, you have contributed to that and continue to do so.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Do you have an anticipation, if we were to do a supplement, that this would be an ongoing year after year after year thing, or that you will have the ability to get grants funded other ways, so that Sedgwick County may not be on the hook forever?”

Ms. Schunn said, “I know that one of the things that we would like to ask is that it would be for the first five years of that lease without a doubt, and then give us the opportunity to do the fundraising and see where we are and reassess that. My hope would be that yes, you are not on the hook forever and ever. There are many communities where the child advocacy center runs independently and is financially supported through the community. There are other communities where they don’t even look at that, and it is nothing but a city and county model, but that’s not been the model that we have proposed from the very beginning. That would not be our preference. So my hope would be that we would be very self-sustaining as time moves along.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I guess my final thing, it’s not a question, it’s a statement, I think I would be open to having a discussion today about this. The Manager is pretty well solidified what we’ve talked about already, but one thing that concerns me is that we’ve spent a huge amount of money putting together a juvenile judicial system that houses kids that have broken the law and done things bad, but we haven’t maybe stepped up and taken care of kids that are victims, and they are worthy of our support, too. We have a beautiful juvenile justice complex that takes care of kids that have been in trouble and makes sure they are housed in our own area and not outsourced. But maybe it’s time to really take a serious look at this and understand that we have 2,500 victims a year in our community and many more potential that maybe need a place to go that is much safer, much more coordinated, and delivers better services. So I think I’m ready to have the conversation on where it goes today. I couldn’t tell you, Diana, but I’m certainly willing to talk about it.”

Ms. Schunn said, “And I appreciate that very much. I think you bring a great point, and I know Pam certainly alluded to that as well, but one of those factors that we do frequently see, and

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certainly the research would support, is the fact that when children are not given the opportunity for therapy and support services and given a positive environment following abuse, unfortunately we do see a significant amount of them becoming frequent visitors of our justice system, and unfortunately in very negative ways. So I know that we can make the positive impact in many of those cases by providing them the support services up front that they need.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Okay, that’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Parks said, “I did want to say that we did support, and you touched on that a little bit, the grant and the additional position last week for the deputy on this. We have historically taken a strong funding stand on these things, kind of open up the discussion on this, I’ll say that if we decide to do this, I think we need to go back in to not adjust the mill levy, but to go either back into those funds, the fund balance, or back into possibly wait until you get word on your stimulus grants and your other grants are coming up, I think we may just be a little bit premature on the timelines, we have a federal timeline of October, and we have a State timeline of July 1, and ours, of course, is calendar year. And we do have a balance right now in our County Commissioners contingency fund of \$400,000. And I think that we may just be a little bit premature if we go to adjusting the mill levy out for this system that in fact has been stated here that it isn’t broken, but we need to improve it. I do believe we need to improve it, but I think there are certain ways and certain avenues we can go to accomplish that if we so decide to do that. Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Yes. Diana, I would appreciate if you could clarify, because I remember some of our private discussions, and I would appreciate some clarification, because you came in and talked about you’re trying to generate \$240,000 with \$120,000 coming from the County...”

Ms. Schunn said, “Correct.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “...but you were talking about this being an ongoing expenditure and under Commissioner Norton’s questions I got the impression it was for five years. If you could kind of give me a better feeling, in terms of how much of what you’re requesting in total and from the County is for operating purposes and how much of it is for capital costs? That would be very helpful to me, please.”

Ms. Schunn said, “We would use the \$120,000 per year, what we’re asking for, for the next five years, would be solely for the rent and utilities expenses in relation to a facility that we would be moving into, and so not a purchase of a building at this point, it has not been the focus of that original request of the \$120,000.”

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Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, help me out then. If you are in the State Office Building at the moment, are you paying rent there, and if so, how much?"

Ms. Schunn said, "No, we are not paying any rent there. The State has donated the space where the Exploited and Missing Child Unit has been in since 1994, so there has been no line item in either the City or the County budgets in relation to that and the State has been paying that expense from that time. So unfortunately there is no funding to be able to move to another facility since there has not been a line item in any of their budgets in relation to that. So when we vacate the space in the State Office Building, unfortunately there also is not money then to move in relation to that because the State will continue to own that space."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Let me ask you, because we've had a lot of discussions about parking and parking availability and downtown parking, there is a parking garage adjacent to the State Office Building, are there problems using that for your operation?"

Ms. Schunn said, "The problem typically is the fact that they have to pay a fee to be able to get into that, so yes, that's not usually something that many of our clients will access or use, and so there is a visitors' parking lot that is approximately a block away that many of the patients will use, but it's just, again, a bit challenging to be able to maneuver in that facility. So we certainly know that there can be room for improvement for parking in relation to that."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, of the County employees, and Commissioner Norton I'm glad you brought up the point about our vote last week to add another person from the Sheriff's Office to work on exploited and missing and abused children, I was interested, in terms of the folks who are working in your current facility, how many of those are currently County employees or City employees or..."

Ms. Schunn said, "I have that number right here."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "...work for government?"

Ms. Schunn said, "County employees make up thirty some percent, but I can't give you the exact number without looking. County staff make up 24 percent of all of the folks that would be of the original, it ends up being 46 employees that would immediately move into the facility, so roughly 50. But 46 employees and then the County makes up 24 percent, and that includes the new position that you just approved last week."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "So basically one in four, and out of 46, that's roughly, almost a dozen."

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Ms. Schunn said, "Yes, the County has a total of 11 staff members."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Eleven staff members..."

Ms. Schunn said, "Correct."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "...are County employees, and they're working out of there, as opposed to in County facilities..."

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

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "...at the State Office Building."

Ms. Schunn said, "Yes. And the State, as I had mentioned, the Governor's office, we have a grant for them which does not include facilities, rental; many of the grants that we have talked about also does not include facility expenses; so even though we're writing grants and stimulus money and those kinds of things that will not offset the specific expense for the rental of the facility itself."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Any other comments from any of the other Commissioners? Thank you."

Ms. Schunn said, "Thank you for your time."

Chairman Parks said, "Anyone else want to speak to the public hearing?"

Mr. Charles Peaster, 9453 N. 135th St. West, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "As most of you know, I've been involved with the staff meetings and the open meetings for this budget hearing. I also have attended an Oversight Committee meeting for the Arena. I'm going to read something that Commissioner Peterjohn alluded to earlier, and we had a gentleman got up and said he wanted to see the Coliseum kept open. In the budget there's \$585,000 appropriated to keep the Coliseum open. It can stay in the budget or come out. I think it should come out, and the reason it should come out is because when we voted for the Arena, Item C of the proposal states 'establish an operating and maintenance (O&M) reserve for the downtown Arena and the Kansas Coliseum complex.' That \$585,000 can come out of that money once the Arena is turned over to the County, which is probably going to happen in December, but we know it's going to happen in January. This money will be available January for the Coliseum, also. Right now, there's approximately \$14 million in that O&M reserve, Commissioner Peterjohn."

