

## **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**May 10, 2006**

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, May 10, 2006 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Ben Sciortino, with the following present: Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Thomas G. Winters; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Major Danny Bardezbain, Sheriff's Office; Mr. Sherdeill Breathett, Sr., Developer, Division of Community Development; Ms. Marilyn Cook, Director, Comprehensive Community Care (COMCARE); Mr. Joe L. Norton, Bond Counsel, Gilmore & Bell, P.C.; Mr. Jim Weber, P.E., Deputy Director, Public Works Department; Mr. John Schlegel, Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department; Ms. Patricia Parker, Assistant County Counselor; Ms. Annette Graham, Director, Department on Aging; Ms. Claudia Blackburn, Director, Health Department; Mr. Bob Lamkey, Director, Division of Public Safety; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Iris Baker, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Lisa Davis, Deputy County Clerk.

### **GUESTS**

Mr. Ashok Aurora, Member, Sedgwick County Aging Advisory Board.  
Ms. Beth Oaks, Vice President of Community Planning and Resources, United Way of the Plains.  
Mr. Charles Schaefer, President, United Warehouse Company.

### **INVOCATION**

The Invocation was led by Commissioner Unruh.

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **ROLL CALL**

The Clerk reported, after calling roll, that Commissioner Burtnett was absent.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Next item."

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**PROCLAMATIONS**

**PROCLAMATIONS.**

- 1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 2006 AS “OLDER AMERICANS MONTH.”**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Commissioners, I’ll read this proclamation for your considerations. It states:

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Sedgwick County is home to more than 64,000 older adults and these adults are among millions helping to redefine aging in America; and

**WHEREAS**, older adults are entitled to live healthier lives through a combination of independence and choice; and

**WHEREAS**, older citizens need the assistance of their communities to thrive, including the understanding and support from their friends and family; and

**WHEREAS**, coordinated efforts to provide support on issues as diverse as transportation, housing options, caregiving and health care can be vital to healthy aging and long-term living; and

**WHEREAS**, an Older Americans’ Reception will be held May 24 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wichita Art Museum to emphasize the importance of older adults in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Irene Hart will receive the first ‘Irene Hart Award’ for her many contributions and accomplishments as the first Sedgwick County Department on Aging and Central Plains Area Agency on Aging Director and leader in the field of aging;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2006 as

**‘Older Americans Month’**

in Sedgwick County and call upon the citizens in Sedgwick County to recognize and honor the vast contributions of older adults.

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Commissioners, that's the proclamation. What is your will?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And we have Ashok Aurora to accept the proclamation."

**Mr. Ashok Aurora**, Member, Sedgwick County Aging Advisory Board, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I thank the commissioners for recognizing us. Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And we have some comments, Ashok. Commissioner Winters."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Well, thank you very much. I guess just a couple of comments, quick comments about Older Americans Month. We certainly appreciate all the work that folks like Ashok do on our Aging Advisory Committee. It's very important and they're very active in a number of things they do.

I also, this is the first I was aware that Irene Hart was going to be honored with an award and it was several years ago, when I was first a commissioner, Irene was the Director of Department on Aging and has done much good work in that department, so we're certainly pleased about that.

Then just kind of a side comment. You know, we've been carrying around the options for the

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downtown arena exterior design and we've had a number of public place meetings, where the public is invited to come. I have been incredibly impressed by the number of senior citizens that have taken the time and effort to come and look at these designs. I would say if we were going to talk about a certain age group of folks there, these people are interested in this project, they think that these designs are interesting to choose from and they have made an attempt to come and attend these meetings and I would say well over 50% of the citizens that have come have been senior citizens, and so I really appreciate their input, their help and I'm pleased to have supported this proclamation this morning."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Did you want to say something, commissioner?"

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I turned my light off because Commissioner Winters was very eloquent in saying many of the things I want to say. I would just say that, as we're talking about older Americans, I want to make the statement that older Americans are getting younger every day so I'm just wanting to emphasize that.

Appreciate your work, Ashok, and what you're doing and as commissioners said, we're very proud of Irene's work. But Annette's . . . don't want to leave her out, and her very able leadership for the Area Agency on Aging. I know it's a very active group, a lot of participation and we're proud to recognize this month as Older Americans Month. That's all I had, Mr. Chairman."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, I'd like to say something on behalf of all of these chronologically gifted citizen. That's the politically correct word, not old, you're chronologically gifted but I have to compliment our commission too, because we understand that that segment of our population is growing and our commitment and our support of various senior centers and senior activities throughout Sedgwick County I think is appreciated. I get directly involved in the Derby Senior Center, and I've never seen a more vibrant group of people, laughing, giggling, optimistic. One fellow is 87 years old and he just bought a birddog Puff. Now that's pretty optimistic, because that's going to take him six or seven years to get that pup trained for hunting.

But these people are vital to our community. They have the time, the energy and the desire to continue contributing to society, as evidenced by what Mr. Winters said, I agree with him. The meetings I've been, well over 50% have been in the senior citizen category that are out there. They're interested in what this community is doing and they want to be part of the solution, so I applaud all of them and I really applaud you all for recognizing them publicly. That's all I have. Did you have anything?"

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, as I go towards warp speed towards that group, I don't have

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any comments.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “And we’re going to welcome you with open arms when you get there.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “I hope so.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “He still has hair and I resent that. Okay, that’s all. Next item.”

**2. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 2006 AS “MENTAL HEALTH MONTH.”**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I have another proclamation to read into the record. It states:

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, mental health is critical for our well-being and vitality as well as that of our families, communities and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, people who have untreated mental health issues use more general health services than those who seek mental health care when they need it; and

**WHEREAS**, mental health conditions are the second leading cause of workplace absenteeism although, more than three out of four employees who seek care for mental health problems see substantial improvement in work performance after treatment and a decrease in disability leave time; and

**WHEREAS**, a new perception of mental illness is emerging- one that focuses on early intervention, effective treatment, rehabilitation and recovery. The treatment success rates for such disorders as depression, panic disorders and schizophrenia surpass those of other medical conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, when people understand that mental disorders are not the result of moral failings of limited willpower but are legitimate illnesses that are responsive to specific treatments, much of the negative stereotyping will disappear.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 2006 as

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**'Mental Health Month'**

in Sedgwick County and encourage our community to increase awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and accessible services.

That's the proclamation, commissioners. What is your will?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And I believe Marilyn Cook from . . . Well, I know Marilyn Cook from COMCARE is here to accept the proclamation."

**Ms. Marilyn Cook**, Director, Comprehensive Community Care, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Very pleased to accept this proclamation declaring May as Mental Health Month. Last week, I read a really interesting survey study that was done by the American Psychiatric Association, that they conducted in observance of May as Mental Health Month and they didn't say how many people that they surveyed, but when the APA does anything, it's pretty large numbers.

The results showed that nearly half of the Americans that they surveyed, or 44%, reported knowing nothing or very little about mental illness, its warning signs, its causes or where to even go for treatment. That was pretty discouraging, but 84% of the respondents reported that they would

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benefit from knowing more about mental illnesses. About 20% of adults in America have a diagnosable mental illness annually, but respondents to that survey thought it was way less than 10%, so people are thinking that it's not as much of an issue as it really is. The survey showed that a third of Americans mistakenly think that emotion or personal weakness is the major cause of mental illness and almost as many in that survey thought that just getting older caused mental illness, which was also an interesting misperception.

Some recent information from research done by the National Institute on Mental Health does have demonstrated proof that 75 to 80% of the time, there is success in the treatment of depression, and when you compare that to 45 to 50% of the time having success treating some chronic illnesses such as heart problems, people should be encouraged to get treatment, because the odds are they'll improve as a result of that.

So what do we learn from that study? We learn that we have a long way to go, in educating Americans on mental illness, but one encouraging piece that also came from that study said that 74% of the people that were surveyed indicated that friends and family members and colleagues being more open about their mental health experiences helped them a lot in influencing their opinions about the stigma associated with getting mental health services.

So all of us, including the media, can help overcome that stigma, I think by doing three things. The most important one is by portraying a positive image of mental health, such as the article that was in The Eagle a little over a month ago, about the women who had schizophrenia, was served locally, went on to get a Masters Degree and help other people. We actually got a note from someone in western Kansas whose brother had schizophrenia, and she said 'This made me so hopeful that I bought a couple of copies of the paper, made some more copies and distributed it to my brother' so hope can be provided when people do see that people succeed.

