

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

February 18, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Kelly Parks, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Gwen Welshimer; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner Karl Peterjohn; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. Kelly B. Arnold, Sedgwick County Clerk; Mr. Troy Bruun, Deputy Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Ray Vail, Department on Aging; Mr. Jim Weber, Deputy County Engineer; Ms. Iris Baker, Purchasing Director; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and, Ms. Evelyn Good, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Craig Gable, 150 East 44th Street South, Wichita, KS
Mr. Greg Sevier, Chairman, Arena Sales Tax Oversight Committee
Mr. Bob Wilson, 11505 Calais, Wichita, KS

INVOCATION

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting January 28, 2009

The Clerk reported that all Commissioners were present at the Regular Meeting of January 28, 2009.

Chairman Parks said, “You’ve all had a chance to read the Minutes, do I hear a Motion?”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2009 as presented.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, “At this time I have a couple of off agenda items. First one is going to be for the appointment of a Trustee to Park Township, the second one is going to be a public forum, five minutes for Craig Gable. If we can take the first off- agenda item on the Park Township.”

OFF AGENDA ITEM

MOTION

Chairman Parks moved to take an off-agenda item.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, “Second off agenda item is public forum item for, to give somebody from the public that wanted to speak five minutes.

MOTION

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

Chairman Parks moved to take an Off-Agenda item.

Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

OFF- AGENDA ITEM

Chairman Parks said, “We’ll take the first off- agenda item up right now. David is not present.”

MOTION

Chairman Parks moved to appoint David Kessler as Trustee to Park Township.

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, “Second item on the off agenda item, Craig, would you like to come to the podium. Please state your name, address and you will have five minutes from now.”

Mr. Craig Gable greeted the Commissioners and said, “Thank you. I come to you today,

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

Commissioners, and thank you for your time, asking for residential property tax relief. I ask you to ask the Legislature for permission to put a 1% sales tax for residential property tax relief.

“I am on the ballot. I am not asking for you to reduce the mill levy or change any way that we tax at the current time or your ability to fund the county budget. I ask that we give voters an opportunity to vote on a 1% sales tax that would show up as a credit on each residential property owner’s statement in the county. In addition in your packet, you can find an outline for property tax relief known as Proposition K. It outlines the need for property tax relief. The people of our great County are ready for this change. I’ve talked to literally thousands of people in Wichita and Sedgwick County, and this subject is foremost on their minds. Nearly 1,000 have already signed copies of the enclosed petition. The reasons are many. Some are senior citizens that have seen virtually no increase in their income in the last ten years. Some are working age adults, they have seen a meager 30% increase in their wages over the last ten years, while property appraised values have increased 100%, and property taxes increased by 97% in Sedgwick County. All are ready to share the burden of the cost of local government. There are several other advantages that make this proposal extremely attractive. With property values decreasing due to economic crises, this would stabilize the County’s tax base. Second, it calls for a 2% annual increase that would allow for budget growth and for cost of living increases.

“Homeowners would be more inclined to make home improvements, adding onto and remodeling older properties, stimulating local economy and getting contractors that are not currently working back to work. Laid off workers would see some small relief on their home mortgages as a result. Finally, this question calls for the use of the interest on the collected funds to be used for public safety. We are aware of the current overcrowding at the jail. I represent nearly 1,000 signatures calling for this to be placed on the ballot. And I stand for questions if you have any.”

Chairman Parks said, “Thank you. Are there any questions? Seeing none, thank you.”

Mr. Gable said, “Thank you and have a good day. Do I hear a motion to receive and file Mr. Gable’s paperwork?”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

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

Chairman Parks said, "Clerk, call the next item."

APPOINTMENTS

A. WICHITA AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

- 1. RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHAIRMAN KELLY PARKS AND SECOND DISTRICT TIM NORTON (AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT) TO THE WICHITA AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TRANSPORTATION POLICY BODY.**

Mr. Richard Euson, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We've prepared this Resolution to make these appointments which serve at the pleasure of the Board of County Commissioners and I would recommend you adopt the Resolution."

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the Resolution.

Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, "Next item."

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

B. ROCKFORD TOWNSHIP

1. RESIGNATION OF ROCKFORD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE TOM HUMBOLT.

Mr. Euson said, "Commissioners, Mr. Humboldt submitted his resignation in writing, and at this time I would ask that you accept it."

MOTION

Commissioner Peterjohn moved to accept the Resignation.

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, "Next item."

2. RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT BALOG (COMMISSIONER WELSHIMER'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE ROCKFORD TOWNSHIP AS A TRUSTEE.

Chairman Parks said, "Commissioners, this Resolution will make the appointment for the vacancy just created, and this will serve for a term to end in January of 2013, and I recommend you adopt this Resolution."

MOTION

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

Commissioner Welshimer moved to adopt the Resolution.

Chairman Parks seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

Mr. Kelly Arnold, County Clerk said, "Good morning. Raise your right hand please.

"I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sedgwick County Rockford Township Trustee, so help me God."

Mr. Arnold said, "Congratulations!"

Chairman Parks said, "We'll have him sign his Oath of Office, and I would like to thank Mr. Balog for serving his township and all the work and everything that's going to go along with this, well it will certainly be fulfilling and rewarding. If you would like to say a few words, please step to the podium."

Mr. Robert Balog said, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I don't have any comments."

Chairman Parks said, "I do have a couple comments, if you would just stay there for a little bit. Commissioner Norton. Commissioner Welshimer."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "Your Township is in my district and I very much appreciate you stepping forward and taking on this responsibility, and I wish you all the best in your job."

Mr. Balog said, "Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Next item."