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“I’m here today because sitting through these budget requests, the County Manager was instructed; he brought you a list of different items that were on this, and one of the things you set was nobody that made over \$75,000 a year at the County would receive an increase. You do have a two percent increase for everybody under that in the County. I retired from a company back in 2002 called Roadway Express. Since that time, in order for what now is Yellow Road, which is a combination of Yellow Freight and Roadway, those people just took a 10 percent decrease in their hourly rate in order to keep that company open and reduce the number of layoffs. This two percent that you are fixing to give to the County employees, it’s not going to cost you to have to lay anybody off, they’re actually going to get a raise. That 10 percent shot on them people that came out of their hourly rate took them three to five years to get it up to that 10 percent, at two and three percent a year increase. The other thing that I found out yesterday was starting July of this year, under their contract, they had money put into their pension fund. July of this year for the next 18 months that money’s not going to their pension fund, and those 18 months are going to be lost because they’re not going to get credit for them. So if they’ve got 20 years with Roadway, 21 years and eight months later, they’ve got 20 years credit on their pension, not 21 and a half.

“You’ve gone through this; I’ve gone through this a lot. That \$585,000 don’t need to be in the general fund because there’s going to be revenue there to keep that Coliseum open on the O&M. And with that, I appreciate you letting me speak at this meeting. You know I’ve sat through a lot of these meetings with you people. I’ve seen that you forced the staff of Sedgwick County to come back to you with proposals and they’ve done that. With that, I hope you can approve this budget, but take that \$585,000 out of the general fund and it will come out of the operating or the O&M for the Arena. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Anybody else wish to speak? Please step to the podium.”

Ms. Pat Deshler, 7520 Oaktree Lane, Kechi, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I want to compliment you on solving, temporarily at least, the problem on the pavilions. From our viewpoint, we are very thankful that we have a place to have a show next year because we were going to be in a terrible position if it didn’t happen. The only reason I decided to get up here and say something, as well as complimenting you, I would like to urge you as your request for proposals come back in to be sure that somehow the Coliseum pavilions remain open for the use, whether it’s looking at it as an economic impact or an impact to long-time users, we need to have that building available and nicely managed. As I told you the last time, the staff out there has been wonderful for us to work with. And we’re hopeful that whoever we work with in the future will be as cooperative. I thank you very much.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Anybody else in this room, I don’t believe we have anybody else in the other rooms? Please step to the podium, please.”

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Ms. Leanne Chase, 4620 Huckleberry, Derby, greeted the Commissioners and said, “I want to talk about our dog shows. I know you guys are going, wow, these dog people are a pain. Well let me tell you, we’re passionate about our dogs and we help not only provide income to you guys through people coming to visit and the economic impact, that’s fine, but they didn’t tell you about the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts and the homeschoolers that come and help us out. Those kids are great. Also, the 4-H kids come and help us. Those are great kids, and they come out and they see the dogs and they get so excited. It’s just amazing. You guys ought to come out. Come out and spend the day and see those kids work; see all the people who are happy to be there. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “What are those contract days? Excuse me, you invited us out, but what is the next contract day?”

Ms. Chase said, “It is April 8, 9 and 10, sorry.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay, thank you. Anyone else to speak before the public hearing before I close it? Please step to the podium.”

Mr. John Hays, 9000 E. 69th St. North, Valley Center, greeted the Commissioners and said, “And I just wanted to give you a little bit of an update. We have the Miniature Horse Show, Central Championship Show, I think I mentioned that a couple of weeks ago. I just wanted to let you know that I did a little research; 87 percent of the people coming to that show are from out of state. So you can see that’s a significant increase to the revenue of this community because people are spending their money here instead of in Texas or Oklahoma or wherever. I also want to invite everybody here to the show. It starts tomorrow and it is Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Anyone that wants to come out, and it is free. Appreciate that. I think I am up here personally to read something to you that kind of came to my heart in this whole thing, so I would appreciate that. The other comments were for the Heartland Miniature Horse [Club], but this is personal. Leaders in any organization, group or community provide direction. Consider what kind of activities our community promotes in the facilities and events it provides. Are these events strengthening the family and providing for individual growth and taking responsibility for something or just providing a place to hang out? Do we want our children and grandchildren holding the reign of a horse or the

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lead of a dog at the Coliseum, or a beer bottle in Old Town? It might be time to consider this. Thank you for your time.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you.”

Ms. Janet Hays, 9000 E. 69th St. North, Valley Center, greeted the Commissioners and said, “We are having a show out at the pavilions and it just means so much to us to be able to provide something for the community. I sit here and listened to the young lady that talks about the children that are abused and this is to me, more about just money. I respect you guys so much for having to decide where it all goes because I know that has to be hard and it’s not a popular job sometimes. But I feel that we do give a place for people and families to go that doesn’t cost them anything and gets them out of the house. Let’s not have these kids just sit in front of the video games. It’s not just about horses, it’s not just about dogs, but it’s about our community and about the children and the families in our community. Places for them to go and to help these businesses out there, not shut them down. You know, we talked to a vendor last night who wanted to come. He says, fine, they can shut it down and we’ll just take it to Oklahoma. We don’t want to do that. We want these things here for our families. I think that we give back to the community too. Just like the Prairie Rose the other night had the little girl that was a burn victim, and the people, the community, filled that room and they auctioned things off for her. We took a little horse out there and she was petting that little horse and I just see so many things that they can give back. Like I said, it’s not just about our dogs, our horses, but about the kids and about the families that live in our community. And I appreciate Mr. Buchanan and all of you in looking at those things to give wholesome opportunities for our families. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “I would like to thank this group for also inviting me out to present some of the awards later on in the week here. Thank you. Is there anybody else that would like to speak to the budget? Anybody else that would like to speak either in this room, out in the hall or in another area? Seeing none, I’m going to close the public hearing. I think we need to have a little bit of dialog about some of the things that were presented here today. I still think that we are premature. I know Diana would like to have this money right now and like to have this put in the line item. But it’s my opinion, and I’m only one Commissioner, but I think before knowing what the stimulus money and the grant money that’s out there is going to do and what’s going to come up, maybe by October, maybe we could, I would suggest that we have her back on a monthly basis to kind of update us and report to us on that. I think that if we go to fix something that’s not broken and we fund it, some of those other opportunities might even, in fact, go away. I would like to have a dialog if anybody else has any other comments on that particular item. Hearing none, do we want to have that line item remain the same for that?”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well, you asked for comments, Mr. Chairman.”

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Chairman Parks said, “Yes, please do.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “If I may. I am certainly supportive of the efforts and the activities of the Child Advocacy Center and it’s been clearly illustrated that you are in less than ideal circumstances and I understand that. I think we should remain sensitive and look for a way to be helpful in trying to accomplish their goal of a separate facility where you can achieve the goals that you have illustrated to us of having separate, between victim and perpetrator, and those sort of things. I really want to be supportive; however, \$120,000 over a five year period is \$600,000 and we need to find a way where our Finance Department weighs in on how we might find the money to do that, at least for the five year period. I want to be supportive of that when we get a plan. Right now, I just am reluctant to go ahead and change what we have before us in our budget. Knowing that if we just put in \$120,000 now and the real ask is for \$600,000, I think we just need to wait until we have analysis of it. And as you said, Mr. Chairman, find out how the grant application comes back. That’s kind of, I don’t know if it’s a qualified no or a qualified yes, but I want to stay on board with you, I just don’t think now is the time to do it.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “I am finding myself in some agreement with some of the comments that Commissioner Unruh expressed, because I think this is certainly a problem in our community and I think our Commission with our vote last week, in terms of adding another Deputy Sheriff, wants to go in that direction. I’m leery, in terms of getting involved when you have a rent free facility that may not be adequate at the moment. I can understand the chicken or egg problem that I think was presented to us in a sense that they would like to move out, but to be able to get some of the support that they are looking for, or hoping for, it’s going to be difficult to do until they can get past certain milestones and frankly, inter-agency coordination, I think, is going to be a continuing challenge and if it doesn’t work out, if a plan isn’t in place that’s well thought out and put together well, we’ve already got examples where we’ve got some very positive, well meaning programs that have not worked the way they were intended to work. We have had some fallout from that that’s appeared recently in the last couple of weeks. So I agree that we’re basically being requested for a commitment of \$600,000 over five years and while I think there are some things that could be done in the short run, in terms of having a real plan put together here, we need to pull it together and to the extent that the County is roughly, at least in terms of personnel, about a quarter of the people already, find out where all the other players are and who is contributing what, where,