So the three key messages I wanted to leave the public with today is that caring for your mental health is key to your overall health in general, so it's just as important to have mental health as it is physical health. That mental illnesses are real and they're common and they're treatable and as we've just been talking about, with good success rates and that seeking help when you need it should be considered a strength rather than a weakness. I thank you for the proclamation and really appreciate your support throughout the year."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Marilyn, and we have a comment or two. Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Well Marilyn, I appreciate the information that you just gave us in this report and also want to say that I appreciate the efforts of Sedgwick County COMCARE, under your leadership, for the service that it provides to citizens in our

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community who are afflicted with mental health issues, and I think that all those people who recognize that this is something that can be treated and then avail themselves of that treatment, I mean, it really makes for a normal or a more normal at least quality of life.

But I wanted to say that I appreciated the language of the proclamation and I don't know if you wrote it."

**Ms. Cook** said, "Bev was part of that."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "All right, but it's really very good. I mean, it has language that talks about untreated mental health issues. The implication is that there is treatment available for these chemical imbalances, that people can live an improved life and it talks about a 'new perception' and that to me implies that there is a stigma out there and . . . well, I hate to use the word ignorance, but there is an ignorance about this that we need to be educated so that we can be helpful to these folks.

And it talks about it being a legitimate illness and not something that, as it says, 'a moral failing or limited willpower'. And those sort of concepts, I believe, really need to be broadcast so that we can truly respond to a need and it not only helps these individuals, but it has the effect of improving our overall society and culture and it's the right thing to do. So anyway, very supportive, appreciate your work and well, thank you for what you do. Mr. Chairman, that's all I have."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, for years there's been a latent denial on mental health issues. We're in a high-stress environment. The world moves at a pretty fast pace and it's easy to uncover now those mental health issues that all of us deal with from time to time. Some of them are very dramatic and chronic and some of them are just everyday mechanisms that get triggered by life's events and we've enlightened ourselves, over the last few years, and I know there's still a lot of work to do.

I'm real proud that we've taken a new look at those that are incarcerated in our corrections facilities and start to understand that many of them have severe and persistent mental health issues and that's why they keep coming back to us in a lot of different form through recidivism, and we're going to try to fix that. We're going to try to give them more help and create a structure where maybe people aren't going to fall back into the system over, and over, and over.

But I applaud you for bringing this to the forefront, as we try to move forward on mental health, I think we understand that mental health is just as important as physical health and many times, when the physical health starts to deteriorate, that creates mental problems for people that they have to



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deal with, and they're co-occurring, and we have to deal with that over the years, as people do get older and have to deal with the stresses of life. So, I'm very supportive of the proclamation and continue the good work."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. There has been, I think, a sea change in the thinking process. I mean, I liked what Commissioner Unruh said, there's a chemical imbalance, you're going to display some mental conditions that aren't considered norm, but it's no more than, you know I suffer from hypertension. Well, I have to take medication for the rest of my life, but as long as I take it, my hypertension is being taken care of and it's put in remission. It's just like mental health, oftentimes they take a particular medication, the symptoms diminish or go away and they can, as you just pointed out by the one example, they can go on and live a very rich, fulfilled life and be a good contributor to society.

So applaud you on your efforts. Don't flag, just keep working hard and you're going to get to the goal that you want to get to and that is providing help to everybody that needs it."

**Ms. Cook** said, "Thank you very much."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Next item please, Madam Clerk."

### 3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 14 – 20, 2006 AS "NATIONAL PEACE OFFICER MEMORIAL WEEK."

#### PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States of America has designated the week of May 15<sup>th</sup> as 'National Peace Officer Memorial Week'; and

**WHEREAS**, Public Law 87-726, signed by President John F. Kennedy in 1962, was amended as above by the 103<sup>rd</sup> Congress as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994; and

**WHEREAS**, the law enforcement officers of America have worked devotedly and selflessly on behalf of the people of this nation, regardless of the peril or hazard to themselves; and by the enforcement of our laws, these same officers have given our citizens a system of peace and order; and

**WHEREAS**, Sedgwick County desires to honor the valor, service and dedication of its Sheriff's Deputies and all law enforcement officers joining with other counties and cities to honor peace officers everywhere.

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**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Ben Sciortino, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 14-20, 2006 as

**‘NATIONAL PEACE OFFICER MEMORIAL WEEK’**

and call upon citizens to honor and show sincere appreciation for the law enforcement officers of Sedgwick County and join in commemorating law enforcement officers, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in so doing, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

Commissioners, that’s the proclamation. What is your will?”

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Proclamation and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. I have a Motion and a Second and I believe Danny Bardezbain is here to accept the proclamation . . . and I believe show us some slides or something.”

**Major Danny Bardezbain**, Sheriff’s Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “On behalf of Gary Steed and all the men and women of law enforcement in Sedgwick County, I’m proud to accept this proclamation and I thank you.

I’d like to take a few minutes with you, if I may, the progress on the law enforcement memorial that we’re trying to establish here in Sedgwick County. In January of 2002, Sheriff Steed and Chief Norman Williams met with Mary Galvin, widow of Lieutenant Jack Galvin with Wichita Police Department, and they discussed the idea of a memorial here in Sedgwick County, to honor all law enforcement officers that have given their lives in the performance of their duties.

They appointed a committee and fortunately I was one of the members of that committee, and other members of that committee are Mary Galvin, here beside me, I didn’t know that she snuck up beside me, Lieutenant Guy Schroeder, with the Wichita Police Department, Lieutenant Ralph Clark, I didn’t forget, I was just trying to clear my throat, and there are other members that couldn’t make the meeting this morning.

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Anyway, the committee . . . we've been diligent in our work and we've been successful in procuring a local artist to come up with the design of the memorial and that is Constance Arnette, if you would stand up Connie. I'm going to be showing you some slides here in a minute of her work that is proceeding on the memorial, if I can figure this out. You said the down key? Okay, we're going to try this.

### **POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

This is one of the figures we came up with. Well, the memorial is a couple of lions, symbolizing law enforcement and there in the first slide, you can actually see Connie working on one of the clay molds of the statute that's going to be presented, and that will be cast into bronze. We wanted you to . . . we put Connie in the picture there, because we wanted to give you a reference as to actual size of the memorial, how big this thing's going to be.

I should go back, that first slide there was an artist's rendering of the memorial. It's kind of a plaza there. It would be located on the southwest corner of Central and Main, which is the northeast corner of the City Building, and you can kind of see it there in the background. That's just a concept of the memorial. Like I said, that's Connie working on one of the clay statues that will be cast to bronze. Here's a little bit of a close up of it, a little bit more detail and then a little better detail there.

It's a work in progress. Connie is working on it continually, and we're in a fundraising mode right now, trying to get the funds that we need to build the memorial. One of the things that I wanted to share with the public that if contribution . . . contributions can be made through the Wichita Community Foundation, if someone would like to do that."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And do you happen to know the phone number of that location?"

**Major Bardezbain** said, "The phone number, no I have the address."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, why don't you give us the address and then we can . . ."

**Major Bardezbain** said, "Sure, it's at the old W. Garvey Building, there at 200 West Douglas, Suite 250 and if you have any other questions of myself, members of the committee, even Connie the artist, we'd be glad to entertain those."

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**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Well, I have a couple of questions. How much funds do you need, in order to make this a reality? What is your estimate of costs of this?”

**Major Bardezbain** said, “About two years ago, and this of course isn’t taking into account inflation, but we were at about \$560,000 at that time.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “All right. Well, I would just encourage the public. I mean, we sleep at night because these men and women of law enforcement don’t sleep. They’re on duty 24/7, 365 days a year. You go to bed, you feel secure in your home. That’s because of the confidence that we have, when we call 9-1-1, when we need somebody they’re going to be there regardless of the color of their uniform. The first one available is going to be there to assist you, and this is a chance maybe of just saying thank you, with a five dollar donation or ten or whatever and I would encourage everyone that’s watching the program today to consider a donation to let them know how much we really appreciate their services, past and present, because some of them have made the ultimate sacrifice to make sure you feel very safe and secure in your homes, that you’re children are safe, so this is a chance maybe of just letting the present officers and those other officers, because they’re not dead, their spirit is entwined in every fabric of every uniform that’s still walking the streets today, they’re ready to help and they will. So there’s your chance to say thank you to them, so I encourage you to give generously. Thank you.”