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

C. ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

- 1. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING THERON BLACK (COMMISSIONER NORTON'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING.**
- 2. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING BETSY KELLY (COMMISSIONER NORTON'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING.**
- 3. RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MARY CORRIGAN, PH. D. (COMMISSIONER NORTON'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING.**

Mr. Euson said, "Commissioners, with your permission, if we can take Item C1, 2, and 3 together. These are all reappointments to the Advisory Council on Aging. The first Resolution reappoints Theron Black, who is Commissioner Norton's appointment. The second reappoints Betsy Kelly, who is Commissioner Norton's appointment, and the third, Mary Corrigan, a reappointment also Commissioner Norton's appointment. These all serve four year terms until February of 2013, and I recommend you adopt all three Resolutions."

Chairman Parks said, "Seeing that Legal doesn't have any problem with this, do I hear a motion?"

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to adopt the Resolutions.

Chairman Peterjohn seconded the Motion.

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

Chairman Parks asked, "Discussion. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Well all three of these are my appointments, and they've served well for several years. Theron is very active in the silver haired Legislature, as is Betsy Kelly. They've

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

been very involved in the community as far as Department on Aging, and then Mary Corrigan has studied aging and has her PhD, and is very knowledgeable of aging issues, so I think they are three really good appointments, and I am proud that they have elected to continue their service because the loss of these three would really be a loss to Sedgwick County as far as knowledge of the Aging Department. So that's it, Mr. Chair. Thanks."

Chairman Parks asked, "Are any of them here today to be sworn?"

Commissioner Norton said, "No, I don't see any of them. The message I got was they would not be here today."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay. Thank you and thank you for your comments. Please call the vote."

VOTE

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

NEW BUSINESS

D. SEVENTH REPORT OF THE ARENA SALES TAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

Mr. Troy Bruun, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Good morning. The Arena Sales Tax Oversight Committee reviews the arena sales tax revenue and expenditures to help ensure the public that the County is using these funds in accordance with the purposes for which the arena sales tax was authorized. As the committee Chairman, Mr. Greg Sevier is here to present to you their semi-annual report."

Mr. Greg Sevier, Committee Chairman, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You got a copy of our report dated January 28th, 2009, that was the last time our committee met. Just a couple highlights on the report. The original projections of revenues was about \$184 million, and as we previously reported, the actual collections were \$205 million. Those collections were collected about a year ago. The sales tax went off in December of 2007, with that last payment being received from the State in February of 2008.

"On page two you'll see the revised budget expenditures, to reflect how that \$205 million is going to be spent. To date, the date of our report January 28th, there is about \$111 million expended,

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

actually expended on the arena project, and another \$61 million of funds been encumbered and committed to the project to this date. Our committee meets on a regular basis, and we review the expenditures and documentations supporting those and inquire of County staff of those expenditures and examine that documentation. And here to report that the County staff has been excellent in providing us all the information we've requested. We were able to look at the documentation supporting the expenditures, the approval process, and we actually go through a lot of expenditures to verify that they are, you know, appropriately being charged to the arena project. I will be glad to answer any questions you have on the project, and anything of our committee."

Chairman Parks asked, "Are there any questions of Mr. Sevier? Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Greg, I've said before, I don't have a question, but as I have said before, I wanted you to know that I appreciate your participation in this committee, and your leadership as this group of citizens have taken on the task of holding us accountable in how that money is expended and it all goes to the arena according to the plan that we had set out originally. So appreciate your work, your oversight, to you and all the members of the committee. Thank you."

Mr. Sevier said, "Thank you. Appreciate that."

Chairman Parks said, "I have one question. Is there a next date for the next meeting?"

Mr. Sevier said, "April 28th at 3:00 p.m.. Would like to invite all of you to attend the meeting. Chris will have..... we usually meet at the Ark Valley Lodge if it is available so we certainly welcome any of the Commissioners to attend and I think several of you have attended meetings in the past."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay, thank you. Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Thanks. One of the things that I'm always am interested in is that what your findings were. Obviously we've seen all the backup, but over this arduous process and with some changing members, have you found anything that is significant over the last couple of meetings that.....?"

Mr. Sevier said, "No, we have not."

Commissioner Norton said, "I think that's interesting for the public to know because this document has not been printed in the paper. We get to look at it and understand your findings, but I

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

want to be sure the public knew that even with the beginnings of seven meetings ago and a different body, we've had some rotation of members, you still find that everything is documented, everything is used properly, there is nothing that would cause you significant consternation as far as what you've seen."

Mr. Sevier said, "That's correct.

Commissioner Norton said, "Okay. That's all I have. Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Any other comments? Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Greg, very much appreciate your service as well as the members on your committee. I've had some questions from the public just how things stand time frame wise, this may be a good opportunity to update at this point. How do things look in that regard?"

Mr. Sevier said, "The committee's understanding, we are on target, within budget, and hopefully we will be looking at having an opening a year from now. But as been reported to our committee, the expenditures are in line, on budget, no concerns with those issues, and everything is going smooth. I think there're getting it ready to get it closed up so weather shouldn't be an issue here as we get into the Spring. Hopefully this time next year we'll be meeting at the arena for this committee report."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you, Greg."

Mr. Sevier said, "Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Clerk, next item." We need to accept that.... Don't we?"

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

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

Chairman Parks said, "Next item."

E. APPROVAL OF ONE LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AREA AGENCIES ON AGING FOR THE *DIGITAL TV: KEEPING SENIORS CONNECTED CAMPAIGN*.

Mr. Ray Vail, Department on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here today to ask for your approval of a Letter of Agreement with the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging for the digital TV conversion. Our area was identified as a priority for The Keeping Seniors Connected campaign. I ask that you approve this Letter of Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign and I will answer any questions you might have."

Chairman Parks asked, "Are there any questions at this time?"

