

# Sedgwick County

525 North Main Street 3rd Floor  
Wichita, KS 67203



*Sedgwick County...  
working for you*

## Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, October 31, 2012

9:00 AM

BOCC Meeting Room

### **Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners**

*Pursuant to Resolution #131-2010, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on August 11, 2010, members of the public are allowed to address the County Commission for a period of time limited to not more than five minutes.*

*Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of Sedgwick County, should contact the office of Lindsey Mahoney, Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator, 510 N. Main, Suite 306, Wichita, Kansas 67203*

*Phone: (316) 660-7052, TDD: Kansas Relay at 711 or 800-766-3777*

*Email: [Lmahoney@sedgwick.gov](mailto:Lmahoney@sedgwick.gov), as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event. Please include the name, location, date and time of the service or program, your contact information and the type of aid, service, or policy modification needed.*

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

*The Regular Meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas, was called to order at 9:05 a.m. on Wednesday, October 31, 2012, in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Tim R. Norton, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem James B. Skelton; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Karl Peterjohn; Commissioner Richard Ranzau; Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager; Mr. Rich Euson, County Counselor; Mr. Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk; Ms. Jill Tinsley, Director, Community Relations; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Kelli Grant, Training Coordinator, Division of Human Resources; Ms. Annette Graham, Executive Director, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging; Mr. Troy Bruun, Deputy CFO; Mr. David Miller, Budget Director; Mr. Joe Thomas, Acting Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and Ms. Angela Lovelace, Deputy County Clerk.*

### **GUESTS**

*Mr. Mike Noller, President and CEO, Museum of World Treasures  
Ms. Glenna Harrison, retired science educator, Berlin-American High School  
Ms. Liz McGinness, Board of Directors, Kidzcope  
Colonel Robert Hester, Wichita  
Cadet Colonel Callie Hobkirk, Wichita  
Ms. Diane Hurst, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JD RF)  
Ms. Carissa Wissman, Family Chair, Walk to Cure Diabetes  
Mr. Mark Gietzen, 5575 South Mosley, Wichita  
Dr. Paul Connett, Canton, New York  
Dr. Albert W. Burgstahler, Lawrence, Kansas  
Dr. Charles Hinshaw, 1320 Perth Court, Wichita  
Ms. Zella Newberry, 9111 West 21st Street North #80, Wichita  
Mr. James Gragg, 1835 North Holland, Wichita  
Ms. Jan Luth, President, Exploration Place*

### **INVOCATION: Moment of Silence.**

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**Present** 5 - Commissioner Karl Peterjohn, Commissioner Richard Ranzau, Chairman Jim Skelton, Chairman Tim Norton and Vice Chair Dave Unruh

### **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

- A**      [12-0846](#)      REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 15, 2012.  
All Commissioners were present.

*Chairman Norton said, "You have the minutes before you of Regular Meeting of August 15th. We have the 29th and 5th, and all Commissioners were present. I would entertain a motion on all three of those meeting minutes."*

*MOTION*

*Commissioner Peterjohn moved to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2012; August 29, 2012; and September 5, 2012.*

*Commissioner Skelton seconded the motion.*

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

*VOTE*

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "Next item."*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Peterjohn, seconded by Vice Chair Skelton, that this Minutes be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

- B**      [12-0847](#)      REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 29, 2012.  
All Commissioners were present.

*Action on Item B was taken with Item A.*

- C**      [12-0848](#)      REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2012.  
All Commissioners were present.

*Action on Item C was taken with Item A.*

**PROCLAMATIONS**

D [12-0740](#) PROCLAMATION DECLARING WORLD FREEDOM DAY.  
Read by: Chairman Tim Norton.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the proclamation.

*Chairman Norton said, "We have a proclamation today declaring World Freedom Day, and Commissioner Peterjohn will read that into the record."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will preface with a very brief remark that ten years ago today I was on the other side of the world. I was literally in Siberia, and this proclamation is very personal to me today. I brought my picture that I have in my office with former, he was one-time a soviet leader, later became a Russian leader, Russian President Mikhail Gorbachev.*

*"If it hadn't been for President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev's efforts to lower the temperature and end the cold war, we wouldn't have this proclamation this morning. So I am honored and privileged that my colleagues have given me the opportunity to read this proclamation which I'll begin right now;*

PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, in August 1961, East German soldiers began building a wall, dividing East and West Berlin, to close off access of East Germans from the communist East Germany from fleeing to the democratic areas of West Berlin and West Germany. For 28 years, this 15-foot concrete wall, fortified with barbed wire, electrified fences and watchtowers that circled West Berlin, stood as the "iron curtain" dividing Europe, one side Soviet communist control, the other freedom and democracy of the West; and*

*WHEREAS, on June 12, 1987, President Ronald Reagan delivered a passionate speech in West Berlin, talking about freedom, prosperity and the possibility for fundamental change in the Soviet Union, to be part of a safe and free world. And, as he stood in front of the Brandenburg Gate at the Berlin Wall, President Reagan said those famous six words that helped move the world to change, and therefore changed the lives of people worldwide for years to come: 'Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!'; and*