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how and how they fall into that five year commitment, that I guess is the planning cycle that they are working towards.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “I’ll go along with Mr. Unruh and Peterjohn, but I don’t want to drop the issue and Diana, I would like to visit your facility. I might have some ideas that might help. There are some other groups that are facing similar problems and there might be other ways to help solve this problem. Also, I don’t want to drop it from the County, I don’t want to take it off the table. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I may be the odd guy out. I don’t know that I have a problem with moving forward on it. I have analyzed it. Diana came to us well over a month ago and laid it out. I have talked with several of our own staff and law enforcement folks and I think they have a very well thought out plan, but it looks like it’s not going to fly today. Mr. Manager, if we decided in October, once everything kind of formulates, do you think there’s money somewhere in a fund balance that we could step up and match our part of it if we had to, whether its encumbered in a budget or not?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “Yes, sir.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Although I would prefer to move forward and have it locked into a budget today, which I am okay with, I don’t see a problem later coming back, as long as we understand that we’re pretty much advocates, we support it, we think it’s a good idea and that we may have to participate financially in some manner. So I’ll be okay with that.”

Chairman Parks said, “Well, I’ve certainly seen the evolution of this problem and education of police officers, education of social workers, the family, the victims, so it’s not just a matter of throwing money. I want to have a well executed plan that if there are stimulus or federal grant monies out there, or if the State hears about this and says, hey, we can free up some more space in the State Office Building or something, just express those things, you know, we’ve had State cuts here and there. It’s a growing problem and it sounds like that we have a lot of growing pains. Commissioner Peterjohn, did you have something to add to that?”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Well, I was going to say, it would be delinquent on my part, not to mention the fact that the County has spent a tremendous amount of money in the past to put

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together a very extensive juvenile facilities that have really improved, not only new facilities but the amount of space that's available down in the southeast part of Wichita near Morris and Hydraulic."

Chairman Parks said, "We do have a space, personnel on our staff, that are looking at spaces as we go and developing different things as one unit moves out, another one moves in and I think that this needs to be looked at. Although, before 1994, when the Exploited and Missing Children started, this was a state and then each individual entity was kind of on their own to investigate these things. I know that that has evolved. I saw that myself. We used to take the kids in and have very untrained, quite frankly, in the 70's, very untrained police officers interviewing these kids that really didn't know what they were doing. I mean, I was part of that. I really think this is a good program but I think we are premature at throwing this \$120,000 in at this time, but I do think we can come back and have a roadmap and have Diana come back monthly if we can and set up that dialog and feel free to call me at any time to get on the Agenda."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes, sir."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "Sir, have you closed the public hearing?"

Chairman Parks said, "Yes."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Then Mr. Chairman, I would recommend you take up Item C, it's the adoption of the funding Resolution, because we are required to do that by the State law, before we adopt the budget."

Chairman Parks said, "Sure."

Mr. Buchanan said, "This was my mistake, we put this out of order on the Agenda. If it would please the Commission, I would suggest that you take Item C at this moment."

Chairman Parks said, "Well, we probably should have an amendment to the Agenda then, moving C before B. Do I hear such a move?"

MOTION

Commissioner Peterjohn moved to amend the Agenda and take Item C before Item B.

Commissioner Welshimer 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, “Okay, let’s take up Item C.”

C. ADOPTION OF A FUNDING RESOLUTION FOR THE 2010 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET.

Mr. David R. Miller, Budget Director, Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Before you this morning is a funding Resolution for the 2010 Sedgwick County budget that is required by State budget laws to be adopted prior to the budget adoption if the State calculation measuring the amount of property taxes that you choose to levy indicates that it is required. That calculation that the budget office has done does indicate that this Resolution is required to be adopted, which was the same case in the 2009 adopted budget when you adopted a one mill tax reduction. Consequently, I recommend that you adopt the Resolution and I would be happy to stand for any questions.”

Chairman Parks said, “Do I hear a motion on that?”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to adopt the Resolution.

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Chairman Parks seconded the motion.

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Do you need this read?”

Mr. Miller said, “No. The motion that is before you on the table is related to the budget adoption as opposed to the adoption of this funding Resolution.”

Chairman Parks said, “Yeah. Guess not.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Okay.”

Chairman Parks said, “We have a motion and a second, seeing no further discussion, call the vote.”

VOTE

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

B. ADOPTION OF THE 2010 SEDGWICK COUNTY BUDGET AND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

Mr. Buchanan said, “Commissioners, once again, thank you for your time and energy spent on this. It has been considerable. You have been presented lots of information. We have gathered data for you. You have done the analysis of what you believe is in the best interest of the citizens of Sedgwick County. You have the deliberations, in what we calculate as deliberations, in front of you and now, Mr. Chairman, it would be appropriate to have a motion and adopt the budget or alter it in any way that you would see fit.”

Chairman Parks said, “Well, so we can open up a little further discussion, I would entertain someone to make that motion.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “So moved.”

Chairman Parks said, “I believe you have to...”

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Commissioner Welshimer said, "Have to read that?"

Chairman Parks said, "Yes."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "It would be this one?"

Chairman Parks said, "Yes."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "I move we adopt the Resolution for the 2010 Sedgwick County budget that includes an operating budget of \$382,580,217 and the 2010 Capital Improvement Program of \$31,021,788. The total operating budget includes the certified budget of \$261,851,113 and it's partially funded with a property tax levy of \$126,477,010 which is approximately equivalent to 29.743 mills. Subject to review and technical adjustments."

Mr. Miller said, "If I may apologize to Commissioner Welshimer, because I need to interject. We had a number of different versions regarding the motion that were floating out there..."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "I've got several here."

Mr. Miller said, "...as a result of some of your deliberations over the last couple of days. There is a second version that was placed at your tables this morning and that's the item that I need to have read."

Chairman Parks said, "Just a little housekeeping, this motion died for lack of a second. Then we can move on and do the new one."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Okay. My next motion."

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to adopt the Resolution for the 2010 Sedgwick County budget that includes an operating budget of \$382,926,285 and the 2010 Capital Improvement Program of \$31,021,788. The total operating budget includes a certified budget of \$262,197,181 and is partially funded with a property tax levy of \$126,806,920 which is approximately equivalent to 29.828 mills, subject to review and technical adjustments.

Chairman Parks seconded the motion.

Mr. Buchanan said, "Thank you."