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Letter of Agreement.

Chairman Parks seconded the Motion.

Commissioner Unruh asked, "Ray, could you tell me just a little bit more about the detail of what does this accomplish or affect. I mean this just keeps everybody online for their television broadcast."

Mr. Vail said, "What it is, we're going out and helping seniors connect the converter boxes so they can receive a signal as of yesterday, except for two of the stations here in town which didn't make the conversion over to digital. We do information, we publicized it in Active Aging; we have 25 volunteers and four staff that are going out and assisting seniors do it, and we've done presentations at ten senior centers."

Commissioner Unruh asked "Is there a great deal of anxiety about this? I mean, is everybody just receiving the information and making the conversion, I mean is it going well is the other way to say

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

this?”

Mr. Vail said, “It is going well for us. There is a lot of anxiety about it, because it is something new, which seniors don’t like a lot of things new and we have had to go back and Joan, the Program Director told me to go back and re-do several of the converters because it is changing their remotes and changing how they do things to watch TV. So there is anxiety.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Well for better or for worse, it seems like our culture is very dependent on that communication medium for information and entertainment. So I understand that folks would be somewhat anxious about making sure they can stay connected. I think it is well for us to be involved in this and offer the help and assistance where we can. I will be supportive. Thank you.”

Chairman Parks said, “And there is no charge for this is that correct?”

Mr. Vail said, “Correct.”

Chairman Parks said, “I know I’ve had several that were concerned when they couldn’t view us when they went to lower power and other things. I will try to contact those in my district because obviously they can’t see us today if they don’t have the converter hooked up. Thank you very much. Please call the vote.”

VOTE

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

F. PUBLIC WORKS

- 1. APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH RUGGLES AND BOHM, P.A., FOR DESIGN OF STREETS IN AN UNPLATTED SUBDIVISION COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS CHATEAU ESTATES. (DISTRICT 4).**

Mr. Jim Weber, Deputy Director of Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Again in Item F1 we are requesting your approval of an agreement with Ruggles and Bohm for engineering

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

design services for the paving of Calais and Calais Court in an unplatted sub-division known as Chateau Estates. The project is located south of 31st Street South on the east side of Greenwich Road. You approved the petition from the landowner's request in this project last year. Cost of this work will not exceed \$31,100 and all cost of the project will be paid by the benefited owners in Chateau Estates through special assessments. We are requesting that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have."

Chairman Parks said, "I just have one correction on that, that is in District 5 instead of District 4."

Mr. Weber said, "That is correct."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you."

MOTION

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the Motion.

Chairman Parks asked, "Any discussion on this item? Commissioner Unruh."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you Mr. Chairman. When we first addressed this issue it was quite controversial from the residents down there and so forth. You have had some contact with them recently and let them know there was an opportunity to make a new petition and so forth, but you didn't get any return response from that?"

Mr. Weber said, "Yes. We had this conversation about two weeks ago yesterday at your staff meeting. There had been a contact from a property owner down there that was concerned about lay-offs and how that might affect some of the property owners. So, two weeks ago today I had a conversation with that gentleman and indicated that if they felt they wanted to try to stop the project that they would need to have the majority of the owners at this time sign a petition.....we don't have a petition in that form so I asked him to get back with me if he wanted to do that and we would get with the County Counselor Office and get an appropriate petition put together."

"As of today, no one has contacted us and requested a petition. There was another gentleman that had made contact with Commissioner Parks in the last couple of days. I've talked to him this

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

morning. He's having conversation with the first guy, as far as I can tell they don't actually have a petition they are trying to circulate yet, they are still talking about it. His interest was in, say deferring the project for 12 months until we see what happens, not necessarily to kill the project. I have suggested to him that if he works with the first gentleman, Mr. Winters, and if they want to put a petition together, we could still do that. I did suggest to him, though, that if his concept is for a deferral, it would still be appropriate to go ahead with the design work, and get farther down the road with the project, get better cost estimates on the project, and have, you know set of plans and real tools to work with if a decision is made later about not doing the project. So having said all that, we are still recommending that you do the design contract, we get the engineer started, if something happened real quick, we would only owe the engineer what he's actually got invested. We should have plans ready in June at this point, and, again, we would have a better idea of what we are actually building."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, thank you for that answer. I just appreciate the fact that we have maintained contact and we're trying to be responsive to the desires of the citizens down there and what was a highly charged issue at one time. Thank you for the response. That's all I have."

Chairman Parks said, "Commissioner Welshimer."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "This being in my district, there's quite a bit of history behind this, and back when we first approved this project I had several conversations with, I think I called everybody."

Mr. Weber said, "I think you called everybody."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "And, you know there were those proponents in favor of this were very definite. I've heard nothing different, short of another petition signed by those who might have changed their minds, I don't see that there's anything else we can do but go ahead with this in keeping with the decision that was made back when we approved this project: So I will be voting for getting this project started."

Mr. Weber said, "I appreciate that. I think that's the right approach to take. We still have options down the road if something changes down there."

Chairman Parks said, "I know this is not a public hearing by any means, but I think it's dangerous if there's somebody in the audience that wants to speak... that something that Mr. Weber hasn't

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

said already. Is there anybody in the audience who wants to speak to this? Sir, if you will step to the podium. I'm going to give you two minutes to say what you need to here on this, and state your name and address, and you will have two minutes from that time."