**Major Bardezbain** said, “Thank you, Commissioner.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you all very much for coming.”

**Mr. Rich Euson**, County Counselor, said, “Mr. Chairman, was there a vote on that?”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Well, I can’t remember if we voted or not on it. Well, let’s vote on the proclamation.”

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye

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Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you very much and I think Commissioner Norton had something else that he wanted to mention.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Danny, isn’t there a memorial service coming up, that’s held over at the city building, in chambers over there, in the next week.”

**Major Bardezbain** said, “Yes, that’s coming up on the 15<sup>th</sup>, is that correct, next Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> at noon.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “And the public is welcome to come to that?”

**Major Bardezbain** said, “The public is and again, they recognize . . . there are 28 fallen officers throughout Sedgwick County. The first one in 1871, Carlos King and then the last was Lieutenant Galvin in 2000.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “Well, I would tell the public, if they haven’t been to this memorial, it is well worth stopping by because the old expression, ‘For whom the bell tolls’ is very appropriate that day. They ring the bell 28 times for those that have fallen and it is a very solemn ceremony and it does represent and honor those that have protected us and given the ultimate sacrifice, so if the public is available and would like to participate, that’s Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> at noon at the city building.”

**Major Bardezbain** said, “Yes, thank you commissioner.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay. Madam Clerk, call the next item please.”

**NEW BUSINESS**

**B. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON HOMELESS**

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**ADVOCACY'S CONTINUUM OF CARE APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.**

**Ms. Beth Oaks**, Vice President of Community Planning and Resources, United Way of the Plains, greeted the Commissioners and said, "However, today I'm here as a member of the Community Council on Homeless Advocacy, or CCHA. What we're requesting of you today is a letter of support of our 2006 application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for transitional and permanent supportive housing for this area for homeless individuals.

This year's application will include six renewals. In addition, we are going to ask for the Good Samaritan bonus that we are available for, so we will have seven applications going in, for a total request of \$2,043,778. So I'd be happy to answer any questions that you all might have at this time."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I don't see that there is any, so commissioners, what is the will on this item please?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter of support.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Yes, I think Commissioner Norton had something he wished to say."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Just keep up the good work, Beth. I know United Way and the other community planners have worked awfully hard to try to understand homelessness and try to figure out the continuum of care and how we house people and what we need to do, strategically over the future, to take care of our homeless population. It is one of those issues that's not easily solved and

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certainly there's a lot of emotion attached to it, but I applaud United Way for continuing to have the dialogue, sponsoring those idea seminars to try to get us to the best possible solution, so please keep up the good work."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Madam Clerk, call the next item please."

### **C. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF \$3,450,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF TAXABLE INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2006 (UNITED WAREHOUSE COMPANY).**

**Mr. Sherdeill Breathett, Sr.**, Economic Developer, Division of Community Development, greeted the Commissioners and said, "United Warehouse appeared to you back in December of '05 with a letter on intent for 3.5 million dollars in Industrial Revenue Bonds and today they're back to execute that option. Current business is good, and that's a good thing. United Warehouse continues to make strides and will add another 100,000 square foot to the warehouse space of their existing property, located at 901 East 45<sup>th</sup> Street North, just adjacent to Park City. They expect to create 12 to 14 new jobs in this initiative as well, this expansion and the owner, Charlie Shaefer and his legal counsel, J.T. Klaus, is here to address or speak to any questions that you might have at this time."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Charlie, did you have anything, tell us, good news about United Warehouse and any thing you wanted to speak up and talk . . . you just want us to vote?"

**Mr. Charles Schaefer**, President, United Warehouse Company, greeted the Commissioners and said, "It seems like this is the third or fourth time I've been here and I guess if I've not said thank you for all the work that the different people from the county, whether it be the commissioners to people working out in the field, and all of you I think have been out to see our operation and it continues to prosper and the service we provide, we're just really excited that the community is putting its arms around it and we're going to be there to . . . we've been there since 1915, and we hope that we'll be there at least that much longer, to provide it because it's really changing. Our industry is a 120 year old industry and it's continuing to grow, so we just want to say thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Now we've got you there, we're going to have some comments about you. Let me ask you a question, before we start with any other comments. About how many employees do you have right there at United?"

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "In Wichita, we have about 50-52, it changes constantly, but I think that's about the right figure."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Commissioners, I don't know who went first. Commissioner Winters."

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**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you. I had a question about Sherdeill. Charlie, thanks for being here. I appreciate your coming. Sherdeill, we did do a cost/ benefit analysis with Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition and this has a positive effect on both Sedgwick County and the State of Kansas. Is that correct?"

**Mr. Breathett** said, "That is very much the case."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Okay, well thank you. We appreciate that. The only other thing I would say is again, the Schaefer's have really grown this into a business, but I think this is still an indication of where you do not have to be one of the industry giants to be successful and to take part in some incentives, so those are my only two comments and I'm certainly going to be very supportive this morning."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, great. Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to acknowledge the fact that Charlie invited Commissioner Burtnett and I out there to tour his facility a couple of months ago and I think we were the last commissioners who had the opportunity to tour it. It's really quite impressive, when you see what all happens in a warehouse facility, all the different services they provide and some of the statistics that Charlie gave us are really quite amazing. Statistics like how many aluminum cans they are continually rotating through their facility, at six to eight million aluminum pop cans, I think was the number you gave us, Charlie. But anyway, it's just staggering numbers, it's a big operation and adding 120,000 square feet out there just is a testament to the success of your operation and that economic benefit to Sedgwick County and the city of Wichita and the jobs that you create. So congratulations for your success and I'm going to be happy to be supportive of this. That's all I had."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Unruh. Excuse me, Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Chairman Sciortino, Commissioner Unruh."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, when they switch seats, I get messed up."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "As proud as I am of United Warehouse, I think this also tells a story of what I believe, is that location, location, location. Here we are in the center of the United States and a warehouse distribution center is doing a wonderful business and growing and prospering and I



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think it bodes well for the future, for us to think about a cluster that can come to this area, because eventually warehousing costs, transportation costs are going to be critically important to the center of the United States and, you know, Wichita is pretty close to that center.

So I think it's encouraging that a local company with warehouse space and distribution capabilities is thriving and that should tell a story of maybe an emerging cluster that could come to our community and thrive, with the infrastructure that we have in this area, so it tells a different story. We're glad United Warehouse is doing well and can continue to prosper, but it may give us some clues as to where some future things are going, in Wichita and Sedgwick County, in this region. That's all I have, Mr. Chair."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, Mr. Schaefer, just in closing let me say that you have proven to this commission, over and over again, that you're a good corporate citizen and we're honored to have United Warehouse as a part of our corporate community and we thank you and we wish you the best success in the future, sir."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Mr. Chairman, before we go on, could I make a comment? Kristi, we're getting feedback through the speaker system up here. Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Madam Clerk, call the next item please."

**D. PUBLIC WORKS.**

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**1. RESOLUTIONS (FOUR) CREATING ROAD IMPROVEMENT BENEFIT DISTRICTS IN SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS AND AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS THEREIN.**

- **HEDGE CREEK ESTATES**
- **STONEBRIDGE ADDITION**
- **EBERLY FARM OFFICE PARK**
- **GREENWICH PLAZA ADDITION**

**POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. Joe L. Norton**, Gilmore & Bell, P.C., Bond Counsel, greeted the Commissioners and said, “If I can figure out how to make this work, we have a slide presentation. There we go. For your consideration this morning are four potential road improvement benefit districts that have been petitioned by 100% of the owners of property within the area liable for assessment. Each of these projects would create a road improvement district to make road improvements and the ultimate payment, to secure the county’s general obligations bonds, would be from special assessments levied against that property.