*WHEREAS, on November 9, 1989, with the continuing decline of the Soviet empire in Eastern Europe, and the increasing perseverance of East Germans striving for democracy, in a powerful act of freedom, Germans from both sides of the wall joined to tear down the icon of division. The Berlin Wall came down, marking the reunification of Berlin, Germany and the people who wanted to live a better life; and*

*WHEREAS, because of the leadership of the Berlin American High School Alumni Association (also known as the 'Berlin Brats' Alumni Association) who recognized its historical significance, acquired a piece of the Berlin Wall after it fell, and donated it to the American Overseas Schools Historical Society. And, with the Society's generosity, the people of Wichita, Sedgwick County and Kansas can see a piece of this world history on loan to the Museum of World Treasures.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby acknowledge November 9, 2012 as*

*'WORLD FREEDOM DAY'*

*as proclaimed by U.S. presidents for many years, and ask citizens to reflect on the rich world events of our past and reaffirm our hearts to freedom and democracy.*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioners, you've heard the Proclamation, what is the will. Board?"*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Peterjohn moved to adopt the proclamation.*

*Commissioner Skelton seconded the motion.*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "When it's appropriate I will make some remarks."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Can we go ahead and vote first?"*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "You're Chair."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Okay, we'll call the question."*

**VOTE**

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "And we have someone here to accept the proclamation."*

*Mr. Mike Noller, President and CEO, Museum of World Treasures, greeted the Commissioners and said, "And we are where the section of the Berlin Wall is currently exhibited, it is an honor and pleasure to accept this proclamation on behalf of the Museum of World Treasures, the American Overseas Schools Historical Society, and the Berlin American High School Alumni Association. Chairman Norton and Sedgwick County Commission, thank you for recognizing an increasing awareness of the Berlin Wall section at the museum, and a special thanks to Commissioner Peterjohn personally for spearheading this effort. The work that museums perform is a labor of love, whether one's focus is on local history, as we have a fine Wichita-Sedgwick County historical museum here, or world history, as the Museum of World Treasures focuses on. We are honored that the Sedgwick County Commission shares that passion with us today.*

*"I have some special guests with me. Who I would like to introduce. Directly behind me is Glenna Harrison, she was on faculty from 1970 to 1972 at the Berlin-American High School. In addition, I have Steven King, Museum (of World Treasures) Assistant Curator of Collections, Tim Howard, Museum Curator of Exhibits and Research, Jillian Overstake-Forsberg, Museum Education Director, Lorna Kardatzke, Museum co-founder, Iain Woesner, American Overseas Schools Historical Society (AOSHS) Archive Director, and Joe Condrill, Overseas BRATS President, who was in Berlin also in 1965. At this point I would like to turn over the mic[rophone] to Glenna Harrison to make a few comments.*

*Ms. Glenna Harrison, retired science educator, Berlin-American High School, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We lived in Berlin in 1969 to 1972, and it was behind the Iron Curtain. Just for a minute I would like for you to picture the [Berlin] Wall around the City of Wichita, and not just around the city, but also north and south at Broadway, so being West Wichita, we would have a few more freedoms than those in East Wichita. But, if we lived here, if we had relatives in Goddard, we could not just go on a Sunday afternoon to visit family, could not go through the wall. We, as Americans, we could deal with the Russians, and get through the 110 miles to go to West Germany, but we could not stop along the way. And if NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) was having exercises, they would make us go 35 miles an hour just to make a point.*

*"Anyway, we were within the free section of Berlin, we could travel to East Berlin with official papers, but there were military guards on the corners, and you could see that the economic development was not as advanced as in a free country. So when the Wall came down in November of 1989, we were ecstatic, just couldn't believe it. And we were able to go back to Berlin in 2006 as the Berlin American High School had a reunion, and it was very meaningful to be able to walk through the Brandenburg Gate and not have the Wall around it. So we are so excited to have the section of the Berlin Wall here, and there is graffiti on the wall, but we think we have special graffiti, because it's very meaningful. There is a picture of a kite on our section, and people in the East and West used to communicate by sending messages attached to the tail of a kite, and then they would send it off depending on how the wind was going. And they had an address on there, and they could write notes, and they could, whoever got it, knew to deliver that message. So we think we have a special section of the wall, and we're very happy that it's here, and that our community can go to see the section of the wall and get a picture, a little picture, of what it was like to live behind the Iron Curtain. Thank you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Thank you very much. Commissioner Skelton."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "I just wanted to thank the people from the Museum of World Treasures for bringing that definite, important piece of world history to Wichita. You know, on November 9, 1989, I was over there in Germany when the Wall came down. I was stationed on an air force base, I was in the army, and, you know, it brought about some real noticeable changes. The first thing we started to see were these little teeny, itty bitty Trabants, okay, that's an East German car. Then the next thing we know, I had some German friends who had their relatives coming over, and it was a joyous occasion for those German people to have...a lot of these people had relatives on the other side, many. And it was surprising. Also surprising to me to learn, to meet some of the East German people, and to hear the tales, stories and they are curious about America, and the free world, and, you know, really gave me a lot of, it made me feel good to be able to talk to these people about America and the rest of the free world. These are newly liberated people, you know, as a result of World War II, this whole thing got mixed up with the Cold War, it finally came to an end, and it is good to see a united Germany today. The Brandenburg Gate was mentioned. I've been there myself. Also good to see the Reichstadt there with the glass dome on top, so the world can see now what the free Germany is doing. So with that, those are my comments. Thank you for coming today."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to just add a few more remarks, because as a very young boy, I remember the wall going up, and I thought, this is a momentous point in my time, and for many people in this country, in fact in the world, don't remember, they are too young, don't remember the wall coming down. And it led to a series of events that culminated a couple years later at the end of soviet communism and the end of December of 1991, and roughly a half century ago, my grandparents went to Germany, and we have relatives on both sides of the Berlin Wall. They visited both sides and brought back tales to me, and while this was a particularly poignant section for Germany, and I am absolutely delighted that Wichita is a small piece of that history at the Museum of World Treasures, I'm glad they are so well represented here this morning in front of our meeting.*