Mr. Bob Wilson greeted the Commissioners and said, "Last week resident number one as you refer to talked with the County, and was told that this item would be on next Wednesday's agenda. This morning gentleman number two called the County Engineer's Office to find out about getting the petition to sign, and so at 20 till 9:00 we found out this morning that this item was on today's agenda instead of next weeks. The majority of the 12 people that signed in favor of the project are aircraft employees. One is a single income family, another is a two income family, and both of these families are looking at layoffs or reduced hours and would like to bring a new resolution to delay the project for 12 months to see what the aircraft industry does. Thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. This particular item, I have a question for Jim. If we go ahead and do this item today, this is something that could be picked up and the time factor wouldn't be, per se, wasting any money in between. Would that be a fair assessment? We wouldn't be wasting any time or money, any money on this anyway, just be some staff time on getting these things done."

Mr. Weber said, "No. If I understand your question, what we're doing today, we brought you a contract to use an outside engineering firm to design the project, and if you approve the contract, authorize the Chairman to sign today, as a matter of fact, they are listening today and they are literally telling me they will be out there this afternoon and they will start the process of survey and design for this project. And we will begin to incur costs up to \$31,100 and then we stop. And the end of that process we'll have a full set of plans, we'll have a good construction estimate, and that would be in late May, early June time frame when we would intend to go ahead and advertise the project and go out for bids. If between now and then a petition comes in and it is brought to the board and a decision is made to halt the project or defer the project, we can decide to stop design at whatever process we're in, that would stop the clock on the engineering bills at whatever stage we're at, or you could decide to go forward with the design, finish it up, but not let us go bid the thing until some period of time goes by. But if you do this contract today, we're going to start spending money on the project, but we are limited to \$31,100."

Chairman Parks said, "But this, if this were delayed for a year or two, the designs would still be good, would they not?"

Mr. Weber said, "Yes. We would.... If it is a long delay we would tentatively go back to the engineer, have them go back and check the utilities, things happen around us, even after we do a set

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

of plans, but we would have to incur some additional costs to have them go back and double check and make sure that things are up to date.”

Chairman Parks said, “ And who would incur the \$31,100? Would that be us or would that be back.... ”

Mr. Weber said, “We are going to carry it as the County until we do the special assessments for the project, whether we go two years down the road and we kill the construction project, we could assess just the \$31,100 to the neighborhood for the work that’s been done or if we go ahead with the project and build it we would assess the entire cost. But until we do the special assessments, we are going to basically temporarily finance the project for them.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Commissioner Welshimer.”

Commissioner Welshimer said, “If there is an effort to come up with a petition, I think we should have it within the.... is it possible to have it within the next week? From my conversations with people in the area, I’m not sure that we’ll have enough signatures, so, you know, it is just sort of a gray area here. I think we need to go ahead with the project until we receive a new petition.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. any other discussion? I just wanted to make sure that if somebody did come in next week and wanted to get on the agenda and speak to us that this \$31,000, where that was going to go.... whether that was going back on the property owners if they decide, if they bring in another petition not to do that, and this may be a legal question, I dont know, for legal to ask, is there anything that can be put back on property owners, or should that just be taken out of our engineering fees?”

Mr. Richard Euson, County Counselor greeted the Commissioners and said, “That’s really up to you. I don’t recall if this has happened before, and but I don’t recall us spreading assessments for purely engineering costs in a development, but it is certainly up to you as to whether you want to spread those costs, which you have authority to do under the petition, or to pay it out of the General Fund and absorb them as a County.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay, thank you. Commissioner Peterjohn.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Jim, a question, so I have a better understanding in terms of the engineering costs and how this ties into. Can you give me a ballpark idea how much the charge would be per household in this development?”

Mr. Weber said, “I didn’t bring the paperwork with me today, but I think that the special assessment will be in the \$20,000.... Bob probably has it memorized. It’s in the \$20,000 range I

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

think, the principal amount.”

Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Okay. The engineering costs we are talking about here, if you prorate that over the homes, what are we talking about?”

Mr. Weber said, “\$1,000 a piece. I think there’s 31 or 32 homes in there.? Okay. 21. Okay. \$1500 a piece.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Well, I am okay if we defer it for a week and give them a chance. I don’t have a problem with that. I don’t like the idea of going down the road very far and then keeping this going. If we’re going to do it, let’s either and I’m okay with whatever Commissioner Welshimer wants to do today, if there’s a different thought process to defer for a week and see if the petitions gain ground..... I mean, it sounds like there’s a little buyer’s remorse that’s happening with some people. I’m okay with that, but I wouldn’t want it to stretch out very long. We either need to move forward and not worry about petitions, or worry about it right now before we spend a lot of money, because I have a little bit of a problem later putting just engineering that you are never going to get done onto the citizens. We need to make the decision now and not go down that path. That sets a precedence. I think Rich is right... I don’t think I ever remember us doing, just putting something that wasn’t constructed on somebody’s specials. That just doesn’t make sense to me. I’m okay with it. It would really depend kind of on what Commissioner Welshimer is thinking right now.”

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chair. I think I am concurring with Commissioner Norton, if we are thinking about starting and then stopping, waiting to see what people say, let’s wait a week or two weeks if that’s the necessity and make a decision on what we’re doing and then go forward with it. I don’t think we ought to make a decision in the back of our mind thinking that we are going to reverse it in a week. As is it stands right now, we had a petition by majority of the homeowners that said we want a road, and it was approved by the Board of County Commissioners, so it would seem like we go forward with that until we have sufficient evidence to say no. And, you know, the anecdotal evidence that we’re hearing, although it may represent the majority, we don’t have any real evidence of that.

“So I would say we’re going forward today without, you know, without too much looking back, or else lets defer it a week or two weeks, whatever we think is appropriate. It is also not good business

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

to, I think, keep somebody we are in contract with, starting and stopping. So we need to have a clear picture of what we are doing. I would be willing to follow Commissioner Welshimer's lead since this is in her district. This is not....we are setting bad precedent and not doing good business."