The first project is Hedgecreek Estates. That is an area located approximately on Andale Road and 45<sup>th</sup> Street North. On the screen is a map depicting the layout of this development. There are 28 lots. The petitioner requests that the costs of the improvement be assessed equally for each of these lots, and we’re constructing the interior roads in that subdivision.

Public Works has prepared an estimate of costs that is approximately \$580,000. Cost of issuance adds to about \$600,000. If spread among the 28 lots, would be a principal component of about \$21,429 or if spread at 6% for 15 years, about 2,200 per year.

You may take action on these resolutions individually or collectively, at the discretion of the Chair.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “You want us to do it individually, you said?”

**Mr. Norton** said, “We can do them individually or collectively, at your discretion.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Why don’t we just do it all at one time.”

**Mr. Norton** said, “Okay. This is Stonebridge Addition, again a petition filed by 100% of the owners of property liable for special assessment within the proposed benefit district. This is located on the Sedgwick/ Butler County line, just north of 13<sup>th</sup> Street North. This is a map depicting the

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proposed benefit district. The petition requests that the improvements be constructed in phases and each of these maps depict which lots and blocks are assessed for. Each of the phases, this is phase one and two, for storm water and entrance paving. This is the phase three, which is additional paving. Phase four, again, paving for a portion of the subdivision. Phase five, for the remainder of the subdivision, along with A-6. These numbers are kind of small, but I'll try to go through those with you.

Again, each of these phases will be assessed separately for the appropriate benefits derived. Phase one is about a million one-twenty, phase two, 124,000, phase three about 342,000, phase four 271, phase five 245, and phase six, 245. The method of assessment is on a fractional basis, depending on the size of the lots. I think the ultimate situation there is that if we go through the annual assessment per lot, for each of the phases, it's about \$79 for the first and then about 850, 650, 630 and 64, so the idea is to assess these costs approximately equally for all the phases, depending on the size of the lot.

The next project is Eberly Farms Office Park, again, a 100% petition. This is located adjacent to their recreational facility, which is located on 21<sup>st</sup> Street West and approximately 135<sup>th</sup> Street West . . . excuse me, 21<sup>st</sup> Street North and approximately 135<sup>th</sup> Street West. There are five lots within the proposed benefit district. Their number there on the map before you. Again, we've been requested to pave this 21<sup>st</sup> Street Court. Estimate of costs for this project is roughly \$186,000. The method of assessment again is fractional, based on the size of the individual lots. You can see that those costs range anywhere from about \$13,000 for lot 4 to about \$90,000 for lot 1, and the annual assessments vary accordingly, depending on lot size.

The final project is Greenwich Plaza Addition. Again, that is located on about 31<sup>st</sup> Street South and Greenwich Road. There are three lots within this proposed benefit district. You can see extensive floodway reserve going through there. Estimated cost for this project is approximately \$83,000. Again, the requested method of assessment is on a fractional basis, depending on lot size, which would range from about \$12,500 up to about \$50,000 for lot one and accordingly, a variance in the annual assessment per lot.

Jim Weber from Public Works is here, who can answer any questions you have about these projects. If not, we have prepared resolutions for each one for your consideration, for you to implement these districts."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Joe. Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Joe, on the Stonebridge Addition, that showed the far east section of that property. Is that the first development? We've already approved the west section of that property? I mean, I guess, fails me . . . Here come Jim, and he's smiling."

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**Mr. Jim Weber**, P.E., Deputy Director, Bureau of Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You're very sharp today. That map was incorrect. That map is a quarter of a mile too far east."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "I was paying attention, I guess, for once. Well another question about that though Joe. You said the assessments . . . did you say \$79? I mean, they had numbers that were less than 100. I must have missed something in that explanation. All these others are in the thousands of dollars."

**Mr. Norton** said, "That's an annual, yes. This is the screen."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Annual assessment per lot, I mean that's just . . . I mean, if that's the way the mathematics work, then I have no problem, but the others were . . ."

**Mr. Norton** said, "Well, the principle component, for example, is \$3,157 for the first 26 lots. There are 52 lots at 6,313. They vary on a principle component, depending on the lot size. That's the first schedule of assessment costs. The lower level is the annualized payment. Again, we have a much larger development here and many more lots of smaller size, to share the costs of these improvements."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Okay."

**Mr. Norton** said, "And again, there are some overlapping assessments, they reminded me too. There's an assessment for the overall drainage, an assessment for the overall roadway improvement, then individual assessment, so a property owner will probably get three assessments for the individual lot."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "All right, thank you. That helps me. Thank you, Mr. Chair."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Any further questions or comments, commissioners? What is the will of the board on Item D-1?"

### MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolutions.

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Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Joe. Next item please."

**2. AGREEMENT WITH JOHN C., JR. AND AUDREY A. ROBERTS TO PROVIDE PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION OF SHADE COURT. DISTRICT #3.**

**Mr. Weber** said, "In Item D-2, we are requesting your approval of an agreement for private construction of a public street in Prairie Crossings 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition. Under this agreement, Shade Court would be extended and paved to the west line of the plat, to serve as an additional building site.

And engineering and construction costs for the project will be paid directly by the property owner. Upon completion of the project and acceptance by Public Works, this street will be turned over to Attica Township for maintenance. We request your approval of the recommended action."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioners, any questions or comments of him? What's the will of the Board on Item D-2?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Winters moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

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Chairman Sciortino seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you, Jim. Next item please.”

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

**E. CASE NUMBER DR2005-18 – SOUTH CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN. DISTRICTS #1, #4 AND #5.**

**POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

**Mr. John Schlegel**, Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, “And Kristi . . . oh, here you are.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Now you just had cataract surgery. It’s just for distance, not for near vision?”

**Mr. Schlegel** said, “Well, I have no eyes in the back of my head. There we go. The area for this South Central Neighborhood Plan is the area that you see on the map in front of you and it’s those neighborhoods in the City of Wichita that are south of Kellogg, between the Arkansas River on the west and basically Washington on the east.

Just a little bit of history to this plan. Back in 1995, a plan had been developed for this neighborhood that was entitled ‘A Revitalization Plan for the South Central District’ but that plan was never formally adopted at that time. Now despite that lack of adoption of the plan, leaders in the south central neighborhood remain committed to trying to get those strategies contained within the plan implemented and the South Central Improvement Alliance and the South Central Progressive Neighborhood Association continued to work on getting those strategies implemented.

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In the year 2000, they came to city staff and worked with them on collection of additional data on the neighborhood and that led to, at that time, the development of updated strategies. Then they kept working at it, and again in 2005, they approved the city council at that time, and were able to get their interest in an update to the 1995 plan and at that time then, in 2005, city council directed MAPD to work with these neighborhood groups in updating the plan. And the city manager, at that time, was authorized to appoint a steering committee to work with the neighborhood leadership and staff in doing that update.

In doing the update that's before you today, we went through a very involved planning process that involved a number of public meetings, in order to allow as much public participation as possible and included the use of several surveys to get community input on what should be in the plan. And at this point, the South Central Neighborhood Steering Committee feels that they have developed a plan that has broad based neighborhood support, support from the various neighborhood associations within the plan area and the support of the public officials that have been involved in the development of the plan.

The plan has been reviewed and unanimously endorsed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission at its April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting and the plan was adopted yesterday by the Wichita City Council. From the various sources of community input, the steering committee was able to identify these four top issues: neighborhood image, housing, business and industry, and the river and recreation opportunities.

They feel that this South Central Neighborhood Plan that's before you today outlines the community's vision of what this south central neighborhood should be like over the next 25 years. This vision is based upon their assessment of the neighborhood's top issues and the changes that they would like to see in that neighborhood.

From those four top issues, they were able to identify 14 goals that they would like to pursue and 36 implementation initiatives. Each of those implementation initiatives are classified as short, medium and long-range in nature and have been assigned to a lead organization to take responsibility for implementation of those initiatives.