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Chairman Parks said, "Further discussion. Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, I would like to, in terms of when I was out in the audience last year, as opposed to being up in here on the Commission bench, there was often kind of some discussion about specific budget items, Mr. Chairman. I have some general comments, in terms of kind of where we are and my first time through, in terms of working this budget, that I am prepared to present at any time. But if there was some intent to have some discussion about specific budget issues, I am not sure how you want to proceed, but I wanted to throw in some comments in both areas and wanted to get some insight, in terms of when you say have some dialog, exactly what you were expecting."

Chairman Parks said, "Well, I guess if there is something that is burning that we want to change in here or if there is something that we haven't brought out to the public that you would like to bring out to the public and not only last year, but many years you have been in the audience, so certainly don't want to stifle any dialog or any comment from any Commissioner on any issue. I think this is a time that we need to get those things out if we have any angst about anything out there that is on the budget, now is the time to bring it up."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, if that's the case, I am going to proceed and begin by quoting a former President, Harry Truman, who made the comment that 'a recession was when your neighbor lost his job and a depression was when you lost your job.' We've had discussions, going back to shortly after becoming a Commissioner, about how bad the economic situation is here in Sedgwick County and in the State of Kansas and in our country and even worldwide. Obviously, the focus here is local. The economic news I find continuing to be very distressful and that's made this entire budget process extremely difficult. Earlier this week, in fact, I believe it was yesterday, saw an article about a big jump, increase in foreclosures in our community and how that's likely to perhaps continue, even one realty firm apparently setting up a foreclosure division within their operation, and the appraised value information we've had is distressing.

"Another thing that I have had a true appreciation of after becoming a County Commissioner is the fact that we are looking at an increase in all, over the long-term in delinquent taxes, and since the County is dependent upon property tax revenues, and I think we're going to have a long, slow and job deprived recovery, we are facing some very difficult challenges. Having said that, one of the changes that we talked about Friday, and I'm going to intermix that with one of the specifics, was that we went back with the drug co-pay which is about \$350,000. One of the ideas of having a two percent pay increase was that we were looking at asking County employees to have to pay more for their medical coverage and the County was also going to be contributing significantly more. That

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means the taxpayers ultimately were going to have to pay more, regardless of how difficult and how testing the times that they are facing happen to be.

“One of the ideas I’d like to throw out as a budget discussion is instead of giving all the employees a two percent pay increase, look at a one and a half percent reduction since we are giving them back on this pay benefit. That was an idea that had been talked around and I will grant you, one and a half percent is not that much. Last year the Commission, I believe, approved a three and a half percent pay increase for all employees and this would be a significant reduction. But there are no furloughs involved. There are no layoffs involved. We are looking at a very, very difficult economic situation here and this is going to be this Commissioner’s opinion, I think we are going to see continuation of the difficult times, at least the news I have received in the last couple of weeks and I have been looking at it, has not been as good as I was hoping. I was looking for recovery and this seems to be very different from anything we have had in the past. My thought was that if we are going to go ahead and give the co-pay back, if we cut back the across the board pay increase that we’re looking at to one and a half percent, that may not quite balance out specifically, but that’s something that I am going to throw out as I don’t know if anybody wants to second the idea, but instead of doing a two percent across the board pay hike.”

Commissioner Peterjohn continued, “Let me just add, you are not only looking at freezes from the other, lots of local governments around Kansas, but nationally. The State of Arizona is looking at selling their statehouse, if you can believe that. That’s pretty darn remarkable. The most populous county in Alabama is looking at laying off a third of their people. There are public employees in California who are looking at eight percent pay cuts. So Sedgwick County is very fortunate. One of the reasons I think we are very fortunate is an unintended consequence. We’ve got extra money because of the interest earnings that were earned because of the downtown Arena project that did not go into the Arena fund. When people talk about County reserves, that’s a factor that’s out there and that’s why I am going to be very specific in supporting the pavilions support, in terms of having that funded out of the sales tax, if we go in that direction in the discussion. That’s kind of my starting point with the discussions to build upon what I said last week, Mr. Chairman.”

Chairman Parks said, “And I believe that is in the proposed budget that was just read, that those monies would come out of that Arena sales tax.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “If you are talking about the pavilions, yes.”

Chairman Parks said, “Yes, the pavilions, yeah.”

Mr. Buchanan said, “That is what you see in front of you.”

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Chairman Parks said, "I do want to kind of respond to Commissioner Peterjohn's comment about the Rx or the prescription co-pay. In my past employment, I have had to look at this for 29 years in a budget as a department head and deal with personnel problems, also. It's really disheartening when you go from a tier 1 to a tier 2 and you have a type 1 diabetic that comes into your office and says, gee, Chief, this is not on my new co-pay here and the insulin product that was out there. When you call the insurance, it says, well it's not on there because we're not going to cover it in tier 2. Well if that employee loses that \$160,000, that two percent is minuscule. That going back to the under \$75,000 and two percent, I think that was one of the reasons that we did that, realizing that we were going from tier 1 to tier 2 on the PPK (Preferred Plus of Kansas) to save that money, I think, is kind of a slap in the face to the employee if we don't have something out there, especially those that are really struggling and on the lower end of the pay scale. So, I think that we need to keep the co-pay as it is now and they will, if I am not mistaken, Mr. Manager, won't they, if the premium goes up, the employee will take a little bit of a hit on that on their paycheck. I believe, Commissioner, you said that it wasn't going to affect that part of it, but if the premium does go up, they will bear a part of that cost."

Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes, sir."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay. Did you understand that they would bear a part of that cost, also?"

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, I understood, as a small part of it, my main comments were more tied to the trade-off between the across the board pay increase and the change concerning the healthcare policy, because the Manager, we're facing the same problem that all other bodies are, in terms of increased healthcare costs, and the current healthcare program, we were looking at a 13 percent increase and the Manager came back with a recommendation of an eight percent increase. With the action that we put together Friday restoring this, Mr. Chairman, we are going to be back a little bit over 10 percent and that Chris built into the base, if we continue providing healthcare in the way we have in the past, that will be built into the base in the future."

Chairman Parks said, "Well, I would say in response to that, that if we, in next year's budget, if this goes on through like we had planned yesterday or we had in our session yesterday, that next year if we do plan on, if there is a raise or if there's some way to get in there and identify whether or not this is the way to do the cut on the insurance is to go from tier 1 to tier 2 or if there is another avenue that we can take either to pass more of that along to the person, the employee, or what we need to do on that. We are in a healthcare dilemma and we certainly want to do the things we can for our employees, but I think going from tier 1 to tier 2 at this point would be quite devastating to some of our long-term good employees. Commissioner Welshimer."

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Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well, I think this is a very meaningful budget that’s different from any other years, well from back 14, 15 years ago. For the last 14 or 15 years, the County has been collecting an extra five percent in property tax due to valuation increases. Those have compounded and added up. We had a one mill rollback last year, and yet we ended up with a \$60 million ending balance this year. County has done well, money has been managed well, but I think that the taxes were warranted to be rolled back, even though we have only half a mill, or not quite half a mill this year, isn’t that correct?”

Chairman Parks said, “I believe a little over.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “A little over.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “A little over half a mill.”

Chairman Parks said, “.53.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Okay. Then we must add, also, that one mill that we rolled back last year, so that’s actually going to amount to a mill and a half this year. We don’t have a five percent valuation increase, isn’t that correct?”

