County Manager

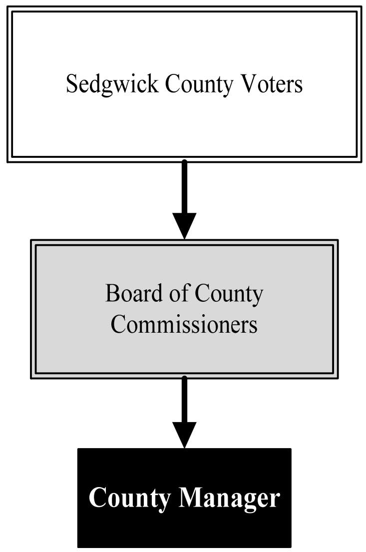
***Mission*: Cultivate a healthy, safe, and welcoming community through exceptional public services, effective partnerships, and dedicated employees.**

Tom Stolz
County Manager

100 N. Broadway St., Suite 630
Wichita, KS 67202
316.660.9393
thomas.stolz@sedgwick.gov

Overview

The County Manager's Office works to ensure essential services and programs are provided to all citizens in an efficient, effective, and timely manner. The Manager's Office provides oversight of the approximately 3,178 employees and manages the County budget of more than $624.7 million for 2026. Additionally, the Office plays a critical role in communicating strategically with stakeholders, ensuring transparency, public engagement, and alignment with the County's goals. Other key responsibilities include comprehensive policy review and development, research of issues and opportunities of the County, oversight of major decisions of County government, management of projects requested by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), and preparation of County Commission meeting agendas.



Strategic Goals:

- *Identify opportunities to expand partnerships and for privatization and/or consolidation of services to improve public service delivery*
- *Develop and implement a comprehensive communication and public education strategy to ensure citizens are well-informed about County services, policies, and initiatives*
- *Support regional workforce development and talent retention strategies to ensure that industries have the necessary human resources for future success*

Highlights

- Collaborated with the BOCC to develop an operating budget that effectively reduced the County mill levy by approximately one-third of a mill and Fire District 1 mill levy by more than two-thirds of a mill, while ensuring fiscal responsibility by not capturing all assessed property valuation
- Facilitated a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional public safety assessment to strengthen partnerships with local police, fire, and emergency communication agencies
- Formed a committee to evaluate possible consolidated services between the City and County

Accomplishments and Strategic Results

Accomplishments

Accomplishments of the County Manager's Office include:

- continued planning and design of the Juvenile Corrections Campus to better coordinate and optimize services for clients;
- continued financial investment in employees through compensation, work environment, and training;
- researched the structure and operations of county government under a property tax framework and explored potential funding opportunities; and
- reviewed and updated operational plans to ensure continuity in the event of a cyber attack.

Strategic Results

The County Manager's Office used the strategic plan to guide the Organization's decisions and actions. In order to be a more open and engaging community partner and employer, the County Manager's Office achieved the following strategic results:

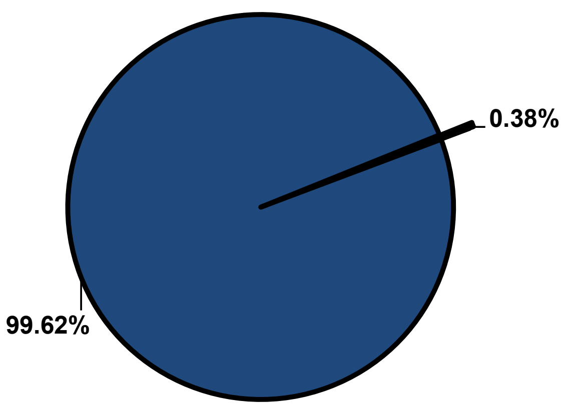
- led a collaborative environment to assist elected and appointed officials in achieving State requirements and responding to community needs through increased community engagement, increasing coordinated outreach efforts by 10.0 percent;
- enhanced public engagement, awareness, and transparency through multiple communication platforms and community involvement methods, resulting in an average 15.0 percent increase in subscribers across all channels; and
- heightened the quality of public service delivery and policy development by reviewing and improving 42 policies to align with best practices and operational efficiency.