*"But the importance of this, the date of November 9, 1989, and the events that followed, I don't think have been fully appreciated, and I am so delighted that we are able to have this proclamation today. So I want to thank everyone who is coming out for this, and also everyone who can keep the memory of this event alive, because as a young boy growing up as a teenager, I never dreamed that the Wall would come down, and I never dreamed I would end up in Moscow, or in Siberia. And it is very poignant, a very poignant anniversary, and I'm glad this Commission has been willing to provide a little bit of public recognition this morning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Okay, we'll move on to the next item. So please call the next item."*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Peterjohn, seconded by Vice Chair Skelton, that this Proclamation(s) be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

E [12-0832](#) PROCLAMATION DECLARING CHILD GRIEF AWARENESS DAY.  
Read by: Chairman Tim Norton.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the proclamation.

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioners, I have the following proclamation to read into the record. You will have to bear with me; my lens fell out of my glasses as I came to the bench today. So if you see tape on there, I am really a nerd, but it is not a problem."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Tim, you can always try to read with one eye."*

*Chairman Norton said, "I could. It is not pirate day. I have the following proclamation to read into the record;*

*PROCLAMATION*

*WHEREAS, By age 16, 1 in 5 children will suffer the loss of one or both parents, or an immediate family member; and the majority of those children face their grief alone, misunderstood and fearful; and*

*WHEREAS, Grieving children and teens are often called "forgotten mourners" because others erroneously believe they are resilient enough to get over their grief on their own; and*

*WHEREAS, the unresolved grief of children and teens may lead to depression, hopelessness and other mental health issues, including anxiety disorders and substance abuse; and*

*WHEREAS, Kidzcope offers comfort and guidance to young people and their families in their time of grief, while educating the community about the effects of unresolved grief in children and teens.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim November 15th*

*'CHILD GRIEF AWARENESS DAY'*

*in Sedgwick County to assist Kidzcope in its work on behalf of grieving children and teens.*

*"You have the proclamation in front of you, what is the will of the Board?"*

*MOTION*

*Commissioner Skelton moved to adopt the proclamation.*

*Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.*

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

VOTE

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "This is not Molly in front of us. Good morning. Thank you so much."*

*Ms. Liz McGinness, Board of Directors, Kidzcope, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I am very grateful to accept this proclamation on the part of the County Commission. I would like to tell you just a little bit more about Kidzcope and the issue of children's grief. When a child loses a parent or brother or sister or other loved one to death, their world is torn apart. And, in terms of getting back to recovery and the healthy development that they need to be on track, they sometimes need support. They need recognition that this is a very a difficult, kind of non-normal experience in the life of a child.*

*"What we do at Kidzcope is to try to provide that assistance. We have believed strongly in the support for families from the very stages, the very beginning stages of grief, and we walk alongside many children and their families, as they journey on this path of healing. We create and maintain a safe environment for children to express their feelings and to learn more about how to honor the memory of their parent or loved one. We believe that the relationship that the child has with the person who has died does not end at death, but it does change, and we support and assist them in accessing new ways to relate. We accept all grief as unique, and that each child, teen, and adult does possess within them their own answers, as well as their own ability to heal and to grow forward from this experience. But they might need assistance in accessing those strengths. That's one of the things that we try to do at Kidzcope to help kids.*

*"We do this in a number of different ways. We focus on reflective communication, listening skills, we do a lot of play and art therapy with children, to give them unique ways to express their grief and to move on. We would also like to encourage everyone in the community to come join us at an open house for Kidzcope on November 15th, from 5:00 [p.m.] to 7:00 [p.m.]. We would love to have everyone in Wichita come see what it is that we do, have a chance to experience our agency, and look at the different rooms that we've designed for each child developmental level. We bring kids together in a way that they have don't experience anywhere else.*