Mr. Buchanan said, “That’s right.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “And so I think we’ve done very well in managing this budget and determining what we were going to do and keeping the pavilions open and essential services provided and I am very pleased with it. I need to support it.”

Chairman Parks said, “Any other discussion? Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I think it’s important the public knows we do take our responsibility, the fiduciary responsibility, very serious. I think we would all, as we look at our tax bill from federal, state, local jurisdictions, I think all of us would like less tax burden. But what I know about local tax burden is that it’s the pavilions in our community. It’s not something that is nebulous and in some other community. It’s something that affects our community and that we should decide how we spend our local money on things that improve our community. I think that’s the real difference. You can argue that the tax burden everywhere is too much and it probably is, but when it really gets down to the locals, where a lot of politics is, we supply the services for our community that somebody is going to take advantage of. We all know what they are. They’re the Sheriff’s Department, the jail, 911, EMS (Emergency Medical Services), mental health, public health, roads, bridges, hazardous waste and solid waste, the Extension Center budget, and you could go on and on and on. And then things like facilities, like the Zoo and Exploration Place and the pavilions and

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Lake Afton and Sedgwick County Park. Somebody uses all of those facilities or we wouldn't have them. One of the things I always say about budgets is we can slash it as much as we want, but you're going to gore somebody's ox. Somebody is going to lose the services that they depend on, that adds to their quality or their health or their welfare. We have to balance that every year. We take that very seriously. I think there's been extreme amount of opening up the budget and looking at it since February.

"Generally, you don't have to start the budget process until June, but during our retreat in February, we started talking about the financial condition, what the assessed valuation was going to be, what the loss from the State was going to be, what the feds might do with the stimulus package and how it would affect us. The truth is, we'll continually audit. We've got a Finance staff that will continue to audit the financial condition of our community and the County in general the rest of the year and all of next year. We'll make adjustments. If we feel like you have to lay off people in the middle of a budget, you really find out if you need to start trimming back on the ground as things start happening and the landscape changes, we'll be willing to make those kinds of decisions if we have to. It may be that someone will retire or quit and we won't replace them, but that becomes savings to the community. You know, we understand our mission, our core values and our fiduciary responsibility. I think we work hard to make sure that's maintained."

"Finally, Sedgwick County is in better shape than other local jurisdictions. Read the paper every day. Yes, we have struggled with the budget, but we have kept most of the services for the community that they have come to enjoy and use and have been able to even offset some with some other funding. So where some people are furloughing and laying off and taking those kind of actions, because of our financial condition, we have been able to maintain those kind of services at full levels that people expect in our community. When we talk about healthcare for our employees, it's a bipolar kind of conversation because I would contend that everybody in this community would like everybody to have good healthcare. So it is contentious to say that you don't want Sedgwick County employees to have any healthcare or to diminish it because we really want to raise the level, in fact, that's the conversation we're having nationally. How do we get people out of the ranks of the uninsured? How do we bring down the cost? How do we make sure every American has a decent healthcare plan and we challenge them to be responsible for their own health and wellness at the same time? We have done a lot of that.

"I think we have been prudent, but I hear from our employees that every year it is diminishing, but I also hear that from the general population, everywhere, that my healthcare is killing me. At some point, we have to take stands and say, healthcare is important to people. It's very important to people. In fact, if it wasn't important, we wouldn't be having this national debate as the number one issue on legislative minds right now about healthcare and how we reform it, how we make it work for people; people at the highest levels of income and people at the lowest levels of income, and truthfully we have all of those in Sedgwick County. We have high priced people and we have

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people that are at the lowest scale and we try to offer them healthcare that is prudent, fiduciary responsibility and provides them some level of coverage. I am okay with putting the co-pay back in because I think it helps our employees and maybe keeps them a little more healthy coming to work and serving the people. Just a few comments. I am ready to vote on the budget. I think the work has been done. It is a little bit of a mill levy reduction, which I think is good in these times, and it provides services for the people that they have come to expect. Thank you, Mr. Chair.”

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

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to be approving of this budget also. I think there has been a tremendous amount of work that’s transpired, actually since January, but especially among Commissioners here in these recent months. I think the staff has done a great job in responding to the different scenarios that we have requested of them. A couple of comments that I want to make about the budget is, first of all, Sedgwick County government is not in a financial crisis. I think that’s due to the fact that we have had, over the past few years, good policy decisions that have been made. I think we’ve had accurate forecasting from our staff and we’ve had a professional managerial approach to taking care of County finances.”

Commissioner Unruh continued, “So we’re actually in a, compared to many governments, in a very enviable position and it’s a result of policy decisions that were made in the past. We are having to suffer a \$10 million reduction in revenues this year, between the State and our loss of our other revenue streams, and we’re able to absorb that. We are planning this year to use County reserves to about \$4.6 million with this budget, I believe. We’re looking at next year deficit spending, or using reserves, approaching \$12 million, and we are able to sustain that because of the work that’s been done previously and careful management of finances. But even in that very strong financial position, I think we have to be real careful about this type of deficit spending and we have to be very careful about, not only current decisions we made, but how they affect long-term the finances of the County and we need to consider this five-year planning horizon that is presented to us on a regular basis. I guess it’s a long way of saying that our policy decisions have effects, both now and in the future.

“So that leads me up to make some comments about the budget, in which I am not in agreement, however, I am still going to be approving of the budget and I want to repeat some comments that I made in Friday’s budget discussion and in Tuesday’s budget discussion and once again, Commissioners, I want to say these are not ad hominem comments. These are about the issues, I hope. So I hope you take them in that light. I’m uncomfortable and disapproving of using the Arena reserve for the pavilions. We are able to cover it in our general fund monies. I think this perhaps establishes a precedent that, in my opinion, was not contemplated originally. There’s some danger in just using reserves which, in my opinion, seem to be only for expediency. I am not in favor of invading that reserve that was established for the downtown Arena when historically, and in the proposed budget, that subsidy was being able to be covered in the general fund money.

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“Secondly, I’m concerned a little bit about the healthcare benefits. We’ve had continuing increases in the cost to the County and the cost to our employees. But I just looked at, I can’t help but look at it, from my years in the private sector, operating a business, and that I know that healthcare costs, as they continue to escalate, and this year we are faced with a 13 percent increase, the County can’t continue to support that, is all I am saying. What we are going to end up with here is a 10 percent increase in healthcare benefits, but the County will pay, our general tax persons will pay and even under this plan, a family, I think, if I got my information correct, family coverage, with what we’re adopting, is going to go up \$75 dollars a year. It’s a difficult decision. There’s no easy answers, but I know that as a business cannot keep covering those costs as they escalate, they have to end up getting back to the user. We are going to have to consider that in the future. That’s a concern for me.”

“Lastly, I’m most concerned that we’re establishing a policy of arbitrary decisions about our wage and salary administration. We have selected a number of \$75,000 and come to the conclusion, as a group, that if you’re making \$75,000 or more, that’s enough, you don’t need to make any more, we are going to cap that. You don’t get a salary adjustment this year. I think that that, again, might be expedient to get us where we want to go with a mill levy reduction, but it does not seem to me to be consistent with an equitable administration of our wage and salary policies. For just us to say, that’s the number, and if above it, you don’t get any more. I don’t think it’s equitable. I don’t think it’s just. It does not seem to be the right thing to do. I know that different people make different salaries, so in that sense, it’s not a system of equality of what people make, but it’s always been equitable, so that the ability for a person to be rewarded for education and for experience and for performance and for leadership, the American way is you get rewarded for that. We have decided we’re not doing that. I just think that it’s not the right thing just to choose a number and say you don’t get any. Now, you’ve all heard me say this, I just want to say it so it’s on record, and I think it’s not good policy and so I am not happy with that. But, having said all that, I am going to be supportive of this budget.