Chairman Parks said, "I just threw that out to ask 'what ifs'. I am not proposing we do that at this time. I do think if there is something out there one week would make a big difference, we would have some angst with three or four people that wanted to change their mind, that that might be the thing for us to do, but Commissioner Welshimer....."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "I don't have a problem with delaying it one week. That would be all."

Chairman Parks asked, "Clerk, do we have a motion and a second?"

Commissioner Welshimer said, "I will withdraw my motion."

Chairman Parks said, "And withdraw the second. Commissioner Norton withdraws his second on this. So, is there a motion to defer this one week?"

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to defer this item one week.

Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the Motion.

Chairman Parks asked, "Did you have any other comments, Commissioner Peterjohn? Okay. I think just one other question here, is this going to cause us any problem with the amount, the \$31,100 with Ruggles and Bohm?"

Mr. Weber said, "No."

Chairman Parks said, "Okay. So one week, and we'll get that back on there, and I'm sure we'll have some definitive things then. For those of you in the audience that you need to get some leg work out there and do something and bring us back some information if you need to do that. Mr. Manager, if you would get that on the agenda for next week?"

Mr. William Buchanan said, "Yes sir."

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

Chairman Parks said, “Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “I just wanted to acknowledge to Mr. Wilson and any of the folks from Chateau Estates that are listening that we set a one week period and if it’s really serious, if there is consternation out there, they need to react to it pretty quickly, because, you know, I think it was pretty imperative in Commissioner Welshimer’s voice, a week is about all she can tolerate, she’s ready to move forward. So there is a week. I don’t want to put words in your mouth, Commissioner, but that’s kind of what I heard. So I would acknowledge to everybody that is involved in that area to get serious if this is really going to be held up. That’s all I have. Thanks, Mr. Chair.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Commissioner Unruh.”

Commissioner Unruh said, “Thank you, Mr. Chair. Before we call a vote, I just wanted to make sure we are not contemplating a new discussion of the issue. We are only looking that if there is a petition with a majority of the land owners saying we want to not do this, then that... because I don’t want to get into this whole issue again. If there is a majority saying no, then that will help us make our decision.”

Chairman Parks said, “That’s the way I interpret the motion. Any other discussion clerk, call the vote.”

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, “Next item please.”

- 2. APPROVAL OF AN ESTIMATE FROM WESTAR ENERGY, INC. FOR RELOCATION OF ELECTRIC POWER LINES ON SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT 817- V, W, X; ROAD WIDENING PROJECT ON MERIDIAN BETWEEN 47TH ST. SOUTH AND 71ST ST SOUTH. CIP# R-281. DISTRICT 2.**

Mr. David Spears, County Engineer, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Item F2 is an estimate

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

from Westar Energy for relocation of electric power lines for the road improvement project on Meridian between the Wichita City limits and 71st Street South designated as R281 in the Capital Improvement Program. Sedgwick County will only be responsible for the portion of line located in private easement at an estimated cost of \$35,750, I recommend you approve the estimate.”

MOTION

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the estimate.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the Motion.

Commissioner Norton said, “Not really, this is the big project along Meridian. This is some of the work that needs to be done to put some other things in motion. I think the Right-of-Way is all taken care of. This will take care of the utilities, the bid has already been let, contract is signed, so it is moving forward now as far as I can tell. Is that correct, Dave?”

Mr. Spears said, “We’ll have the authority to award the contract on the agenda next Wednesday.”

Chairman Parks said, “Okay. Great. Seeing no other discussion, call the vote.”

VOTE

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

Chairman Parks said, “Clerk, next item.”

G. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS’ REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 12, 2009.

Ms. Iris Baker, Purchasing Director, greeted the Commissioners and said, “The Meeting of February 12, 2009 results in nine items for consideration today.

1. ½ TON 4X4 CREW CAB PICKUPS – FLEET MANAGEMENT

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

FUNDING – VEHICLE ACQUISITIONS

“First item, half ton four by four crew cab pickup for Fleet Management. Recommendation is to accept the low bid meeting specifications from Don Hatton Chevrolet, \$57,438.

**2. POLICE SEDANS – FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING- VEHICLE ACQUISITION**

“Item two , police sedans for Fleet Management. Recommendation is to accept the low bid from Rusty Eck Ford in the amount of \$420,093.

**3. 2009 ASPHALT SURFACE REJUVENATION – PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING – R175 PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE - 2009**

Item three, 2009 asphalt surface rejuvenation for Public Works. Recommendation is to accept the bid from Cutler Repaving Incorporated in the amount of \$1,836,250.01.

**4. UPGRADE NORTH SIDE HOUSING UNIT FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM
FOR THE ADULT DETENTION FACILITY – FACILITIES DEPARTMENT
FUNDING – RENOVATE SPRINKLER SYSTEM – ADULT DETENTION**

Item four, upgrade north side of the housing unit fire sprinkler system for the Adult Detention Facility for the Facilities Department. That recommendation is the low bid from Whitewater Fire Sprinkler Incorporated in the amount of \$44,175.

**5. BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS – PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING – B-368 23700 77TH STREET NORTH**

“Item five, bridge improvements for Public Works. Recommendation is to accept the low bid from Claver Construction in the amount of \$216,526.86.

**6. NITRILE GLOVES – EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
FUNDING – EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

“Item six, Nitrile gloves for Emergency Medical Services. Recommendation to accept the low bid from Bound Tree Medical and to establish contract pricing for one year with two one-year options to renew.

7. XIOTECH MAINTENANCE – DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

**OPERATIONS
FUNDING – SYSTEMS AND SECURITY**

“Item 7, maintenance of the division of information and operation. Recommendation is to accept the quote from Xiotech in the amount of \$60,132.