And as I tell you, every time I present a plan to you of this nature, adoption of this plan today does not constitute a financial commitment on your part. Those financial commitments will come down the road. They will be reviewed individually principally by the city council, to make a determination which of those initiatives they want to fund in a future capital improvement program or by other means. Some of the participants in the development of this community plan are in the audience today, and they are available if you have any questions of them. Our recommendation is that you adopt this plan, this South Central Neighborhood Plan, as an amendment to the Sedgwick

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County Comprehensive Plan, and approve the resolution and I'll be glad to stand for any questions."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, John. I don't see . . . Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have a question but I just want to make a comment and an observation. First of all, the document is an outstanding document. I mean, a lot of work has gone into this, so very good job in putting that all together and I'd want to commend the City of Wichita for making a focus of this area and trying to improve the areas in a lot of different ways.

But I'll just mention that Commissioner Norton and I visited that South Central Progressive Neighborhood Association a month or so ago and I would want to commend the citizens who were participating in that meeting. I mean, they are active and they are informed and passionate about making this happen, so I think it's a great job in clarifying the vision for the area and establishing some goals and then prioritize implementation. So I just want to make note of the fact, great group of people and I hope we can make good progress on this and commend the City Council for wanting to move forward on it. That's all I had, Mr. Chair."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, the one thing that always concerns me is now we've got another plan that we're trying to implement. We've got seven or eight of them out there and the funding just doesn't go around so I would encourage those citizens that are actively engaged to stay the course, continue to advocate for your area, try to find alternate methods to get the smaller projects, the low hanging fruits done, because a lot of the cases, even though it's adopted by the governing bodies, there won't be any funding attached right away, because there are quite a few competing interests.

Two of the questions I had about that area, because I've watched it over the years, what's going to happen to the railroad corridor, at Pawnee and the railroad corridor. That at one time was going to be fixed. I think that's integral to that area down there, progressing and everything. Is that included in the plan, John? I couldn't find it."

**Mr. Schlegel** said, "I don't know that that particular project was specifically addressed in this plan. The grade separation of that rail crossing at Pawnee was not included in the current Central Rail Corridor project, but it is something that I know the City of Wichita has a high priority to be done."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "That grade separation was one of the most critical of that mitigation study, and then it was taken out."



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**Mr. Schlegel** said, "I think that was principally due to lack of funding at that time, but they're working hard at trying to put the funding together to get that project done."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, it's like I think our Chief Financial Officer always says, it's not a lack of funding, it's a lack of priority. And that didn't seem to be a priority, just I know that, from my perspective, Haysville got theirs done, we got it done first and that was in that same mitigation study, so there just needs to be a fight for that particular corridor. That is very onerous on that south side area and if it's ever going to develop properly in there and revitalize that corridor and that grade separation has to be done. Once again, that's not a county issue but it is a holistic issue for this neighborhood plan."

The second thing is, as we talk about river redevelopment, we always seem to focus on downtown, but some of the most beautiful parts of the river flows right there, around the John Mack Bridge. If you cross the river at Pawnee, going east and look back towards the John Mack Bridge, that's a beautiful area, it's underdeveloped and I would hope that will become a centerpiece for some of the redevelopment down there. So just some ideas, that this plan is important, it is a great area that has great potential, but we haven't done much with it. In fact, some of the projects that should have been done have been taken out, and I think that hurts it. Regardless of what the plan says today, some of the infrastructure that should have been fixed before has been left to fend for itself, so thanks for coming today. That's all I have."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, I'll just be very brief. It never ceases to amaze me what can happen when private citizens say 'Hey, we want to get involved, we want to be part of the solution'. You know, we have various volunteer boards, your neighborhood associations, your proactive involvement in government is what helps government function properly, so I am kind of going to just echo a little bit what you said, Commissioner Unruh. We sit here and even though this particular project is mostly, you know, within the City of Wichita, we all are one community."

It doesn't help us to sit on one side of the canoe, laughing because your end of the canoe has a hole in it. Eventually, the whole canoe is going to sink, so I just want to thank all of you and probably the majority of you aren't here today to listen to us, but pass on our heartfelt thanks that you think enough about Wichita, about your particular neighborhood, but about our community in general, that you're willing to put out the effort to work towards a solution, so congratulations and thank you. I guess we have no other questions or comments."

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**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the South Central Neighborhood Plan as an amendment to The Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan, and adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you again for coming. Next item."

**F. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE OF UNREDEEMED REAL ESTATE AFTER TAX SALE.**

**Ms. Patricia Parker**, Assistant County Counselor, County Counselor's Office, greeted the Commissioners and said, "What you have before you this morning is a resolution that would authorize the County Counselor's Office to process tax foreclosure proceedings for delinquent real property. If this resolution looks a little familiar, it should, it's the one that you pass every year. We change the dates of course, as applicable.

The amount of parcels currently, as of May 9<sup>th</sup> that are unredeemed and subject to foreclosure are 255. I believe we started with approximately 1,200 properties that were selected for foreclosure this year, and the majority of those have been redeemed, so that is good news, in and of itself. We plan to have three tax sales, the first one would be probably in July-August sometime and then the remaining two until the end of the year. The properties eligible for, or selected for tax sale are 2001 delinquent taxes on general and special assessments and 2002 delinquent special assessments on vacant property. And all we're asking, at this point, is to authorize the process to begin and the sales to take place."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Patricia. Commissioner Norton, you had a comment or question."

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**Commissioner Norton** said, "A comment and question, yesterday I got an update from Mike Borchard, our Appraiser, and he indicates that real estate sales are still flourishing, they're up, there's a lot of transactions they're handling, so that the market is good. We hear that foreclosures, you know, there's a lot of people buying, but there's also a lot of people that are having difficulties paying and there's more foreclosures. Is that the truth? Does this end up being more that we're auctioning at sale than previous years? Do you have a comparison there?"

**Ms. Parker** said, "I don't have the numbers from the past sales in front of me, so I really can't answer that specifically. I have a general feel. I don't think that it's appreciably higher than past years. Most of these . . . well, I won't say most, a lot of these parcels turn out to be small strips of land that really can't be developed. Sometimes people buy them, especially at tax sales, not really investigating them as much as they should perhaps and then they find out that it's not really something that can be used and developed and so they tend to get recycled. I'm not sure that addresses your question, but I don't see a huge increase this year, over my impression of what's taken place in the past."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, it kind of tells me that, of the original 1,200, that the redeemable ones where people are living, they have a home, they've invested in a home, those are redeemed and the chafe settles out and those are mostly small pieces of property that don't . . . they may have some value, but they aren't people in a home, having to give up their home because of foreclosures and everything."

**Ms. Parker** said, "That's correct."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Okay. Well, I think that's encouraging for news because one of the things we hear is that 'Yeah, a lot of people are buying homes, but they can't afford them and a year later, they're having to give them up' and that's not really particularly the case. That's just some anecdotal information. That's all I have."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A point of clarification. You had indicated sometimes these are just small pieces of property and so forth, but there are thresholds before we're required to go through foreclosure, so we've met the threshold in all these instances?"

**Ms. Parker** said, "Yes."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "But those thresholds are kind of substantial, so evidently some of this property has been in delinquency for many, many years."

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**Ms. Parker** said, "That's correct. We have to allow sufficient time, under the statute. That's why you have a gap, between the 2001 and 2002, properties that were selected and of course these properties were bid in by the treasurer in October of 2005 and those are the properties that are subject to the tax sale and you have to have that period of time for redemption to take place, per statute, so that's why you have that gap, to give the taxpayer and property owner sufficient time to redeem their parcels and to bring those taxes current, before they are selected for tax sale."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Okay. Well, I appreciate the explanation. Our backup indicates that the total aggregate amount of delinquent taxes, up to \$10,000, so that's a substantial number."

**Ms. Parker** said, "That's correct. The threshold that we are guided by is the assessed valuation of the real estate is \$300,000 or more, okay, or the total amount of delinquent taxes, including special assessments, is \$10,000 or more, so that's the minimum threshold that we have to meet."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "And that's aggregate on these properties."

**Ms. Parker** said, "Right, that's correct."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Okay, thank you. Well, I appreciate it. Well, this is all prescribed by statute and we don't have options here, do we."

**Ms. Parker** said, "No, you really don't, you must comply with the state law."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "All right, thank you Mr. Chair, that's all I have."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Well, and one thing too commissioners, Patricia and I were visiting when she came by and talked to us individually on this yesterday. A lot of taxpayers try to use the system too and they push us right to the brink, and they have all intensions of paying but they just want to delay, pay and delay, well okay, now something like what's going on in Iran, with the nuclear things. They keep pushing it to the brink and once he gets the ultimatum, then they decide 'Okay fine, we'll cooperate, no problem' as evidenced by it started out with 1,200 and they've only got 255 more. They knew they owned the taxes. They knew they owed the taxes years ago and they're just waiting until the system worked through with it."

