Emergency Management

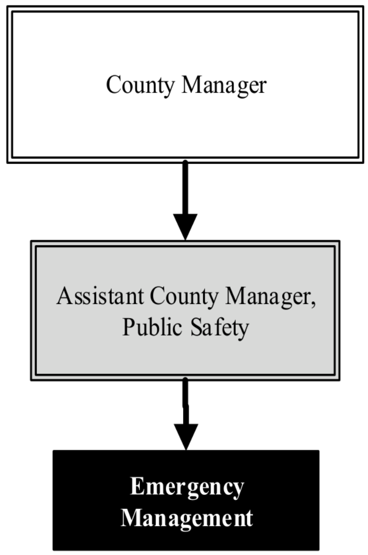
***Mission*: To coordinate and strengthen Sedgwick County's capability to prevent, prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate disasters through collaboration, innovation, and community engagement.**

Julie Stimson
Director

714 N. Main St.
Wichita, KS 67203
316.660.5965
julie.stimson@sedgwick.gov

Overview

Emergency Management (EM) is an essential managerial role of government and specified by Kansas statues. The Sedgwick County Emergency Management Department works closely with community leaders and citizens to reduce hazard vulnerability and to coordinate activities that build, sustain, and improve capabilities to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other man-made disasters.



Strategic Goals:

- *Serve as Sedgwick County's leading expert in contemporary emergency management strategies and practices*
- *Inspire whole-community, all-hazard disaster preparedness and resilience through active volunteer programs, community outreach, and education efforts*
- *Ensure optimal disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery through active stakeholder participation in emergency plan development, training, and exercising, as well as multi-agency coordination of response and recovery efforts through a ready-state Emergency Operations Center*

Highlights

- The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) held the first annual Preparedness Safety Expo at Century II. Nearly 50 organizations participated in the event and over 1,000 people attended
- The largest active shooter exercise series culminated in March with a full-scale exercise at Century II. More than 100 first responders, 40 members of support staff and volunteer organizations, and 60 actors participated

Accomplishments and Strategic Results

Accomplishments

Emergency Management has had the following accomplishments:

- The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Light and Generator Unit was recognized for the 2025 Kansas Emergency Management Association Outstanding Service Award for the emergency power and light support provided during the collapse of the Wichita Commodore building and the town-wide power outage in Mt. Hope. Julie Stimson, the Director of EM was the recipient of the 2025 Sedgwick County Excellence in Public Service Award and earned International Association of Emergency Managers Region Seven Emergency Manager of year. Bryan Ellis earned the Kansas Emergency Management Association Emergency Manager of the Year and the Instructor of the Year. Bryan also went on to earn the American Red Cross Lifetime Hero Award; and
- The five year comprehensive review of the Local Emergency Operations Plan was completed, approved, and locally adopted in 2025 in collaboration with 30 partner agencies. The comprehensive plan serves as the County's disaster response guide until 2030.

Strategic Results

A strategic goal of EM is to conduct three public CERT classes annually. In 2025, in addition to three public classes, one private class was conducted for a faith-based organization, and the first Teen CERT class was conducted with Unified School District (USD) 259. Nearly 300 citizens are trained in immediate disaster response.

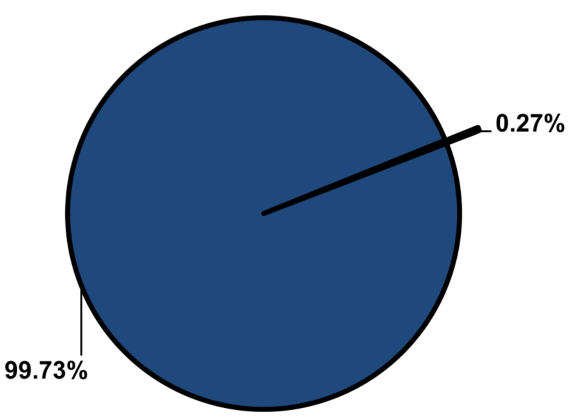
A second strategic goal for EM is to coordinate at least six community preparedness events. EM provided 220 public outreach hours that covered various disaster preparedness topics, including 18 storm-safety classes in most of the cities in Sedgwick County. The advanced CERT Outreach Team added eight events that included senior centers, National Night Out events, Sedgwick County Fair, and various parades.