I think everyone’s worked hard to arrive at this position and we will go forward with the consequences of our decision. That’s all I have, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Well it appears that we have one more light on. Commissioner Peterjohn.”

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Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Well, I want to comment and then when you said dialog, I’m hoping that we can continue this discussion because some of the comments of Commissioner Unruh I agree with and some I disagree with.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “And I want to say for the record that I very much appreciate that collegial nature of all our discussions and the professional way everything has been discussed, in terms of going through this difficult budget process. First time through for me, you all are much more experienced in that regard than I am, but I would like to thank you in that regard. I just want to, I agree with some of the concerns, in terms of where we are going in the long-term; the reduction in the salaries and the salary freeze with Commissioner Unruh bringing it up. The mill levy portion of it is relatively small. I believe the importance is that we have a community that’s hurting at this point and I believe that as a fellow elected official, and to fellow elected officials, and also the highest paid County employees, some of whom are in six figure incomes, we need to be able to lead from the front and freezing our salaries, which isn’t going to be all that much different from what other local units, at least in our community that I have been reading about are doing, I think it is right and appropriate.”

Commissioner Peterjohn continued, “There are some things in this budget I am not happy with. I’m also willing to look at, you know, and I’ll take it that my motion for a one and a half percent pay increase across the board died for lack of a second. Get that clearly in the record. I do want to, one comment that Commissioner Unruh made that comes very close to me because I was deeply involved in the 2004 election concerning the downtown Arena and the sales tax that went with it, and I want to include for the record some of the specific language that was part of that vote; and part of that vote said, ‘shall the following be adopted, shall Sedgwick County, Kansas, be authorized to impose a special one percent, one cent County-wide retailers sales tax, [the arena sales taxes]. Proceeds of which shall be used only to pay the costs of,’ it talked about the downtown Arena, then part B it said specifically, ‘designed for the Kansas Coliseum complex and construction of improvements to the pavilions; and C, establishing an operating and maintenance reserve for the downtown Arena and the Kansas Coliseum complex’ and that language, to me, is very clear that what we are doing, in terms of using that sales tax money tied the pavilions and the fact that the pavilions, we’ve spent only \$6 million out of what was \$9 million that was budgeted, I think that that is a prudent and reasonable area. I think reasonable minds can disagree and I respect very much Commissioner Unruh's comments on it. So I am glad that we are in a position where we can disagree without being disagreeable.”

Chairman Parks said, “Well, I’m sorry that I missed your motion on the percent and a half. I thought that was a comment instead of a motion or I would have addressed that.”

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Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Okay, well I..."

Chairman Parks said, "So, if there's a motion out there, if you would like to make that motion, feel free to do so."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, I just made it. Now whether it's got a second..."

Chairman Parks said, "I'm sure it will."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Mr. Chairman, may I..."

Chairman Parks said, "Well, we have a motion on the floor. I would like to get a second before we have further discussion on it."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, I would be willing to second it if I understood the motion."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Oh, well the motion..."

Chairman Parks said, "Clarify that."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "...the motion was to substitute instead of the two percent pay increase for County employees that's contained within the Manager's proposed budget at this point, reduce that to one and a half percent."

Chairman Parks said, "For all employees?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "All employees?"

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "For all employees, for all employees who would be receiving the two percent under the proposed budget."

Commissioner Unruh said, "I can't support that."

Chairman Parks said, "Yeah. Well that died for lack of a second. We're actually in a discussion of a motion and a second, so I think we've kind of put that one to rest, however awkward that may have been. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I asked to speak because I wanted a clarification on the one and a half percent. If it was for all employees across the board, I would

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second that motion. But if it's just for a certain category, then I can't support it. Secondly, and I just wanted to clarify that I fully understand that the Arena vote clearly gives us the authority to invade those funds for operating support for the pavilions. I understand that we have that authority to do that. I just am objecting that we do it. I know we have the authority to do it."

Chairman Parks said, "And we..."

Commissioner Unruh said, "I thought there was something else I was going to say but I think I forgot."

Chairman Parks said, "...and we have certainly had comments about the language of that from the people in my district thinking that Britt Brown was going to be fixed up with those funds and that we find out, is not the case. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well, and this is really focused on the pavilions. I have been in favor of drawing down some money from that fund because I did think it was legal. I went through, just like everyone else, and tried to figure it out. I asked Rich Euson if he thought that those funds could be used for that and he felt that it was, so I advocated for that. I also advocated, and we talked about it yesterday, that there's more work to be done on the pavilions. If they're going to be stand alone and we don't attach them to the Britt Brown, which we haven't figured out what we're doing with yet, that maybe we need to refigure a business plan for the pavilions, what it looks like, what are we going to do going forward. We probably don't want to continue to draw down every year on an operating reserve because it eventually goes away and then you're faced with raising taxes or diminishing the hours and usage. We need to think of the business plan, the pro-form of what we want to do. Secondly, maybe the fee structure now is out of line for the use of the pavilions. The Britt Brown was bringing in enough money to offset that and we still had a little bit of a subsidy but now we're stuck with the whole subsidy. And believe me, I don't believe subsidies are wrong, we use that term, but we subsidize the Zoo, we subsidize Lake Afton and Sedgwick County Park and Exploration Place, and truthfully, most things we do as government is subsidized. Police and Fire and EMS don't pay for themselves. All of it is subsidized with taxpayers' money.

"That's what we're responsible for doing, is taking money and subsidizing things that private industry probably isn't going to build for our community. I don't have a problem with that. But I think we need to look at the business plan, and based in that, is looking at the fee structure. Are we charging enough for five and six day events? And that will wrinkle some feathers, I'm sure a little bit with some organizations, but to have that facility and be a user, maybe the fee structure needs to change and open public dialog with the users and stakeholders involved would probably be a good

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thing this next year. And we need to talk about concessions because one of the things that the Britt Brown brought in that made it profitable was a huge amount of concessions. But we don't have that ability in just the pavilions and maybe we need to rethink how we do concessions at the pavilions, because right now, many people bring in coolers and their own food and all of that and there's no revenue stream there. Now, I'm okay with one year, but before long, if you're drawing down \$600,000 for many years, we're starting to get in trouble in our Arena operating funds. I wanted to be sure that we talked about that because I talked about it yesterday, but we still have a lot of people in the audience and listening that are very adamant about keeping the pavilions open, as am I, but be aware that we may have to have a dialog about the future of what that looks like, how we're going to pay for it and how the users participate in that. I hope that doesn't wrinkle anybody's feathers. We are going to save the pavilions, but we need to have an ongoing conversation."

Chairman Parks said, "Do you want to wave this [sign]?"