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But anyway, I think you're doing a great job. You're doing it right. We're convinced of that, so commissioners, what's the will of the board on this item?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much, Patricia. Next item please."

**G. RESOLUTION AMENDING *THE SEDGWICK COUNTY CODE* BY CREATING ARTICLE III, "THE PROPERTY TITLE TRANSFER INSPECTION CODE."**

**Mr. Glen Wiltse**, Director, Code Enforcement, greeted the Commissioners and said, "What you have before you is a resolution that would require all properties that are sold that have a private water well, or a private wastewater system, to have those inspected prior to the transfer to the new owners.

A lot of communities already have this in effect and we started this because we've had numerous complaints in the past couple of years from new owners that their well system or the private waste water had been out of compliance and was having problems with it.

We did run this through the Wichita Area Realtors Association and also one of our members is a member of the Mortgage Lenders Association here and that has been discussed. Our Water Well Board, or Waste Water Board has looked at this and we're recommending approval of this and I'm for questions if you have any questions also."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Commissioners, any questions or comments? Commissioner Winters."

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**Commissioner Winters** said, "Glen, you said you've run it through the filter of the Realtors. What was their feedback, what were their comments?"

**Mr. Wiltse** said, "Actually, one of the board members, their attorney sits on our board, and they have approved the document as it was written."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Okay, good. Well, I was sure that was the answer, but I didn't quite here you say it like that, so that's the only question I had, sir. Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Glen . . . excuse me, Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, I think this is a really good addition to our codes that we're putting in. When you think about roofs and termite damage and plumbing, inspections you have to have to sell a home, in areas that have septic systems and whatever, that's going to be a lot more onerous on a homeowner, if it fails, than maybe some of those other things that we require inspections on before sales, so I think it just makes sense to do that.

And as we find more and more of those failing and not being up to standard out in the county, it just makes sense to catch them before people inherit the problem from somebody else, so that those can be fixed and repaired and kept in good standing."

**Mr. Wiltse** said, "We currently have done quite a few of these inspections at the request of the lender at this point anyway, so I think it's going to be a welcome requirement, actually."

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

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay. Glen, let me just . . . am I right in assuming, since we're going to do the inspections, and they fail the inspections, then it's a requirement prior to the close of sale that the repairs be done to put it in compliance. Is that correct?"

**Mr. Wiltse** said, "It would either have to be repaired prior to or as short a time frame in order to get it repaired afterwards. We don't want to make somebody miss a closing, especially if it's going to affect a mortgage rate that they're going to get. We'll work with them, as long as we have something in writing prior to the closure."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, so I mean, it's going to be a requirement that it gets repaired and

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I guess the seller and buyer negotiate who does the repair and maybe there's a reduction in the sale price, because the buyer says 'I'll fix it' or whatever, but it has to be fixed."

**Mr. Wiltse** said, "Right. We're actually hoping too that when some people list their home, that they will go ahead and have us do that inspection prior to or right at the beginning, because it's the way we have written this. They have . . . inspection is good for 180 days, so that gives them some time, because if someone lists their home and the system is in failure and they really didn't know it, this would allow them to repair the system and adjust the price on the home accordingly, instead of after somebody has already signed a contract."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Okay, thank you. I don't see that there's any other questions, so what's the will of the board on this item please?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolution.

Chairman Sciortino seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Glen. Next item please."

**DIVISION OF HUMAN SERVICES- DEPARTMENT ON AGING**

**H. DEPARTMENT ON AGING.**

**1. AGREEMENT WITH CUSTOM CONCEPTS, LLC TO PROVIDE SERVICES RELATED TO THE 2006 SENIOR EXPO.**

**Ms. Annette Graham**, Director, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This

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contract that I bring before you today is for the coordination of the Senior Expo 2006. Custom Concepts has assisted Central Plains Area Agency on Aging with the planning of the Senior Expo in the past, for many years, and they have proven to be a highly effective service provider.

The item is within the Central Plains Area Agency on Aging Senior Expo budget. The contract will be paid through the revenue collected from the vendors that participate at the Senior Expo event in September 28<sup>th</sup> of 2006.

This will be our 21<sup>st</sup> annual Senior Expo. This year's theme is the 'golden age of Hollywood: Lights, Camera, Action'. This has proven to be an extremely successful event over the years. We attract approximately 3,000 older adults and caregivers every year to this event, and about 140 vendors. It continues to grow and be more and more popular every year. Last year we had some major sponsors for the first time ever that we had at that level and right at the day of the event, they said we want to sponsor it again. It is that exciting for everybody, so we're really excited about this year's and would ask that you approve the contract and we'd be happy to answer any questions."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Any questions of Annette? One thing, commissioners, I can tell you. I've been to a couple of these, and apparently the buying power of seniors has gotten the attention of corporate American. I mean, they're there at the booth. They've got giveaways and you can put your card in there and I won a Diabetes testing device, which I then donated, because fortunately I don't have Diabetes. But I mean, they really aggressively are promoting the seniors and the seniors, you can tell, really appreciate that you know, in the past it's well 'Put grandma and grandpa on the rocking chair'. No, no, boy I mean, corporate America wants them, they want their dollars and they kind of, I think, feel honored that people are still pitching them for a product.

The other thing that I noticed that they have gone to school, and I don't know where they're getting their data from, but they understand seniors, you can't give them too much, in other words, more information about the produce or service are appreciated, as opposed to just make it real quick, here it is, oh it's a pretty color, buy it. They take the pains to really answer all the questions and what have you and that's what seniors appreciate, so I think we're going to have another successful one this year. Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Annette, the cost of the services of Custom Concepts, you said, is paid by the vendors for their fees, so there's no real cost to the county for this."



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**Ms. Graham** said, “We use the revenue to pay for this yes, because it does generate revenue that we then put back into sponsoring the event and putting that on every year.”

**Commissioner Unruh** said, “Very good. Thank you.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay, commissioners. What’s the will of the Board on this item please.”

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you, Annette. Next item please.”

**2. GRANT APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE FUNDING THROUGH THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR THE RSVP VOLUNTEER PROGRAM.**

**Ms. Graham** said, “The Sedgwick County Department on Aging, and the RSVP program, have been invited to submit a grant request for the program of national significance funding, for the Corporation of National and Community Service, CNCS.

This funding will support a new and innovative programming that RSVP will coordinate to increase the number of volunteers age 55 to 65 and engage their pre-retired and newly retired Baby Boom population to volunteer and support the community.

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This is a big emphasis and a big push at the national level, to really start trying to focus on this population and to get them to start volunteering and to really engage them, utilizing and maximizing their skills and commitment to the community.

This grant would allow Sedgwick County to hire the additional volunteer coordinator to plan and implement new programs to meet the changing and the varied needs of this new Baby Boom population to really help us to get out there and get moving with this new initiative, to really maximize this and to bring this to good use in our community, here in Sedgwick County.

Through research and surveys, we have found that the Baby Boom population has very different interests than the current RSVP volunteers and they will look for volunteer options that are more hands on and make more of a significant contribution in the community. Three programs that we have looked at, as potential to implement with this new funding, if we do receive that, would be a respite program, in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, and arts and inspiration respite care model that currently does operate across the country, a peer counseling program to assist older adults with mental health concerns, as that is a population that is currently underserved and this is an exciting model that really utilizes consumers and peers to help provide these services, for individuals to make this a more valuable resource. And an additional mentoring program, in partnership with Kids in Schools.

Our current RSVP program serves over 500 older adults, age 55 and up. The average age of our current volunteer group, however, is age 74 and older. They use these programs to find meaningful volunteer activities in schools, hospitals, nursing homes and social service programs, daycare centers and other non-profit organizations. RSVP also connects homebound adults with meaningful, volunteer projects.

This grant is due to the Corporation for National Community Services on May 15<sup>th</sup>. I would be happy to answer any questions you have.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Commissioner Norton.”