**8. ONBASE ANNUAL LICENSE AND MAINTENANCE RENEWAL
DIVISION OF INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS
FUNDING – DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

“Item eight, Onbase annual license and maintenance renewal for the Division of Operations, that recommendation is to accept the quote from Cutting Edge Solutions in the amount of \$109,148.76.

**9. POINT-TO-POINT NETWORK CONNECTION – DIVISION OF
INFORMATION AND OPERATIONS/DRUG COURT
FUNDING – DRUG COURT**

Item nine, Point-toPoint- Newwork Connection, Division of Information and Operations for the Drug Court. That recommendation is to accept the quote from Cox Business with a monthly rate of \$570 and one time installation fee of \$500 for a total of 60 month term. Be happy to answer any questions and recommend approval of these items.”

Chairman Parks said, “We do have a couple of questions. Commissioner Norton.”

Commissioner Norton said, “On Item three, that’s a pretty good healthy chunk a million eight, and that’s for asphalt surface rejuvenation. There is only one bid. Of course we’ve seen that year to year to year, but because it is a large sum of money and only one bid, I would like to at least have a comment on it from either Iris or Dave Spears.”

Mr. Spears said, “I can, if you want. This is one of the processes that we use in our, what’s called R175, our preventive maintenance. It is one of the tools that we have. This will do about 15 – 2 lane miles, this amount of money. It is deemed recycling. What the process is, they mill off one inch of the pavement and then that, and they heat the pavement with that so they get a good bond. They put that as recycled, put right back down, mixed with an additive, put back on the pavement, and then an additional one inch of new pavement is added on top of that, which further strengthens the road and extends the life of the road. We’re pretty happy with this process. As far as one vendor, the specs are pretty tight on that. There is another company in Texas that does this type of work. These companies seem to stay regionalized; I guess I should say it that way.”

Commissioner Norton said, “Dave, \$1.8 million, does that buy less or more miles than the current

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

economic conditions than we've had in the past? Do you have thought on that?"

Mr. Spears said, "Well the price, unit price is higher than we paid last year for the same process, but it is, you can speak in general terms of oil, for example, in December Ridge Road was a major project, and it seemed, I don't want to say high, but it was a little higher than the Meridian project that was bid in January. So we feel like there's a trend right now where they are starting to come down a little bit, but that's not to say it will stay there. We do get an indexing rate on the oil each month, we keep track of that. So it is dropping a little bit right now. However, it is more than we paid last year, because if you remember, oil went really high last summer."

Commissioner Norton said, "Right. Okay. That's all the questions I have, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Parks said, "And that is still \$102,000 under engineer estimate also on that?"

Mr. Spears said, "Yes, sir. The estimate was \$1,934,000, plus or minus."

Chairman Parks said, "I have been behind some of these conversations in the past to, at my other job, I have observed that, so this is kind of a regional type of process. Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Dave, when you said that this would extend the life on the roads where this process occurs, can you give me a ballpark idea in terms of how long that extension normally works out and if we didn't do this type of asphalt surface rejuvenation, what would be your recommendation as a substitute process, and how would that cost compared to what we are doing here?"

Mr. Spears said, "Okay. Length and substitution. Let me just say what we do to our roads, preventive maintenance is the most important thing we do to preserve these assets that the County has. And roads and bridges are assets. And if..... say you built a road and you didn't do anything to it, and it depends on traffic and the weight, you know, trucks or cars or whatever. But I'm just speaking in general terms, a road would be completely..... I don't want to say completely, but pretty well deteriorated in 20 years. So you have to compare that cost of replacing an entire road, which we did a mile of new road just two years ago, it was \$440,000 for one mile as compared to..... you do preventive maintenance every five years on your road, and you keep extending the life, so I want to tell you that the roads that we built, since I have been here in 1985, those roads are still good. They are like new. So we continue to extend the life, and if you attend the seminars and classes and things that we have, this is really the way to go."

"Now, substitute. There are, like I say, this is just one tool. You'll see more projects bid this year."

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

We look at the miles that we have to do, which is probably 100 miles, or 120 miles a year or so, plus or minus, and we go out and look and see which tool we want to use on those, and we also have to make that fit within the budget. So there a Latex Modified Slurry Seal that we use, there's Cold Mix Recycling that we use, there's Nova Chip we use, and there's BM1 Overlays we use. We have a lot of tools and we use them all. We try to get the biggest bang for the buck."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Dave, but it raised another question, if I could follow up in terms of asking, then if we have a surge in prices, in oil prices like we had last year, if we agree with this bid, who picks up the difference, you know, if we go back to \$4.00 a gallon gasoline and \$5.00 a gallon diesel and asphalt and other prices move up accordingly."

Mr. Spears said, "Okay. In this contract we put in an escalator clause, which is the first time we've done that. This contractor last year and the others had come back to us last year and wanted more money when the price..... they were losing money. They had to pay the new price, but they were locked in with us. KDOT (Kansas Department of Transportation) has started using an escalator clause. We put one in this contract. Now, an escalator clause means that you look at the price of oil, and if it goes up, the contractor gets more money. If it goes down, they pay us money. So there is a clause in it, and this is the first we've done that with."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "David, thank you."

Chairman Parks said, "With summer coming on, I did notice that the barrel of oil price for Kansas Crude was \$24.50 last night. Just a sidebar on that. Any other questions about Bid Board?"

If not, I did have one comment, that the bridge project on #5 looks like that that came in over \$100,000 cheaper than what we had budgeted for, and the engineer's estimates, so that was I guess just a sign of the times that were having more competitive bids on that. Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Yes. A question for Iris. I noticed a number of these bids roughly half of them from looking here, the sole source. Is there any trends towards getting more folks bidding on items and how many of the contracts that we lease with the County normally have just, where getting just a single bid on when we request them?"