*"When a child loses a parent, they might be the only one in their fourth grade class who has lost a parent. At Kidzcope they are with our fourth graders who also have lost a parent. So they have the unique opportunity to bond and be in a place that's safe and warm for them. So please come out to Kidzcope on November 15th, from 5:00 to 7:00, we are located at 9415 East Harry Street in Suite 501, and we would welcome your*

*participation. Thank you again very much for this proclamation.”*

*Chairman Norton said, “Thank you, Liz. I have had a chance to tour the facility, and in fact I made it to one of your annual meetings, and banquets, and got to sit with some young people that had gone through the process of healing and dealing with their grief. It is an amazing story of how you really wrap around the kids and help them. And I'm interested in that, because I lost my father when I was 15. Suffered from cancer for three years, and I was left with a great mom to help me through that. But it would have been nice in the small town that I was in to have a professional to talk to to get to understand why things happen the way they do, and how do you deal with grief, and how do you not let it to define you the rest of your life. I understand that you do great work, we are proud you are in our community. Thanks for being here today.”*

*Ms. McGinnis said, “Lastly, as a parent, one of our worst fears is that we would die and leave our child alone. This is a place where you can have some comfort knowing there are people out there who will help your child. So, thank you so much for sharing. Thank you.”*

*Chairman Norton said, “Thank you. Madam Clerk, call the next item.”*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Peterjohn, seconded by Vice Chair Skelton, that this Proclamation(s) be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

F [12-0840](#)

PROCLAMATION DECLARING WICHITA JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (JROTC) LEADERSHIP WEEK.

Read by: Chairman Tim Norton.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the proclamation.

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioners, I have the following proclamation to read into the record;*

PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, JROTC was officially implemented in American high schools in 1916, began in Kansas in 1917 and in Wichita in 1994; and*

*WHEREAS, cadet leadership programs were started in selected middle schools in 1997 making Wichita a leader in the nation in this initiative; and*

*WHEREAS, the JROTC and leadership programs are recognized in Wichita for building citizenship and good character in our youth; and*

*WHEREAS, there are now more than 2,400 Wichita youth participating as cadets in 18 of our public schools;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim November 5-11, 2012 as*

*'WICHITA JROTC LEADERSHIP WEEK'*

*in recognition of these fine young men and women who are becoming better leaders and citizens for the future through their involvement in the JROTC and leadership programs.*

*"Commissioners, you've heard the proclamation, what is the will of the Board?"*

MOTION

*Commissioner Skelton moved to adopt the proclamation.*

*Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.*

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

VOTE

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

Chairman Norton said, "And I see Colonel Hester is here, but we're also introducing Cadet Colonel Callie Hobkirk."

Colonel Robert Hester, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yes, Chairman Norton, thank you for declaring this week as Junior ROTC Leadership Week. Members of the Commission, I would like to introduce Cadet Colonel Callie Hobkirk. Cadet Hobkirk is a senior at Heights High School, she is our Cadet Corps Commander this year, doing a fantastic job as Corps Commander, deeply involved in the planning that is ongoing, she is accepting the proclamation today. She has a few comments she would like to make."

Cadet Colonel Callie Hobkirk, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Good morning. I would just love to thank you for this proclamation. There are 2,100 cadets throughout the Wichita public schools that are super excited about this. We would like to invite everyone here to the Veteran's Day ceremony, which is on November 8th, starting at 9:00 [a.m.]?"

Colonel Hester said, "No, 10:00 [a.m]."

Cadet Colonel Hobkirk said, "Starting at 10:00 [a.m.]. We would love for you to be there early. The cadets are very, very happy and just super excited about being there, and we would like to invite everyone out to the Veterans Day Parade, which is the following Saturday starting at 10:00 [a.m]."

Colonel Hester said, "11:00 [a.m]."

Cadet Colonel Hobkirk said, "Still early."

Colonel Hester said, "Be there at 10:00 [a.m]."

Cadet Colonel Hobkirk said, "Be there at 10:00 [a.m.]. And Main and Murdock is where the ceremony and the parade will be announced throughout, and the cadets are super excited for everybody to support them and recognize all of their hard work because they truly do a lot. So thank you again."

Chairman Norton said, "Well, if Commissioners hadn't been to that event, it is an extraordinary event to see that many cadets, young people that have dedicated some time and effort to working for their leadership skills, and to see that many of them coordinated and looking good and under control is astonishing. Well, I raised teenagers and middle school kids. I know, if you get more than four of them together, keeping them in order and in line is a miraculous thing. They do a tremendous job, Colonel Hester."