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

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you whoever left that [sign] for me. I think that we do, that what Commissioner Norton just said was just in a nutshell from hours of discussion that we have had in staff meetings, in our staff and our County Commissioners' staff meetings and things, and we will, I'm sure, certainly, look at things, look at RFPs (request for proposals), look at the things that are coming about with that area, but this certainly, I am pleased that we are funding the pavilion project and the way we're doing it this year. Having said that, I see no other lights on, so I am going to call for the vote."

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, "And we need to take about a 15 minute break. And we are in recess."

The Board of County Commissioners recessed at 10:57 a.m. and returned at 11:13 a.m.

Chairman Parks said, "We're out of our recess and we're going to take up the Fire Agenda to let some of our personnel go from that item."

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The Board of County Commissioners recessed into the Regular Meeting of the Fire District #1 at 11:13 a.m. and returned at 11:17 a.m.

Chairman Parks said, “And we’re back in session with the Board of County Commissioners Meeting. Call the next item.”

D. APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN SEDGWICK COUNTY AND THE OAKLAWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR CONTROLLED ACCESS TO CERTAIN ROADWAYS IN OAKLAWN ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2009 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OAKLAWN/SUNVIEW BLOCK PARTY PARADE.

Mr. Ron Holt, Assistant County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is an annual request that’s several years now that’s being made by the Oaklawn Improvement District for controlled access, and I won’t read all of those roadways, but a number of roadways inside the Oaklawn Improvement District for September 19, 2009. Oaklawn agrees to coordinate with the Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Reserve with regard to traffic control on the affected County roadways before the events take place. This would be in conjunction with the Oaklawn/Sunview block party parade. I’d be happy to answer any questions. Otherwise, I would ask or recommend you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

Chairman Parks said, “What’s the will of the Board?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Well this is an annual parade in my district and I plan to participate in the parade.”

MOTION

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

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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

Mr. Holt said, "Thank you."

E. GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS (NACCHO) FOR PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION BETA TEST PROGRAM.

Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "All local and state health departments will be eligible for a voluntary accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board in 2011. The purpose of this movement towards accreditation of health departments is to protect the public, do a better job of improving the health and protecting the public through advancing the quality and performance of all health departments. The Public Health Accreditation Board will begin an 18 month beta test of the accreditation process in September. It's an 18 month process that will involve 29 health departments. We are applying to be one of those 29 health departments across the nation. Sedgwick County Health Department is in the process of preparing for accreditation and we would like your support of our application to be a beta test site.

"Beta test sites will go through the accreditation process, including gathering documentation, hosting a site visit, getting the report from the site visit and then responding to that report. The total funding for this process is \$27,280 and there is no match requirement. Funding will be used to support the evaluation process in quality improvement activities and it will be administered by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) which is our local health department national association. While accreditation is voluntary, most local and national public health leaders believe that it will eventually be tied to federal funding. If we are chosen to be eligible, we will not be accredited at the end of the process, but we will be eligible for an expedited accreditation review process. We'll have priority in the queue for accreditation. I recommend you approve this grant application and authorize the Chair to sign all necessary documents, including a grant award agreement if we are chosen as a beta test site. I'd be happy to answer any questions."

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

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the grant application and authorize the Chair to sign all necessary documents, including a grant award agreement containing substantially the same terms and conditions as the application; and approve establishment of budget authority at the time the grant award documents are executed.

Chairman Parks seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, "We do have some discussion. Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Claudia, could you, one of the concerns I have in this connection with certification with this board is the possibility of potential that we might end up in a position where we are dependent upon an unfunded mandate from the federal government if they come down the line and if there's a tie to it. What are our risks in that regard?"

Ms. Blackburn said, "Right now, it's voluntary. I don't foresee it becoming mandatory unless there is some funding attached to it, but I certainly can't guarantee the future."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, none of us can guarantee the future. Can you give me some idea, in terms of the people who are on the Public Health Accreditation Board, what sort of folks are they, are they mainly local health officials from around the country or are they state or federal or some mixture of all of the above?"

Ms. Blackburn said, "The PHAB Board, the Public Health Accreditation Board, consists of a number of national public health organizations; the ASTHO, which is the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers, I believe the CDC (Center for Disease Control) is a partner, NACCHO is a partner, I think the [Association of] Schools of Public Health (ASPH), I would be happy to send you the list, but it's all of the national leaders in public health, their organizations are represented on the Board."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I have no problems with accreditation and especially voluntary accreditation by our peers, but I'm very leery of putting us potentially in a position where control of our Health Department might be tied to unfunded mandates out of either, well I'll be very broad; Topeka as well as Washington."

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Ms. Blackburn said, “We will certainly keep you posted on any issues that come up that are relevant to that concern.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I think this will be important in another context because we will be the site in Kansas that will open up accreditation and look at it and be able to help our peers throughout Kansas understand what accreditation is going to do. We’ve had several workshops with County Commissioners and public health officials around the State where we’ve talked about regionalization, but truthfully, we’ve talked also about accreditation and what it might mean to all health departments; large ones and small ones. I think it’s worthwhile for us to be in the beta test to get a leg up on what accreditation might look like, how hard it will be and what the unintended consequences might be if later it is tied to federal funding because I think that could have profound implications in the State of Kansas and I just assume be a leader in that realm as opposed to a follower. I think I am going to be very supportive of this.”

Chairman Parks said, “And kind of following up what both of you have said on that, I do know in the realm of law enforcement that some agencies that went for accreditation through the process and the tedious process of that, then came back a couple years afterwards and said we’re not going to be accredited anymore and I think that’s what Claudia is telling us, that she’s going to keep us informed on that. If there are pressures or if there are things out there that are coming up, we can certainly bail out of this.”

Ms. Blackburn said, “Well, what this process is about, if you don’t mind me commenting...”

Chairman Parks said, “Sure.”

Ms. Blackburn said, “...is they’re actually evaluating what it takes for local health departments to be accredited. If we’re chosen, we’ll be giving them a lot of feedback about how much time it takes and we’ll be using some of this money to pay for staff to help do that. They want to know really

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what it does take for a local health department to be accredited and we hope to be able to help with that process.”

Chairman Parks said, “Seeing no further discussion, call the vote.”

VOTE

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

Ms. Blackburn said, “Thank you.”

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

F. PUBLIC WORKS.

1. AGREEMENT WITH THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

Mr. Joe Brunk, Director, Noxious Weeds, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This is our annual agreement that we have with Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) to spot treat the noxious weeds that are growing on their right-of-way areas here in Sedgwick County. We have a good relationship with KDOT and I’m here to ask that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, “Motion and a second. Any further discussion? We don’t get to choose what the County option on those weeds then, that we do, on some of those weeds that are out there that are County option, which I, by the way, didn’t know until yesterday that there was a County option on noxious weeds. I do want to say that, Mr. Brunk, your flier; I’d like to see those at the fair and at some of the other fall festivals and things coming up. That is really an informative pamphlet that

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you have there and that's great. I think that needs to get out to more of the people, so I would like to thank you for that. Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I would just like to second the Chairman's comments, in terms of the flier, I think it's very important to have out there. I didn't realize the variety of thistles that exist here in Kansas."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay. Any other discussion? Call the vote."

VOTE

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

Mr. Brunk said, "Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you."

2. APPROVAL OF THE FORCE ACCOUNT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING INSPECTION SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT 823-X-1870; BRIDGE ON HYDRAULIC BETWEEN 63RD STREET SOUTH AND 71ST STREET SOUTH. CIP# B-442. DISTRICT 2.