**Commissioner Norton** said, “I don't really have a question, I just think it's exciting. It wasn't too many years ago that RSVP was floundering and on its last legs and looking for a place to be housed and be funded and have some care and nurturing. It had been a great program for a lot of years, but it had kind of lost its way a little bit and today it looks like it's alive and well, and it's going to serve the new population of seniors in a new manner, so I think that's pretty exciting. That's all I have.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you. Commissioner Winters.”

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**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you. I certainly think RSVP does good work. I got confused though, with the grant and then how much financial responsibility Sedgwick County will have on this. If this grant is successful, will that cover the cost for all this additional stuff?"

**Ms. Graham** said, "Yes, the current grant we would continue to receive. This would be an additional \$37,072 that we have applied for. The match money is already in, that we put in through Sedgwick County, so that is already covered. This would secure an additional 100 volunteers."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "And so did I hear you say that this would take a new, additional staff person?"

**Ms. Graham** said, "Yes, it would."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "But that would be covered by grant money."

**Ms. Graham** said, "Yes, it would."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Okay. Thank you. That's all I had."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And we have it in our mill levy, for Aging, to cover this matching portion? Okay. Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Those were a couple of questions I wanted to clarify, so I appreciate that, but I just want to make a comment that the title of this program is 'National Significance' is some what of a grandiose title I think, but it is probably appropriate for this, because this does have national significance, if this is implemented nationwide and I just want to express appreciation for those people who are willing to volunteer and be of service.

I was at a banquet recently and I heard the phrase that I've just been waiting to use and now is a good time to use it, but someone said that 'Service is the rent you pay for the air that you breath' and I think that's somewhat pro . . ."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Say that again."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Service is the rent you pay for the air you breath and I think that's a

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profound phrase that we need to kind of dwell upon a little bit and sometimes folks don't have the opportunity to pay that rent until they get to this 55 to 65 year age, or whatever, and then they're able to say 'I'm going to pay my back rent and start providing service' and so it's a good thing. That's all I have to say."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Did you think that one by yourself, or did you read that in a book someplace."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "No, no, no. Actually, I heard Mr. Brian Black say that at the banquet for Urban League of the Mid-Plains and it's just been ringing around in my head and I think it has some significance."

**Ms. Graham** said, "Well, the Corporation for National Significance, as you stated, is pretty grandiose, however we do see a lot of payoff in our community from our existing core of 500 volunteers. In fact, I was just talking to the volunteer coordinator this morning, and they just finished, the core of volunteers, just finished putting together 82,000 packets for the River Festival, so I mean you can right there, in our community, just the impact of that act alone and what an impact that makes in our community."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Very good."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Commissioners, any further comments? What is the will of the Board on this item?"

### **MOTION**

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

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

### **VOTE**

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Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much, Annette. Keep up the good work, kiddo. Next item."

**DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS- HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**I. HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

**1. AGREEMENT WITH UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE PROVIDING STUDENT PLACEMENT AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

**Ms. Claudia Blackburn**, Director, Health Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The Health Department is requesting an agreement with the University of Kansas, it's actually not the School of Medicine, to allow student placement at the Sedgwick County Health Department. The Health Department has contracts with many universities and schools for students and we actually had a request from a student who wanted to do an internship with us, and we are really excited. The student is with the Health Sport and Exercise Sciences Department and we will get 20 hours a week of free service, from August through December, and that person will assist with our HIV outreach and Education program.

She'll be mentored by staff, by our division director and our HIV coordinator and she'll learn about our . . . it's called a charms curriculum, where we do training and education with pregnant women and women who have addiction problems and it's been a very successful program. It teaches women how to negotiate successfully and improves their refusal skills, so that they can make good decisions.

So anyway, so there's no cost associated with this proposal, with this agreement and I recommend approval of this request. Any questions?"

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I don't see that there's any, so commissioners, what's the will of the Board on Item I-1 please?"

**MOTION**

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Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Next item please."

**2. ADJUSTMENT TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFFING TABLE TO UNFREEZE THREE FULL-TIME COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE (CHN) II POSITIONS, B322, AND DELETE SIX VACANT PART-TIME CHN II POSITIONS.**

**Ms. Blackburn** said, "On November 30<sup>th</sup> you approved an agenda item allowing the Health Department Healthy Babies Program to convert three full-time positions for Community Health Care Nurse II to six part-time positions, to allow flexibility with staffing.

Staff understood at the time that we would be able to hire either full-time or part-time, but we were since advised that the language was not exactly right to allow that, so I'm here again before you. We have worked very closely with the Division of Human Resources to make sure that the language in this agenda item is correct and, if you pass this, it will allow us to hire either part-time or full-time nurses, within our budget constraints, so we'll still be within the budget but it gives us a little bit more flexibility.

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Originally, we had six vacancies and we thought we would need to hire part-time nurses who had worked with the program before, who were now working full-time elsewhere, but you also approved a raise for the Health Department nurses on January 4<sup>th</sup> of '06 and that has really increased our ability to recruit full-time nurses.

They are very picky in this program. We need nurses who have home visiting experience, if possible, or labor and delivery experience and so we are slowly building back up and we will have all of our positions fill, hopefully by July 1<sup>st</sup>, so with this agenda item we will still have the flexibility to hire part-time, if we need to, but we are leaning towards full-time, so I recommend approval of this agenda item.”

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the adjustment to the Health Department Staffing Table.

Commissioner Winters seconded the motion.

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I have just one comment, Claudia. I’m sorry, you had a comment?”

**Commissioner Unruh** said, “Thank you, Mr. Chair. Well I just want to say that I appreciate your attention to this issue. Sometimes our constituents get the idea that government bureaucracy is inflexible and can’t change, and can’t make an adaptation to needs, and November we made a decision, we thought that was the best thing, and now we’re making another decision to provide more flexibility, so I just want to, I guess, want to say that I appreciate the fact that . . . kind of like small business, we make a decision in the morning and change our mind in the afternoon. It’s not quite that bad, but I appreciate the fact that we can be adaptable and be responsive to the needs of our operation, so I’m going to be supportive. Thank you.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Claudia, just for my clarification, what we’re doing is we’re opening up three full-time positions, but we have the flexibility, you could decide to hire one full-time and four part-time, if it turns out to three FTEs. Is that, in essence, what you’re getting to?”

**Ms. Blackburn** said, “Right, as long as it’s the equivalent of three FTEs and it’s within the budget, we’ll be able to do it with the language here and I have a backup document from the

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Division of Human Resources to support that.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “All right, that gives you that flexibility. Okay, that’s the only question I had. Have we had a Motion and a Second? We have. Okay, Clerk call the roll please.”

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Thank you very much, Claudia. Any problems with that movie, last night? The phones ring off the wall or anything? Good, good. Okay, next item please.”

**J. ADJUSTMENT TO THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY STAFFING TABLE TO INCLUDE ONE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE ADMINISTRATOR POSITION, B428, AND DELETE TWO INTENSIVE SUPERVISION OFFICER I POSITIONS, B219.**

**Mr. Mark Masterson**, Director, Department of Corrections, greeted the Commissioners and said, “As you know, work has begun to implement the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council master plan that was developed by that council and approved by this board. This item establishes a county administrative position to actually champion, facilitate, monitor the progress, problem-solve, track and report on the activities and the impacts of that master plan, that combines several programs.

The county’s planning to invest a great deal of taxpayer money on jail expansion and these alternative programs play a critical role in buffering that growth. The coordinating council wants to insure success and accountability in the way this is done and feels this position will help do that. This will be, basically, the go-to person on the master plan.

The position is scored out at a range 28 and an estimated cost annually of about \$77,800. Funding



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is available by deleting two vacant intensive supervision officer positions that are currently funded in the Corrections Department budget.

These positions were part of the master plan, as well, to expand pre-trial services to serve clients from the municipal court, and help relieve jail population. We were able to hold those positions vacant and manage that workload with existing personnel, due to some other changes that occurred in the bonding schedules, so we never filled those positions. That funding and those positions, we want to trade in two positions and add one position, and so that's the spirit of what this is.