Significant Budget Adjustments

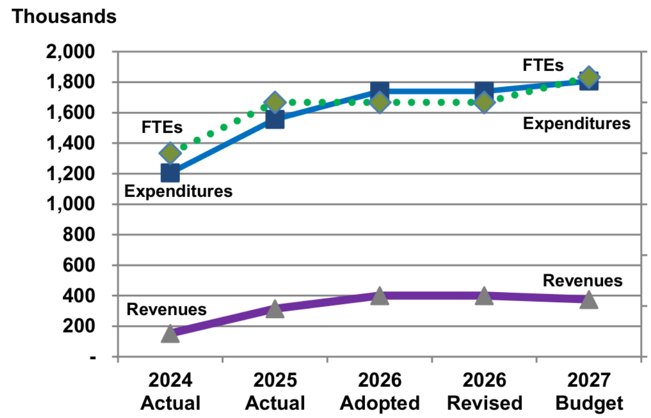
Significant adjustments to Emergency Management's 2027 Recommended Budget include an increase in capital improvements ($656,883) due to a 2027 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project to replace outdoor warning devices, a decrease in interfund transfers ($656,833) due to a 2026 CIP project to replace outdoor warning devices, a decrease in revenue ($151,821) due to a decrease in grant funding, an increase in intergovernmental revenue ($129,478) to bring in-line with anticipated actuals, an increase in commodities ($40,000) to bring in-line with anticipated actuals, a decrease in expenditures ($29,090) due to a decrease in grant funding, and an increase in personnel ($21,182) for the addition of 0.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) Community Outreach/Volunteer Coordinator position.

Departmental Graphical Summary

Emergency Management
Percent of Total County Operating Budget



Expenditures, Program Revenue & FTEs
All Operating Funds



Budget Summary by Category

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amount Chg '26 Rev.-'27	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27
Personnel	349,817	452,555	468,984	468,984	499,366	30,383	6.48%
Contractual Services	99,938	150,892	233,091	233,091	223,465	(9,626)	-4.13%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Commodities	50,204	161,657	217,432	217,432	257,432	40,000	18.40%
Capital Improvements	-	-	656,833	-	656,833	656,833	
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Interfund Transfers	705,833	791,179	162,390	819,223	170,000	(649,223)	-79.25%
Total Expenditures	**1,205,792**	**1,556,283**	**1,738,730**	**1,738,730**	**1,807,096**	**68,367**	**3.93%**
Revenues							
Tax Revenues	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Licenses and Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Intergovernmental	153,248	180,104	75,999	75,999	205,476	129,478	170.37%
Charges for Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	
All Other Revenue	-	134,280	324,780	324,780	170,099	(154,681)	-47.63%
Total Revenues	**153,248**	**314,384**	**400,779**	**400,779**	**375,576**	**(25,203)**	**-6.29%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)							
Property Tax Funded	3.00	1.75	1.75	1.75	2.25	0.50	28.57%
Non-Property Tax Funded	1.00	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	-	0.00%
Total FTEs	**4.00**	**5.00**	**5.00**	**5.00**	**5.50**	**0.50**	**10.00%**

Budget Summary by Fund

Fund	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amount Chg '26 Rev.-'27	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27
General Fund	1,101,946	1,236,036	1,373,723	1,373,723	1,407,745	34,021	2.48%
Em. Management Grants	103,846	320,248	365,006	365,006	399,352	34,345	9.41%
Total Expenditures	**1,205,792**	**1,556,283**	**1,738,730**	**1,738,730**	**1,807,096**	**68,367**	**3.93%**

Significant Budget Adjustments from Prior Year Revised Budget

	Expenditures	Revenues	FTEs
Increase in capital improvements due to a 2027 CIP project to replace outdoor warning devices	656,883		
Decrease in interfund transfers due to a 2026 CIP project to replace outdoor warning devices	(656,833)		
Decrease in revenue due to a decrease in grant funding		(151,821)	
Increase in intergovernmental revenue to bring in-line with anticipated actuals		129,478	
Increase in commodities to bring in-line with anticipated actuals	40,000		
Decrease in expenditures due to a decrease in grant funding	(29,090)		
Increase in personnel for the addition of 0.5 FTE Community Outreach/Volunteer Coordinator position	21,182		0.50
Total	32,142	(22,343)	0.50