Mr. David Spears, Director, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Item F-2 is a force account agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation to reimburse Sedgwick County for engineering inspection services that we will perform during construction of the bridge project on Hydraulic between 63rd Street South and 71st Street South over the Wichita-Valley Center Flood Control. This project is designated as B-442 in the Capital Improvement Program and will have 80 percent reimbursement. The maximum amount of federal funds a County can receive is \$135,916. Recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chair to sign."

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MOTION

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

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

Mr. Spears said, "Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you."

G. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING ON JULY 30, 2009.

Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The meeting of July 30 results in four items for your consideration today. First item;

1. SQUAD FIRE TRUCK – FLEET MANAGEMENT/FIRE DISTRICT #1 FUNDING – FIRE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION/FIRE DISTRICT SQUAD AND STAFF VEHICLE 2009

"Recommendation is to accept the low proposal from Unruh Fire and establish contract pricing at \$108,335.75 per vehicle for an initial cost of \$216,671.50. Item 2;

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**2. CONTRACTING SERVICES FOR SAP PERFORMANCE BASED PAY
WORK – HUMAN RESOURCES/ERP DEPARTMENT
FUNDING – POST SAP IMPLEMENTATION**

“That recommendation is to accept the proposal from ComerIT in the amount of \$95,606. Item 3;

**3. UPGRADE ESKER FAX SYSTEM – DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND
OPERATIONS
FUNDING – KDHE BIOTERRORISM GRANT/JUVENILE DETENTION
FACILITY ADMINISTRATION/DISTRICT COURT TECHNOLOGY/
NETWORKING & TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

“Recommendation is to accept the quote from Esker in the amount of \$21,600 plus actual travel expenses, and Item 4;

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

“Recommendation is to accept the low quote from Dell in the amount of \$26,920.80. I’d be happy to answer any questions and recommend approval of these items.”

Chairman Parks said, “What’s the will of the Board?”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

Chairman Parks said, “Motion and a second. Any further discussion? Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Just for the record, Dave, you have no connection with Unruh Fire, right?”

Commissioner Unruh said, “No. But once again, they’re wonderful people.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Okay, well I just thought since you were making the motion, you might want to have that in the record.”

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Commissioner Unruh said, “No relation at all.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Okay.”

Chairman Parks said, “I can back him up on that because this is in my district up at south side of Sedgwick and they do not claim Commissioner Unruh. Oh, I shouldn’t say that like that I guess.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “I’m speechless.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “I would also, on Item 2, my understanding and I appreciate getting a staff briefing on that item, that that item is mainly for the personnel for performance pay, which we have suspended for this year. Since Jo is here, I was interested if she would be willing to, and for the record, give an explanation, in terms of the importance of this in light of spending almost \$100,000 when we’ve kind of put this at least on the back burner for 2010.”

Ms. Jo Templin, Director, Human Resources, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This project is important. As you know, personnel administration involves performance management. And performance management results, or scores of evaluations, are used in many personnel decisions to include disciplinary decisions, promotional decisions, those types of things. Capturing performance scores and having an efficient way to do that in the system helps us be efficient about that decision making. It also allows managers in the departments to be held accountable to complete performance management duties and to make sure that whether we’re doing a general pay adjustment (GPA) or for performance based pay, we still have that process going on. The ultimate decision on whether to pay differentiated merits at the end of the year, or a GPA at the end of the year, doesn’t preclude us from having a good performance management system and a way to track, audit by demographics, audit by department, those scores and to have an efficient way to do that. So we’re hoping that you would approve this project to go on even though, ultimately, at the end of the day, this year we won’t be giving differentiated merits, but we will still ensure that we have a good process for performance management here at the County.”

Chairman Parks said, “Seeing no further comments, any further questions of Jo while she’s there? Thank you.”

Ms. Templin said, “Thank you.”

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Chairman Parks said, “Good job. Call the vote.”

VOTE

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

Ms. Baker said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you, Iris.”

CONSENT AGENDA

H. CONSENT AGENDA.

- 1. Schedule post annexation public hearing for City of Kechi Annexation Ordinance No. 04-522. District 1.**
- 2. Reschedule public hearing to August 19, 2009, for adoption by incorporation by reference of standard code (Wichita – Sedgwick County Unified Zoning Code, July 9, 2009 Edition).**
- 3. Affiliation Agreement with Accessible Home Health.**
- 4. Appointment of Scott Kipper, M.D. as a Deputy District Coroner.**
- 5. ZON2004-00069 - Extension of time to complete the platting requirement for a zone change from “SF-20” Single-Family Residential to “LI” Limited Industrial for approximately 0.6 acres located north of K-96 and east of Greenwich Road. District 1.**
- 6. General Bill Check Register for the week of July 22, 2009 – July 28, 2009.**
- 7. Payroll Check Register for the week of July 18, 2009.**
- 8. Order dated July 15, 2009 to correct tax roll for a change of assessment.**

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9. Order dated July 22, 2009 to correct tax roll for a change of assessment.

10. Plat.

Approved by Public Works. The County Treasurer has certified that taxes in 2008 and all prior years have been paid for the following plat:

Youth Horizons Addition

Mr. Buchanan, County Manager, said, "Commissioners, you have the Consent Agenda before you and I would recommend you approve it."

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

I. OTHER

Chairman Parks said, "Okay, if nobody else has anything 'other,' I do have a schedule for the American Miniature Horse Association show, which is currently at the pavilions, starts tomorrow, and I'm sure you can go to their website. They're out there preparing for tomorrow and getting their trailers and horses and things set up. If you haven't seen this, this is kind of an interesting show that they are a little bit different than the regular horse show, so looks like they have some real exciting things going on on Sunday. That's about all I have going on in my neighborhood this weekend. Anybody else? Seeing no further action to come before this Board, we are adjourned."

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Commissioner Welshimer said, “No, no.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “No.”

Chairman Parks said, “Oh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Executive Session?”

Chairman Parks said, “Do we need an Executive Session?”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “Mr. Chairman?”

Chairman Parks said, “Yes.”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved that the Board of County Commissioners recess into Executive Session for 30 minutes to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney-client relationship relating to pending claims and litigation, legal advice and preliminary discussions relating to the acquisition of real property for public purposes and that the Board of County Commissioners return to this room from Executive Session no sooner than 12:05 p.m.

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

The Board of County Commissioners recessed into Executive Session at 11:35 a.m. and returned at 12:21 p.m.

Chairman Parks said, “We're back in session from Executive Session. Mr. Euson.”

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Mr. Richard Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioners, while in Executive Session, part of the session was devoted to discussing two workers’ compensation cases and at this time I would like your authority to settle both of them. You can do that in one motion. One of them involves an employee by the name of Mark Powell and the recommendation is to pay \$25,000 in that case and to leave the medical open. The other is involving an employee by the name of Phillip Buffington and in that case, the recommendation is to pay the amount of \$82,440.70 which would be payable on a periodic basis, not as a lump sum, and also to leave the medical payments open in that case. I would be glad to answer any of your questions. Otherwise, I recommend you make those payments.”

MOTION

Chairman Parks moved to take the recommended action from Legal.

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. Euson said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “Seeing no further action, no further comment from the bench, this meeting is adjourned.”

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

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**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

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APPROVED:

_____, 2009