Significant Budget Adjustments

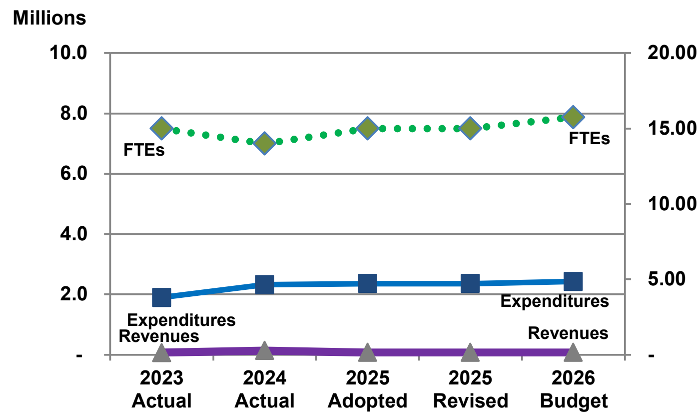
Significant adjustments to the County Manager's 2026 budget include a decrease in contractuals ($80,000) due to the elimination of funding for televised meetings, a $64,723 increase in personnel due to the addition of 0.75 full-time equivalent (FTE) Communications Specialist position, and a $45,000 decrease in contractuals for a comprehensive community-wide survey in 2025.

Departmental Graphical Summary

County Manager
Percent of Total County Operating Budget



Expenditures, Program Revenue & FTEs
All Operating Funds



Budget Summary by Category

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amount Chg '25 Rev.-'26	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26
Personnel	1,485,430	1,704,772	1,982,403	1,982,403	2,169,671	187,268	9.45%
Contractual Services	372,949	597,606	351,850	351,850	235,497	(116,353)	-33.07%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Commodities	36,480	16,900	22,361	22,361	22,500	139	0.62%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Expenditures	**1,894,858**	**2,319,278**	**2,356,614**	**2,356,614**	**2,427,668**	**71,054**	**3.02%**
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Licenses and Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charges for Services	240	-	255	255	-	(255)	-100.00%
All Other Revenue	69,009	136,716	71,797	71,797	75,834	4,037	5.62%
Total Revenues	**69,249**	**136,716**	**72,051**	**72,051**	**75,834**	**3,783**	**5.25%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)							
Property Tax Funded	15.00	14.00	15.00	15.00	15.75	0.75	5.00%
Non-Property Tax Funded	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total FTEs	**15.00**	**14.00**	**15.00**	**15.00**	**15.75**	**0.75**	**5.00%**

Budget Summary by Fund

Fund	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amount Chg '25 Rev.-'26	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26
General Fund	1,894,858	2,319,278	2,356,614	2,356,614	2,427,668	71,054	3.02%
Total Expenditures	**1,894,858**	**2,319,278**	**2,356,614**	**2,356,614**	**2,427,668**	**71,054**	**3.02%**

Significant Budget Adjustments from Prior Year Revised Budget

	Expenditures	Revenues	FTEs
Decrease in contractuals due to the elimination of televised meetings	(80,000)		
Increase in personnel due to the addition of 0.75 FTE Communications Specialist position	64,723		0.75
Decrease in contractuals for a comprehensive community-wide survey in 2025	(45,000)		
Total	(60,277)	-	0.75

Budget Summary by Program

Program	Fund	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	% Chg '25 Rev.-'26	25'-26' FTEs
County Manager	110	1,162,661	1,436,989	1,497,417	1,497,417	1,589,503	6.15%	9.00
Strategic Communications	110	732,198	882,288	859,197	859,197	838,165	-2.45%	6.75
Total		**1,894,858**	**2,319,278**	**2,356,614**	**2,356,614**	**2,427,668**	**3.02%**	**15.75**