Ms. Baker said, "The majority of your technical contracts, support and maintenance for software,

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

data storage, telecom services and products, those are in essence, once you award them, sole source, or industry, better term is single source, there might be other players out there, because of the decisions we've made and the awards we've made, were locked in to working with those vendors to negotiate maintenance renewals or, for example, #9, the Cox Communication, the entire County system is Cox Communication. It's their standard, so we just continue that standard. So we end up locked in there. Every year we're renegotiating maintenance contracts, maintenance and support contracts for the products that make up the components. Particularly telecom, like switches, routers for the phone system, as well as the software that we've bought. In some instances where we can negotiate multiyear, we bring them to you, we make the recommendation, you will often see with options to renew, or two or three or five year agreements. We've negotiated for a fixed period of time. If anything changes within the realm of that contract, we bring that back to you, because we are obligated to notify you this is an easy way to do it. The older technology gets, the less vendors are willing to negotiate longer term, so then we get into the annual contracts with these folks. So we do negotiate every maintenance renewal that we bring before you, but we are locked into those vendors until we either change the service of the product, or the vendor himself starts out servicing his maintenance. That happens on occasion. When that happens, it is usually bigger corporations, bigger software products that would allow that to happen. Then you have created another competitive advantage where we can go out and select somebody else to provide that maintenance. The smaller companies usually won't provide that option. So when you see these sole sources or single sources, you are going to see them primarily for technology stuff, or anything that we have entered into a long term agreement in which we need annual support and all of those come before you for approval. In some fashion."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Iris."

Chairman Parks said, "I would like to say I'm pleased to see the fleet bids on vehicles this time. We're not only in Kansas, they were in Sedgwick County, and particularly in Park City and Wichita, so it is good to see those vendors out there locally keeping that money in our local economy. Having no other questions, do I see a motion to approve Bid Board?"

MOTION

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

Commissioner Welshimer seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

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

Chairman Parks said, "Next item is the Consent Agenda."

CONSENT AGENDA

H. CONSENT AGENDA. .

- 1. Cash donation of \$500.00 to Sedgwick County Link for Life run.**
- 2. Cash donation of \$66.33 to COMCARE's suicide prevention program.**
- 3. Lease between Mid American Credit Union and Sedgwick County located at 525 N. Main, Wichita, KS.**
- 4. Authorization of Service Agreement which will allow Labette County to use Sedgwick County's Motor Vehicle Tax Estimator.**
- 5. Hold Harmless Agreement for City Utility Easements in Sedgwick County Arena Addition Area.**
- 6. One (1) Easement for Right of Way for the Drainage Project D-11 at 103rd St. S. and Bluff.**
- 7. One (1) Permanent Drainage Easement for Sedgwick County Project 783-S-1530; bridge on 295th Street West between 23rd & 31st Streets South. CIP# B-435. District 3.**
- 8. One (1) Permanent Drainage Easement for Sedgwick County Project 634-27; widening to 4-lanes on 63rd Street South from Hydraulic to Broadway. CIP# R-302. District 2.**
- 9. One (1) Release of Easement for Sedgwick County Drainage Project along Webb Road and East 69th Street North; D-833-G. District 1.**

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

- 10. One (1) Release of Structures and Leaseholds for construction of a frontage road on the south side of US-54 between 119th St. West and 135th St. West and reconstruction of the intersection of US-54 and 135th St. West. CIP# R-314. District 3.**
- 11. General Bills Check Register for the week of January 28, 2009 – February 3, 2009.**
- 12. General Bills Check Register for the week of February 4, 2009 – February 10, 2009.**
- 13. Payroll Check Register for the week of January 31, 2009.**
- 14. Order dated December 31, 2008 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**
- 15. Order dated February 4, 2009 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.**

Chairman Parks said, “The Consent Agenda. We have a Consent Agenda, is there any discussion on the Consent Agenda? Seeing none, do we have a Motion?”

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Parks seconded the Motion.

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

VOTE

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

The County Commission recessed into the Fire District #1 meeting at 10:00 a.m. and reconvened at 10:05 a.m.

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION

Commissioner Welshimer moved to recess into Executive Session for 15 minutes to consider consultation with legal counsel on matters privileged in the attorney-client relationship relating to pending claims and litigation and legal advice and that the Board of County Commissioners return to this room from Executive Session no sooner than 10:20 a.m.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

The County Commission recessed into Executive Session at 10:05 a.m. and returned from Executive Session at 10:35 a.m.

Chairman Parks said, "We met in Executive Session and no action was taken."

I. OTHER

Chairman Parks said, "I do have an item on other I wanted to bring up. Wanted to give condolences to the family of Dale Fowler who was a long time Chief of Police at Derby and had retired and his funeral is within the hour today in fact. Condolences and certainly thanks to a great Chief of Police that put a lot of public service in for Derby. Commissioner Welshimer."

Commissioner Welshimer said, "One thing I toured WATC (Wichita Area Technical College)

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

Facility yesterday on 47th near K-15 where they have classes on their Healthcare Profession and it was a very busy place and well equipped. A lot of cars there and a lot of activity. Very impressive.

Next week I'm going to be visiting the facility on Grove where they have the Aerospace Training and Auto Repair Training. That's all I had."

