

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SITTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF FIRE DISTRICT #1**

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 10:02 a.m., on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Karl Peterjohn; with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Gwen Welshimer; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Kelly Parks; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Gary Curmode, Fire Chief; Mr. Craig A. Leu, Captain; and Ms. Katie Asbury, Deputy County Clerk.

ROLL CALL

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR CAPTAIN CRAIG A. LEU FOR COMPLETING THE EXECUTIVE FIRE OFFICER PROGRAM AT THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY IN EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND.

Mr. Gary Curmode, Fire Chief, greeted the Commissioners and said, “This happens once in a while to our up and coming leaders of our department. We are a strong believer in succession planning and we continue to work on the mentoring and succession planning of our department. The Department of Homeland Security under its umbrella has the National Fire Academy, the Emergency Management Institute and the United States Fire Administration. The National Fire Academy is our version of the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) Academy that the law enforcement community attends on a regular basis. Again, it’s a highly selective process. On this award here, it’s an achievement of over four years of diligence and work. You have to go through a very tight selection process. The Executive Fire Officer Program began in 1985. This is the 25th anniversary this year. There’s been nearly 3,000 graduates. If you look at the total firefighters in the United States, it’s over 1.3 million, and people around the world in the fire service can attend this.”

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“This is a four-year program, at the end of each two-week course the student has to return home and provide a...similar to a thesis or a practicum on a fire service issue. We usually, before, like Captain Leu in this case, before he left, he asked what issues we’re faced in the fire service and he’s provided four major things in the last four years that has helped us to continue to succeed here in Sedgwick County and the Fire District. He is our sixth graduate of our department. Again, this is part of our succession planning for the Sedgwick County Fire District #1 and we expect really better things from Captain Leu at this point. I’d like to read off his certificate and then I’ll hand over the podium to him to explain the program in detail, because every time I called out to the station in the evenings, when he had all his station work done, the inspections done, and again answering the emergencies, and so forth, he was working until the midnight hours, burning midnight oil on his paper. ‘The National Fire Academy, in recognition of successful completion of the requisite studies courses and applied research projects, the National Fire Academy, under the authority granted by the 93rd Congress of the United States of America and on recommendation of the faculty, confers the title of Executive Fire Officer upon Craig A. Leu with all honors, privileges and responsibilities thereto appertaining. Awarded this 27th day of November, 2009.’ Captain Leu.”

Chairman Peterjohn said, “Captain Leu, welcome to the County Commission.”

Mr. Craig A. Leu, Captain, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Chief wanted me to get up here and tell you a little bit about the program. As he said, it was a four-year program. The four classes over time that I took were with people from Fire Department of New York, Philadelphia Fire, I could go on and on. I really got to meet some interesting fire chiefs, and network with them and learn a lot. That’s probably as big as part of the class as the theses I had to come back and write. It’s good to see Chief Brazill here, he helped me with this as well. Chief Williams and my immediate supervisor, Chief Segraves, who helped me as well. I appreciate them, but I would be remiss if I did not thank publicly my wife. When I got accepted to this program, it was me and her. When I finished it four years later, it was me, her, a one year old and a three year old, so my life changed significantly through this and all for the better. So I appreciate you giving us the opportunity to do it and I appreciate the Fire District and district administration to allow me the time to do it. Thank you.”

Chairman Peterjohn said, “Thank you, Captain Leu. Wish you the best.”

Captain Leu said, “Thank you.”

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Chairman Peterjohn said, “Chief Curmode, if you don’t mind, I’d like to throw out a question to you, in terms of since we have a Fire District meeting today, the item in our Bid Board concerning the self-contained breathing apparatuses, allowing us to work interchangeably, in terms of that equipment with the Wichita Fire Department. The question I had for you, were there any other fire departments that will also be able to utilize this same sort of equipment that we have a mutual aid or some other cooperative agreement with besides the City of Wichita?”

Chief Curmode said, “Mr. Chairman, yes, when the City of Wichita and our department did the study on all the air packs over the past couple years, the offer was made to all the departments in the Sedgwick County Fire Chiefs Association and surrounding mutual aid departments that if they wanted to at that time change the make or piggyback, if you will, unto the contract with the same type of air pack, they would be allowed to. Again, at this point, I think that option was still there. I can’t tell you which departments, if any, piggybacked. But, again, we do cross training with the ISO (International Organization for Standardization) requirements, we do quarterly training with all these mutual aid departments, so those that have these type of air packs, we do the practice of buddy breathing, search and rescue and so forth. And the ones that do not have our make of department, which there’s some like in Butler County, they have a different one, they have Draeger, and Survivair and some of those. We still do a search and rescue and have a backup system to prepare for in the event that someone needs air and gets out of air before they’re out of the building.”

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

Commissioner Parks said, “Well, my first year as a Commissioner, I met with Mr. Lamkey, and this has been in the works for quite some time, and it’s great that we got the approval today to go ahead and do this. But I used the term ‘Scott Pack’ to Mr. Lamkey, and he said, well, right now they’re not Scotts, it’s something else. But I was glad to see the Scott [Health & Safety] company get the bid, and that we are uniform with the other cities, and I guess my rendition of seeing a self-contained breathing apparatus, I always called them ‘Scotts Packs.’ So, I guess that comes back from my dad’s days on the volunteer fire department, E.W. Parks that in 1968, in fact, had a ‘Scotts Pack,’ so it was a pleasure for me to approve this today.”

Chief Curmode said, “Thank you, Commissioner.”

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

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CONSENT AGENDA

B. CONSENT.

1. Donation in the amount of \$100 from West Elementary PTA, Valley Center.

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

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Chairman Peterjohn seconded the motion.

Chairman Peterjohn said, "Commissioner Parks."

Commissioner Parks said, "I did want to let the people at West Elementary [School] and Valley Center know that this is what was on the Consent Agenda and to thank them for their PTA (Parent-Teacher Association) giving their donation to the fire department. Thank you."

Chairman Peterjohn said, "I believe it's in the amount of \$100..."

Commissioner Parks said, "It is."

Chairman Peterjohn said, "...and I'll second your comments for thanking the West Elementary PTA in Valley Center for their contribution. Please call the vote on the Consent Agenda."

VOTE

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

Chairman Peterjohn said, "Next item."

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C. OTHER

Chairman Peterjohn said, “Any Fire District #1 items under ‘other?’ If not, I will entertain a motion to adjourn the Fire District meeting and we’ll return to the Board of County Commissioners.”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to adjourn.

Chairman Peterjohn seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Peterjohn said, “We have adjourned the meeting of the Fire District #1.”

D. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

KARL PETERJOHN, Chairman
Third District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

KELLY PARKS, Commissioner
Fourth District

GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk

APPROVED:

July 7, 2010