Personnel Summary by Fund

Position Titles	Fund	Grade	Budgeted Compensation Comparison 2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	FTE Comparison 2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget
County Manager	110	CONTRACT	213,009	246,026	246,026	1.00	1.00	1.00
Deputy County Manager	110	GRADE 78	176,473	185,297	185,297	1.00	1.00	1.00
Asst. County Mgr. Admin. Svcs.	110	GRADE 77	162,990	177,985	177,985	1.00	1.00	1.00
Asst. County Mgr. Public Safety	110	GRADE 77	162,898	171,044	171,044	1.00	1.00	1.00
Dir. of Strategic Communications	110	GRADE 71	98,487	103,412	103,412	1.00	1.00	1.00
Internal Performance Auditor	110	GRADE 69	78,830	82,772	82,772	1.00	1.00	1.00
Sr. Public Information Officer	110	GRADE 63	70,108	73,613	73,613	1.00	1.00	1.00
Video Specialist	110	GRADE 60	61,800	64,890	64,890	1.00	1.00	1.00
Senior Graphic Designer	110	GRADE 60	60,205	63,215	63,215	1.00	1.00	1.00
Management Analyst II	110	GRADE 61	53,370	59,850	59,850	1.00	1.00	1.00
Communications Specialist	110	GRADE 61	-	-	40,856	-	-	0.75
Communications Coordinator	110	GRADE 59	50,825	53,366	53,366	1.00	1.00	1.00
Administrative Support IV	110	GRADE 55	91,204	90,667	90,667	2.00	2.00	2.00
Management Intern	110	EXCEPT	48,256	83,990	83,990	2.00	2.00	2.00
Subtotal					**1,496,983**			
Add:								
Budgeted Personnel Savings					-			
Compensation Adjustments					120,498			
Overtime/On Call/Holiday Pay					3,000			
Benefits					549,190			
Total Personnel Budget					**2,169,671**	**15.00**	**15.00**	**15.75**

● County Manager

The County Manager serves as the chief administrative officer of Sedgwick County and is responsible for implementing the policy decisions made by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). The County Manager's Office works to ensure essential services and programs are provided to citizens in an efficient, effective, and timely manner.

Fund(s): County General Fund 110

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	1,023,172	1,190,088	1,378,067	1,378,067	1,481,778	103,710	7.5%
Contractual Services	117,242	239,491	106,350	106,350	95,225	(11,125)	-10.5%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	22,246	7,410	13,000	13,000	12,500	(500)	-3.8%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	**1,162,661**	**1,436,989**	**1,497,417**	**1,497,417**	**1,589,503**	**92,085**	**6.1%**
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	120	-	127	127	-	(127)	-100.0%
All Other Revenue	68,105	136,716	70,856	70,856	75,834	4,978	7.0%
Total Revenues	**68,225**	**136,716**	**70,983**	**70,983**	**75,834**	**4,850**	**6.8%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	**9.00**	**8.00**	**9.00**	**9.00**	**9.00**	**-**	**0.0%**

● Strategic Communications

Serving as a valuable link between County programs and services and the citizens of the community, the Strategic Communications Office provides information about the current activities and issues of County government and works on major projects and community initiatives. The Office relays public information to citizens and media through publications, internet content, video, and media requests for interviews. The Office also provides services to County departments and keeps employees informed of internal issues and opportunities.

Fund(s): County General Fund 110

Expenditures	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Adopted	2025 Revised	2026 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '25 - '26	% Chg. '25 - '26
Personnel	462,257	514,684	604,336	604,336	687,893	83,557	13.8%
Contractual Services	255,707	358,115	245,500	245,500	140,272	(105,228)	-42.9%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	14,233	9,489	9,361	9,361	10,000	639	6.8%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	**732,198**	**882,288**	**859,197**	**859,197**	**838,165**	**(21,032)**	**-2.4%**
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Charges For Service	120	-	127	127	-	(127)	-100.0%
All Other Revenue	904	-	941	941	-	(941)	-100.0%
Total Revenues	**1,024**	**-**	**1,068**	**1,068**	**-**	**(1,068)**	**-100.0%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	**6.00**	**6.00**	**6.00**	**6.00**	**6.75**	**0.75**	**12.5%**