Budget Summary by Program

Program	Fund	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	% Chg '26 Rev.-'27	26'-27' FTEs
Emergency Management	110	1,101,946	1,236,036	1,373,723	1,373,723	1,407,745	2.48%	2.25
Em. Management Grants	257	103,846	320,248	365,006	365,006	399,352	9.41%	3.25
Total		**1,205,792**	**1,556,283**	**1,738,730**	**1,738,730**	**1,807,096**	**3.93%**	**5.50**

Personnel Summary by Fund

Position Titles	Fund	Grade	Budgeted Compensation Comparison 2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	FTE Comparison 2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget
Emergency Management Director	110	GRADE 70	81,358	84,612	84,612	0.75	0.75	0.75
Deputy Dir. of Emergency Mgmt.	110	GRADE 64	39,649	41,235	41,235	0.50	0.50	0.50
Senior Administrative Officer	110	GRADE 59	25,410	26,426	26,426	0.50	0.50	0.50
Emergency Management Director	257	GRADE 70	27,119	28,204	28,204	0.25	0.25	0.25
Deputy Dir. of Emergency Mgmt.	257	GRADE 64	39,649	41,235	41,235	0.50	0.50	0.50
Management Analyst I	257	GRADE 59	55,349	57,554	57,554	1.00	1.00	1.00
Emergency Management Planner	257	GRADE 60	52,726	54,836	54,836	1.00	1.00	1.00
Senior Administrative Officer	257	GRADE 59	25,410	26,426	26,426	0.50	0.50	0.50
Community Outreach Coordinator	257	GRADE 54	-	-	19,542	-	-	0.50
Subtotal					**380,069**			
Add:								
Budgeted Personnel Savings					-			
Compensation Adjustments					18,656			
Overtime/On Call/Holiday Pay					-			
Benefits					100,641			
Total Personnel Budget					**499,366**	**5.00**	**5.00**	**5.50**

● Emergency Management

Major programs operated under this fund center include the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the outdoor warning system, disaster response personal protective equipment (PPE), volunteer programs which include the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), Sedgwick County K-9 Search Team, and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

Fund(s): 110 - County general

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	287,829	192,249	202,977	202,977	228,105	25,127	12.4%
Contractual Services	72,783	90,950	168,091	168,091	129,375	(38,716)	-23.0%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	35,501	161,657	183,432	183,432	223,432	40,000	21.8%
Capital Improvements	-	-	656,833	-	656,833	656,833	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	705,833	791,179	162,390	819,223	170,000	(649,223)	-79.2%
Total Expenditures	**1,101,946**	**1,236,036**	**1,373,723**	**1,373,723**	**1,407,745**	**34,021**	**2.5%**
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	80,343	48,421	-	-	50,476	50,476	0.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	95	162,390	162,390	99	(162,291)	-99.9%
Total Revenues	**80,343**	**48,517**	**162,390**	**162,390**	**50,576**	**(111,814)**	**-68.9%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	**3.00**	**1.75**	**1.75**	**1.75**	**2.25**	**0.50**	**28.6%**

● Emergency Management Grants

Emergency Management grants have typically been provided by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management to enhance preparedness in Sedgwick County. Grants awarded include the Emergency Management Performance Grant and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant. Major programs supported through these grants include emergency planning, training, and exercise activities.

Fund(s): 257 - Emergency Management - Grants

Expenditures	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Adopted	2026 Revised	2027 Budget	Amnt. Chg. '26 - '27	% Chg. '26 - '27
Personnel	61,987	260,306	266,006	266,006	271,262	5,255	2.0%
Contractual Services	27,156	59,942	65,000	65,000	94,090	29,090	44.8%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Commodities	14,703	-	34,000	34,000	34,000	-	0.0%
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	**103,846**	**320,248**	**365,006**	**365,006**	**399,352**	**34,345**	**9.4%**
Revenues							
Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Intergovernmental	72,905	131,682	75,999	75,999	155,000	79,001	104.0%
Charges For Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
All Other Revenue	-	134,185	162,390	162,390	170,000	7,610	4.7%
Total Revenues	**72,905**	**265,867**	**238,389**	**238,389**	**325,000**	**86,611**	**36.3%**
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	**1.00**	**3.25**	**3.25**	**3.25**	**3.25**	**-**	**0.0%**