Colonel Hester said, "And one of the things that we do to promote team work and leadership, you will notice if you come to our events, these are entirely cadet-led events. The adults play a very small part, and both of these, especially our Veteran's Day ceremony, we have a keynote speaker. Other than that, cadets basically run it. Callie is in charge. She will do a great job as the Corps Commander in the Commander of Cadets this next Thursday. I would also like to add that we have added a school this year, [Christa] McAuliffe K[indergarten] through 8[th grade] Academy is our newest member of the leadership program. We started out with about 50 cadets at that school. It will be another great program. I think that we have been very successful in accomplishing our mission of making the students better citizens of our country."

*Thank you very much.”*

*Chairman Norton said, “Thank you very much, Colonel Hester and Cadet Hobkirk. Commissioner Skelton.”*

*Commissioner Skelton said, “Colonel, I just wanted to recognize you and your tenure, you have been doing this a long time, and, you know, my hats off to you, and the thousands of cadets that have probably come under your oversight during your time in your position. Congratulations, young lady. Those are my comments, thank you.”*

*Colonel Hester said, “Thank you, sir.”*

*Chairman Norton said, “Thank you for being here today. Madam Clerk, call the next item.”*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Skelton, seconded by Commissioner Ranzau, that this Proclamation(s) be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

G [12-0841](#)

PROCLAMATION DECLARING DIABETES AWARENESS DAY.

Read by: Chairman Tim Norton.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the proclamation.

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioners, I have the following proclamation to read into the record;*

*PROCLAMATION*

*WHEREAS, diabetes is a debilitating disease that can strike without warning and now affects more 366 million people worldwide, including nearly 26 million Americans; and*

*WHEREAS, type 1 diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases to affect children of all ages, even toddlers and babies; while type 2 diabetes, once thought of as a disease affecting adults only, is increasing fast among children and adolescents; and*

*WHEREAS, the cost of diabetes to the United States has been estimated at \$174 billion annually; and*

*WHEREAS, each year, 4.6 million deaths are linked directly to diabetes-related causes; and*

*WHEREAS, millions of people with diabetes lack the access to care, treatment and education needed to manage the disease and prevent its serious and costly complications, including heart disease, stroke, kidney failure, blindness and lower-limb amputation; and*

*WHEREAS, an increase in community awareness of risk factors and symptoms related to diabetes can improve the likelihood that people with diabetes receive the attention they need before developing the disease.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim November 14th as Diabetes Awareness Day and call upon all Sedgwick County residents to combat this disease by familiarizing themselves with the warning signs, making healthy lifestyle choices, and by accessing the best quality of care that Sedgwick County provides to its citizens with diabetes.*

*"Commissioners, you have heard the proclamation, what is the will of the Board?"*

*MOTION*

*Commissioner Skelton moved to adopt the proclamation.*

*Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.*

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Commissioner Ranzau	Aye
Commissioner Skelton	Aye
Chairman Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "With us is Diane Hurst with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF)."

Ms. Diane Hurst, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you so much for recognizing JDRF and National Diabetes Awareness Month. JDRF is still relatively new to Wichita, but we are here to raise money to find a cure for Type 1 diabetes, which is different than Type 2 diabetes. I am very pleased to have with me today, Ms. Carissa Wissman and the lovely Miss Addison, who, they are family chairs for our walk coming up on April 20, 2013 at Exploration Place, and they will be accepting on our behalf."

Ms. Carissa Wissman, Family Chair, Walk to Cure Diabetes, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you, Diane. And we would like to thank the Commission for this recognition, and helping us heighten the communities' awareness about diabetes. National Diabetes Awareness Month and JDRF specifically, is a cause near and dear to my heart. My daughter Addison, if she will come out, my daughter Addison was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes shortly after her fourth birthday. She is six now. Addison started kindergarten this year. I have become even more passionate about educating others about the two different types of diabetes, especially Addison's form, Type 1 [diabetes]. Type 1 diabetes strikes families without warning and can have devastating effects. Since Type 1 diabetes is an auto immune disease, where the immune system mistakenly thinks the beta cells that make your insulin are foreign, it starts to attack those cells, and kill them off, therefore people like Addison cannot create their own insulin.

"So Addison, with our help, has spent the last two years counting carbs (carbohydrates), checking blood sugars, dosing insulin, and doing a variety of things that you wouldn't think that a four through six year old would have to do. A lot of pokes and prods, especially for a four year old. Because of my experiences raising a diabetic child, I'm a firm believer that through educating others about Type 1 diabetes, and through getting more people to support us in our cause, that we will find a cure for diabetes, and therefore improve the lives of millions of children and adults living with this disease.

"And that being said, as Diane did mention, I do challenge everyone here today to find a way to get involved with our walk, which will be the 2013 Wichita Walk to Cure Diabetes, it will be at Exploration Place on April 20th. And all the funds we raise, 80 cents of every dollar goes directly towards research that will help improve the lives of individuals like Addison. So we thank you very much, and look forward to seeing you all hopefully on the 20th."

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you for being here today. Addison, thank you for being here today. She is a little shy now, right?"

Ms. Wissman said, "She is. This is not the norm."