The major duties for the new position involve becoming the local expert on the master plan and alternatives to administer, negotiate the contracts, monitor the contracts in accordance with the policies that have been set up here, and to help advance that as well as supervise the pretrial services person. So this person will be a doer with one of those programs, as well as a facilitator and a champion of the master plan, to advance that and insure and report to you and the council about how it's going, to track the outcomes.

The desired qualifications is a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice or some closely related field and at least five years of experience working in this field. I'd be happy to answer any questions."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "And we have one or two here. Commissioner Unruh."

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Not a question so much as just a statement that the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council was approving of this change and see the need for this position. I think it's a logical progression in the evolution of our dealing with the problem of jail overcrowding and how we handle these alternative programs. I think it's quite clear we all understand that if we don't have someone who has ownership responsibility for these programs, the effectiveness of them is going to be greatly diminished, I believe. The old saying, you have to inspect what you expect, and we expect results and so we need someone who is charged with that responsibility, so I'm glad we're able to do this and accomplish this position by once again adjusting our staffing table and being flexible, so I'm going to be very supportive. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is supportive and it's just another significant step, as we try to deal with our overcrowding, populations that we have in Sedgwick County. That's all I had Mr. Chair."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you. Commissioner Winters."

**Commissioner Winters** said, "Thank you. Just one question. Mark, is this person going to be reporting to you? Will you be the one that is . . . is the person reporting to you?"

**Mr. Masterson** said, "Yes."

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**Commissioner Winters** said, "All right, good. That's all I need to know. Thank you."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "I see no further questions. Commissioners, what's the will of the Board on Item J please?"

**MOTION**

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the adjustment to the Division of Public Safety Staffing Table.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much, Mark. Next item please."

**K. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 4, 2006.**

**Ms. Iris Baker**, Director, Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The meeting of May 4<sup>th</sup> results in three items for consideration today.

**1) BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS- PUBLIC WORKS  
FUNDING: SALES TAX**

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The first item is bridge improvements for Public Works. Recommendation is to accept the low bid from Wildcat Construction Company in the amount of \$893,349.45.

2) **GENERATORS & SINGLE AXLE TRAILERS- PUBLIC WORKS**  
**FUNDING: PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT RESERVE**

The second item, generators and single-axle trailers for Public Works. Recommendation is the low bid from Baldor Motors & Drives in the amount of \$27,476.64.

3) **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL- COMCARE**  
**FUNDING: COMCARE ADMINISTRATION**

And the third item is a membership renewal for COMCARE and the recommendation is accept the expenditure with the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas Incorporated in the amount of \$35,863.86. Be happy to answer any questions and I recommend approval of these items.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Iris, I have just one question. On item two, it seemed like Baldor’s bid on the single-axle trailers for generators was really low, compared to all the other ones. I mean, some of them were out there in excess of \$4,000 and he’s in it \$400. Are we confident these are good trailers and will work and everything? Because it’s a substantial difference in price.”

**Ms. Baker** said, “Yes.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “I’m happy for it, so you’re comfortable with it.”

**Ms. Baker** said, “Yes.”

**Chairman Sciortino** said, “Okay, that’s all I had. Commissioners, what’s the will of the Board on Bids and Contracts?”

### **MOTION**

Chairman Sciortino moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Commissioner Norton 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 Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you, Iris, very much. Next item please."

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**L. CONSENT AGENDA.**

- 1. Six Easements for Right-of-Way for Sedgwick County Cold Mix Project R-175D on 87<sup>th</sup> Street South between Meridian and Broadway. District #2.**
- 2. Stipulation and Order authorizing Warehouse Entertainment, Inc. to pay Sedgwick County \$700.00 in 2002 delinquent personal property taxes, as authorized by BOTA Order 2005-323-TSC.**
- 3. Amendment to the 2006 Capital Improvement Program to include construction of a Boundless Playground at Sedgwick County Park.**
- 4. Order dated May 2, 2006 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 5. Payroll Check Register of May 5, 2006.**
- 6. General Bills Check Register(s) for the week of May 3 – 9, 2006.**

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**Mr. William P. Buchanan**, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioners, you have the consent agenda before you and I would recommend you approve it."

**MOTION**

Chairman Sciortino moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Winters	Aye
Commissioner Burtnett	Absent
Chairman Sciortino	Aye

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Thank you very much. Commissioners, I would now like to recess the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners."

**The County Commission Regular Meeting was recessed into the Fire District #1 Meeting from 10:39 a.m. and returned from recess at 10:43 a.m.**

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Under 'Other' do we have any comments or have anything we want to talk about under 'Other'? Commissioner Unruh."

**M. OTHER**

**Commissioner Unruh** said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll just mention that several of the commissioners are going to be at the Kansas County Commissioners' Association meeting for the majority of the remainder of this week, and our participation up there I think is not only beneficial to us, but I think that a county of our size is able to help provide some leadership and direction to some of the other counties, so we're very pleased to participate in that."

I want to say that next week, for the first part of the week, I'll be involved in a seminar and training entitled 'The Jail as Part of County Government' which is going to be held locally and it's an opportunity to give county commissioners and other county administrators an opportunity to look at some of the issues facing jails, and so looking forward to that.

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And then I might mention that we're involved in the Housing Officer Panel now, we're hearing citizen protests on their valuations and I think that's progressing smoothly and we're happy to help provide that, another avenue for people to get questions answered and their voices heard on their valuations. So, that's all I had, Mr. Chair."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "All right, thank you. Commissioner Norton."

**Commissioner Norton** said, "Well, just a reminder to everybody that the River Festival gets kicked off Friday evening with the Sundown Parade and there will be nine days of great events that celebrate living in Wichita and Sedgwick County and this area. Want to report that Sedgwick County participated in KANSEL's trivia night and we finished . . . depending on how you looked at it, we either finished second or fourth, so I'm going to say we finished second, but we had a great time. It was a fundraiser for KANSEL, who provides adult basic education, GED programs, English as a Second Language to a lot of folks. In fact, the number I saw was, in the last six years, they'd served over 8,000 people, so pretty effective program, started years ago by Theron Black and continues to thrive in our community."

And the final thing I had was I was in Southwest Village Neighborhood Association last night and got a chance to discuss issues like the jail, technical education and the arena, and had great, stirring discussion with citizens in that area and found them to be engaged and understanding of what we have to do as county commissioners."

**Chairman Sciortino** said, "Did I hear you say, commissioner, that KANSEL provides GED training and classes and such? All right."

Well, I have a small thing. Last Sunday, as you know, I'm getting really into this bicycling and they have a lot . . . like golf tournaments, they have a lot of charitable functions and we did a function out at the El Dorado Correctional Facility, it's called the 'Great Escape'. They're trying to put in a kind of like an urban ministry function out there and this was one of the things they use as a fundraiser. And the inmates design the logo on the Tee shirt, it was very creative, there's some good artists there."

It was a cold, wet day but we start off by actually . . . your not inside the prison, but you're past the first whatever and we're just right outside the fence, so we do a big circle and we got waves and we waved back and whatever and we circled all around through the town of El Dorado and then we started our 50-mile loop and wound up . . . an ex-clerk, Laury Schuetz was volunteering there and I got to re-introduce myself to her and we stopped in Leon, Kansas. I've never been in Leon, Kansas in my life and she was there too and it turns out she lives in Leon and we had lunch at the Senior Center and it was a good time and it was just kind of neat to know that, you know, the money that

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we put in for it goes for a pretty worthwhile organization, pretty impressive facility out there. And the chaplain was a big, tall fellow that didn't look like he was into physical activity for a long time, but he had gotten \$400 in pledges if he could do the 25-mile route and we're on the return trip, and the he's still trying to get out there on his bike, so he can make the turn, but I e-mailed the fellow over at the prison and he did finish it, so he was dedicated. Anyway, that's all I had. Anything else? This meeting is now adjourned."

### **N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Regular Meeting, May 10, 2006**

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

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

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**BEN SCIORTINO**, Chairman  
Fifth District

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**LUCY BURTNETT**, Chair Pro Tem  
Fourth District

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**DAVID M. UNRUH**, Commissioner,  
First District

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**TIM R. NORTON**, Commissioner  
Second District

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**THOMAS G. WINTERS**, Commissioner  
Third District

ATTEST:

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**Don Brace**, County Clerk

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_, 2006