Chairman Parks asked, "Anybody have any other items? Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "Just a couple things. I met yesterday with the Health Access Project group and we've got a group of about 12 people that meet and talk about the nine different tenets of our Health Access Project. We're moving several of them along relatively well and it's interesting that we started this process to talk about health access and our community several years ago. And there was an editorial in the paper today. There continues to be wordage almost every day about health costs and people dropping out of insurance plans and what's going to happen to communities when that overburden hits your emergency rooms and your Community Health Centers and your Safety Net Clinics. And I'm happy to report that we really started a lot of hard work on trying to analyze our community several years ago. So we're way ahead of the curve. You know, we had conversation yesterday. United Way is part of our group and they gave us an update on what they're trying to do with their laid off worker center. We talked about how do we wrap our arms around that as far as Safety Net Clinics and the work we're doing with the Access Project. People that have had an insurance plan maybe cannot afford COBRA and are going to fall into the system that we are working on could overload it. We have made some pretty good progress with capacity, utilization of the 211 line, coverage. Tim Witsman's with WIBA (Wichita Independent Business Association) was at the meeting yesterday and is very knowledgeable and is working through the small business groups to just figure out what we are going to do and I am happy to say that we started the hard work of this several years ago. Not knowing that we would be in this economic condition and we would have more people hurting than less. Just wanted to give you an update. We are going to continue to plow through that. Hopefully, we will have new learnings and programs that we can bring forward here soon to let the County Commission understand what they might want to do in either supporting or funding those kind of things.

"The second thing that's on a lot of peoples mind is the stimulus. It has been signed into law. There's a lot of moving parts to that. We will continue to look at what the road and bridge and infrastructure looks like through WAMPO (Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.)

"There is going to be groups that are affecting environment, energy, community building,

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

healthcare and COBRA plans, education, and then other building and infrastructure that the County may be involved with, like levee certifications and some of those kind of projects. I think we are going to be flooded with new information on stimulus and going to have to make some decisions how we rank and prioritize that as it flows through the State and down to us. But WAMPO is..... I have gotten three emails this morning from different components of the WAMPO Group, which is the Metropolitan Area Planning Organization. As we move that discussion forward, there is going to be projects, roads and bridges and other infrastructure that will be prioritized for Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita that will be paid for, we think by the stimulus money. As that conversation moves along, then I will give you more updates. That's all I had, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just comment that, in light of the fact we had a report today on the Intrust Bank Arena and how it is progressing, I might say that another big project in Sedgwick County that we're involved in is the National Center for Aviation Training. Along with the tours Commissioner Welshimer had on some of the facilities at WATC, we expect WATC to be the managing partner at the new center for aviation training and we'll be having a tour out there on Monday and I think, most all of us are going to go through that. That project is going along on schedule and on time. It's going to be a facility I think that will be hugely beneficial to South Central Kansas as we train people for aviation trades and for manufacturing skills going forward to keep our economy strong. And it will, as we strengthen that component of our economy, I think it also sets a stage for WATC to diversify part of their core focus into health industries and training nurses and medical technology and those sort of things. Very positive activity for South Central Kansas, for Sedgwick County, that this government is very directly involved in.

"Second thing I wanted to talk about is that the Sedgwick County Zoo, the tiger exhibit is coming along nicely out there. I really am embarrassed to say that I have not been out to look at it lately. There was a tour out there last evening. But they say that it's just going to be an outstanding exhibit with great opportunity to look at these beautiful animals. Animals are on site now and I'm told that they're very energetic, playful, active and they're going to be a great exhibit for folks. Think about 60 days is when we will be opening that for the public to come out and have a look at it. That happens to be about 60 days when Sedgwick County is involved in the Link for Life Run out at the Sedgwick County Zoo. We might remind everyone that likes to run and race, whether you're a toddler of five years old or whether you're an older, bigger kid like Commissioner Peterjohn who likes to run and maybe you're going to run the 5k this year Karl, you think."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "No, I don't think so."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, anyway, that's April 18th. That is an event that has exploded. It's a really terrific event that Sedgwick County is involved in as we try to make people aware that

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

suicide can be prevented. But it's a fun morning and so we would encourage everybody to try to take opportunity April 18th, I think is the date. That's all I had, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Commissioner Norton, you had another item."

Commissioner Norton said, "It spurred me to think about, as we talk about job training, there's another item that continues to hit the national level, state level, job training and retraining during this economic down turn is going to be so important to get our workforce ready for the new jobs and to get them.... it is a perfect time for people that need to update their skills, need to retrain in a technical job or in something that has to do with college to redo that. There was two pieces on television last night that talked about job retraining and that this is an important time to do that.

"The second thing is one thing that's going to happen is the influence of NIAR (National Institute for Aviation Research) and NCAT (National Center for Appropriate Technology) together with develop of a project called CIBOR which has to do with orthopedic research on prosthetics and the use of composites in medical replacements. I think that's going to be powerful, its entrepreneurial. It's being incubated now with the partnership and a lot of the public doesn't know about that. But it's a great tie in with what we're doing with NCAT to tie NIAR and other institutions into that. This will bring the medical community and medical research into the composite venue which, you know we already do a lot of aviation composite research here and now there's a linkage. I think that's going to be powerful for Sedgwick County as we move forward. Still in the incubation stages. I am sure there will be more information hitting the public as this moves along. Some very smart people have been brought to Wichita to work on that project and I look forward to seeing how it gains ground and gets its feet to understand and makes for a whole new industry coming out of Wichita, Kansas. That's all I got."

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

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, I just had to jump in with Commissioner Unruh's comments about the Zoo. I was out there last week and took a look and Commissioner Unruh is correct that they're not only making progress, but they have reached a point where they are putting in landscaping, they are getting some of the plants in and as well as working on, working on the new facilities. It's going to be quite an asset when it opens up later this year."

Chairman Parks said, "Thank you. Any other business to come before the board?"

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2009

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

KELLY PARKS, Chairman
Fourth District

DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner
First District

TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner
Second District

KARL PETERJOHN, Commissioner
Third District

GWEN WELSHIMER, Commissioner
Fifth District

ATTEST:

Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk

APPROVED:

_____, 2009