*Chairman Norton said, "I understand. There's a lot of people here that she doesn't know."*

*Ms. Wissman said, "That's true."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Well, thanks for being here today. You know, when we did our community health assessment a few years ago, we talked about a lot of different issues, but one of them that came up was chronic disease, and diabetes. And how we struggle with that in our community. There's Type 1, Type 2. Now we know there's gestational diabetes, it happens during pregnancy, it's not good for the newborn, all of those things are critically important to our community as we try to deal with chronic disease, and the idea of making people aware that it is so onerous on the health of our community and the health of our nation.*

*"I had a chance to be part of a statewide coalition workshop. Kate Watson, at the state level, deals with diabetes all the time through KDHE (Kansas Department of Health and Environment), was a member of the National Public Health Leadership Program that I got to attend, and we sat at tables many days. She kept whispering in my ear about what Kansas needed to do about diabetes, and to control it and get the word out and make sure that we understand that many, many families deal with this malady in our community and state. And we have to do more to make sure that people are healthy and taking care of their diabetes, because it leads to such profound health problems and the economic impact is incredible in our state. Thank you for being here today to talk about this important issue. We really appreciate it."*

*Ms. Wissman said, "Thank you very much. Also with the admission of JDRF Cure, Treat and Prevent, that goes with everything you are saying. And raising the funds for the research. Very important. So thank you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Thank you for being here today. Madam Clerk, call the next item."*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Skelton, seconded by Commissioner Unruh, that this Proclamation(s) be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

H      [12-0866](#)      PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE SALVATION ARMY KETTLE  
KICK-OFF.

Read by: Chairman Tim Norton.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the proclamation.

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioners, I have the following proclamation to read into the record;*

*PROCLAMATION*

*WHEREAS, the ringing of bells each season to help the less fortunate has been a time honored tradition since 1891; and*

*WHEREAS, young and old alike stand at kettle sites each season volunteering their time and talent to ring bells to bring attention to the need of those less fortunate in our community; and*

*WHEREAS, community businesses and organizations allow The Salvation Army to use their sites to place kettles to collect money for the less fortunate in our community;*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim November 9, 2012 as*

*'THE SALVATION ARMY KETTLE KICK-OFF'*

*and call upon the people of Sedgwick County to acknowledge the importance of the work of The Salvation Army by giving joyfully and compassionately to the bell ringers throughout this holiday season, and to donate generously throughout the year to The Salvation Army.*

*"Commissioners, you've heard the proclamation, what is the will of the Board?"*

*MOTION*

*Commissioner Skelton moved to adopt the proclamation.*

*Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.*

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

*VOTE*

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "And I don't see Brian Carroll here today from the Salvation Army, he was supposed to come and receive it."*

*Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications, greeted the Commissioners and said, "He has another event and I believe you will be presenting this at their event as well. We'll make sure to connect with him and know that it's all on."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Well, I have been a board member for Salvation Army for well over ten years, and I'll accept the proclamation today, and deliver it, again, when we actually have the Kettle Kickoff. Many, many years of running a retail store in this community, I had Salvation Army Kettles in front of my store, and that is one of those things that we almost think of in America as part of the holiday season, is that giving, that bell ringing, that sense of giving back to the community and taking care of those that are underserved, at the time where all of us should be joyous in our community. So Salvation Army does great work, and the kettle and bell ringing make much of that possible. I see no other lights. So Madam Clerk, call the next item."*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Skelton, seconded by Commissioner Ranzau, that this Proclamation(s) be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

### **CITIZEN INQUIRIES**

- I [12-0837](#) REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE CONSULTANT HIRED BY THE COUNTY DEALING WITH JAIL 'DUMPING GROUND.'  
Presented by: Mary Dean, Wichita.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

*Chairman Norton said, "And, is Mary Dean here?"*

*Commissioner Ranzau said, "I don't see her."*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "She is not here."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Okay. Commissioners, we'll move on to the next item."*

- J      [12-0855](#)      REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS REGARDING FLUORIDATION.  
Presented by: Mark Gietzen, Wichita.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

*Chairman Norton said, "Item J, we're starting a conversation again about fluoridation. I'll set the stage again. We do have an individual here that is from out of town. I think it's Paul Connett. We'll offer him 10 minutes today as the expert, just like we did, we'll let everybody else have three minutes as we did before, so we can get through this. And I will also offer, like we did last time anybody that has just come and shown up, we'll give them three minutes so that we have everybody's voice heard today. That's the protocol we'll try to follow, stay close to three minutes on anybody, but we will offer Dr. Connett 10 minutes. If that is appropriate with everybody. So we're going to move on. Mark."*

*Mr. Mark Gietzen, 5575 South Mosley, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I would like to sincerely thank the Chairman of the County Commission, Tim Norton, for being so gracious in listening to us and just now opening it up to other people to speak, whether they are on the agenda or not, and I am here for two purposes this morning. Number one, is to formally make a request, which I have put in writing, and I have handed the entire formal request to your assistant Kristi over here. I will verbalize part of that here. But, in the interest of time, I will not read the whole thing. My second reason for being here this morning is to introduce not one, but two very prominent scientists in the field of fluoridation. That is Dr. Paul Connett, who traveled from New York to be with you this morning. And Dr. Albert Burgstahler from Lawrence, Kansas, who is the internationally recognized fluoride expert, but who is the editor of the journal Fluoride.*

*"So you have in front of you here this morning on the front row, you have the most expertise that you will probably ever have in your life on the issue of fluoride, and I don't need to remind you, you already know this, that community health is something that the County Commission takes a very active role in. Even though you are not the city, and this is the city fluoridation issue, you guys still have a lot to do with community health, you have a lot of power and authority.*

*"And this issue, which I thought three months ago was a non-issue, is extremely important, and I think we have a situation where the science has gone way far ahead of public opinion and these two gentlemen are on the cutting edge, and they can bring you up to date on the modern science. We have to avoid situations like what we had with lead and gasoline, where it took us years to get rid of it, when we knew it was harming us. We need to look at recent science, we need to look at the facts, we need to not polarize.*

*"With that, I am going to go ahead and read the portion of the request that I need to read to you. This, of course, is referring to the factsheet that was published and distributed prior to October 9th. And by the way, I want to again thank you, Commissioners, for responding, and for taking that down from the website and for not publishing that. The request is that the KRA and the Wichitan's opposed to fluoridation hereby request that the County Commissioners publish a suitable correction in the Wichita Eagle, or in any other media resource to correct the damage and*

*misinformation that was done by the distribution of the error-prone so-called factsheet. So all we're asking, in whatever way you find acceptable, is that you make correction to that factsheet. I've also given Kristi a fact sheet from our perspective and these have been carefully vetted. Thank you very much for listening to me this morning. God bless you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Mark. Madam Clerk, call the next item."*

K [12-0856](#) REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING FLUORIDATION.  
Presented by: Dr. Paul Connett, Canton, New York.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Mr. Chairman, just a procedural point here. We do a receive and file after all the testimony we get today, or all the testimony as opposed to doing one for each person to testify?"*

*Chairman Norton said, "I think that would be appropriate. It would certainly move the meeting along today."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "That's my suggestion."*

*Chairman Norton said, "If that's okay with everybody at the bench, we'll do one large receive and file. Okay. Doctor, go ahead."*

#### VISUAL PRESENTATION

*Dr. Paul Connett, Canton, New York, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Let me say how thrilled I am to be at this meeting. I am really touched by these declarations that you have gone through. I get a very, very positive image of Wichita, its public servants and citizens in this beautiful town. I would just like to spend a few minutes talking about my concerns about water fluoridation. I spent the last 16 years of my life studying this issue. I didn't want it. I studied it first as a professor of chemistry specializing in environmental chemistry and toxicology, and now as the Director of the Fluoride Action Network.*

*"The culmination of 14 years of this research produced this book "The Case Against Fluoride" with two other co-authors. It is understated, not overstated, it's backed up with 80 pages of reference to the scientific literature, and the sad thing is, there has been no scientific response to our book from the promoters of fluoridation, and yet they still continue to state again and again and again that fluoridation is safe and effective. It is neither. Twelve arguments, I will summarize these arguments and hope the clock will allow me to go into more details at the end.*

*"Fluoride is not a nutrient and not necessarily for healthy teeth. The level used in our water, approximately one part per million, is not small. It is 250 times the level in mother's milk. Fluoridation is a very poor medical practice. Once you put medicine in the water, you can't control the dose, you can't control who gets it. It goes to the very young, the very old, the sick, the poorly nourished and so on. Fluoridation violates the individual's right to informed consent to medication. This morning you celebrated World Freedom Day. I can't think of a more precious freedom than our ability to determine what medicines that we put into our body. People are dying for our freedoms, this is an important freedom, and it should not be thrown away lightly. Whether it is the majority, or whether it is just a group of counselors.*

*"Five, fluoride does not work systemically. There is no biological process in the body that needs fluoride, none at all. It works topically on the outside of the tooth, and it defies common sense to swallow it. If you swallow it, you expose all the tissues in the*

*body that don't need it and may be harmed by it. By putting it in the water you are forcing it on people that don't want it. You can solve the medical problem and ethical problem simply by encouraging people to buy universally available fluoridated toothpaste and spreading it on their teeth and spitting it out, not by putting it in the water.*

*"Six, the evidence of benefit is very weak. I was surprised at this, but you'll find three chapters in our book on how weak the evidence is that fluoridation actually works. And it is not surprising when you know that the mechanism is topical. The rates show that American kids have been overly exposed to fluoride. The latest report from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) said that 41 percent of children, 12 to 15, have some form of dental fluorosis. When they started this practice, they thought they could limit it to 10 percent of children in the very mild form. We now have 8.6 percent in the mild form, and 3.6 percent in the moderate and severe forms. There are many other health concerns, particularly fluoride's interaction with the brain. I hope I have time to go through some of the details on that.*

*"Nine, there is not an adequate margin of safety to protect everyone in society, from the end points which are being thoroughly discussed by the report by the National Research Council from 2006, which I gave testimony before in person. The promotion of fluoridation is not scientific. Eleven, most countries do not fluoridate their water, including 97 percent of Europe. Yet their children's teeth are as good as countries that do. Wichita should not be rushed into this outdated practice, and should instead remain with some of the most famous cities in the world that do not fluoridate their water. There was an article in the Wichita Eagle, or rather editorial, that was trying to suggest that Wichita was somehow behind the times, that they should join up with the other citizen America that fluoridate, but actually, you are in the mainstream.*

*"Look at the towns, some of the famous cities that do not fluoridate their water: Amsterdam, Athens, Belgrade, Berlin, Bologna, Bonn, Brussels, Cambridge, Cardiff, Copenhagen, Edinburgh. In fact, you can choose almost any town in Europe and Japan, and they don't fluoridate their water. So you are in very good company right now. Here are the countries in Europe that do not fluoridate. Some of them, four of them, Australia, Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland, fluoridate their salt, but the majority neither fluoridate the water nor their salt, and fluoridation of salt allows the citizens some freedom of choice.*

*"And here according to the World Health Organization, is the nature on tooth decay in 18 different countries, 13 of which are not fluoridated. One is 10 percent fluoridation, four are fluoridated, including the United States. You can see that tooth decay is coming down as rapidly in the non-fluoridated countries as the fluoridated ones, and if you look at the tooth decay in the 2000s, at the end of the graphs, you will see it's a wash. You cannot tell the difference whether you are looking at a 12-year-old that's grown up in a fluoridated country or non-fluoridated country. I urge you strongly to watch the 29 minute videotape called Professional Perspectives on Fluoridation. Fifteen scientists are involved in that videotape; three actually were part of the National Research Council report, two former employees of the EPA, myself, and a Nobel Prize winner, and several dentists that were once pro-fluoridation and now against it. I am not the only professional out there that is against fluoridation.*

*"Our web page has an enormous amount of research material. You can read '10 Facts on Fluoride', '50 Reasons to Oppose Fluoridation'. For many people, the big reason is government has no right to force citizens to take medicine. The argument that you can simply determine whether you drink the water or not will just not hold for families of low-income status. They could not afford avoidance measures. Since October 25, 2010, fluoridation has been stopped in over 70 communities in Canada, the United States and New Zealand, and I hope that Wichita under the circumstances does not go against this trend. About three million people have been liberated from fluoridation in the last couple of years.*

*"Now, just a few more details, which is useful when we've got a screen, this is the Center for Disease Control report. Those bars represent the percentage of children that have dental fluorosis. The green bars are for the period of 1990 to 2004, so 28.5 percent of children, age 12 to 15, have very mild dental fluorosis, 8.6 percent have mild which affects 50 percent of tooth surface, and 3.6 moderate or severe. This is what it looks like. This is very mild. This is mild. Affecting up to 50 percent of the tooth surface, this is moderate or severe.*

*"Now, my concern is this, when fluoride is causing this condition, which is not denied, but is visible, what is it doing to the rest of the body which you cannot see and for which you have to do careful studies. And in particular, I am concerned about what it means when a young baby is exposed to fluoride at 250 times the level in mother's milk, which is the reason, incidentally, that Arvid Carlsson, who led the fight against fluoridation in Sweden, used as one of his main arguments. He was concerned about what fluoride would do to the developing brain. Since that time, there have been over 100 animal experiments that shows that fluoride can enter the brain, change biochemistry and behavior and cause other damage. One study was remarkable at one part per million, rats are given one part per million of fluoride in their water, after a year, developed kidney damage, brain damage, greater uptake of aluminum into the brain and beta amyloid deposits which are thought to be a marker of Alzheimer's disease. Very serious study.*

*"Human studies, there have now been 34 published studies from India, China, mainly India, China, and Iran, and Mexico, indicated that moderate exposure to fluoride is associated with lowered IQ in children. This study particularly concerns me, interests me, because I went to the Chinese villages where the study was made. They compared the IQ of children in a village of less than .7 parts per million in their water, with a village that was between 2.5 and 4.5 parts per million. Otherwise the cities, the villages were remarkably similar, in terms of lifestyle, diet, et cetera. They controlled for lead exposure and iodine exposure. They found a drop of 5 to 10 IQ points between the two sets of children, and the whole IQ curve was shifted over, which is very significant. What you're seeing there is a drop in the number of very bright children, you have geniuses, and an increase, thank you very much.*

*"The threshold for this effect, 1.9 parts per million, offers no margin of safety to protect all children in the United States. One, there is a huge range of sensitivity to any toxic substance, you need a safety factor of 10. Secondly, if you just take the simple notion that children are drinking different quantities of water, a child in America drinking two liters of water at 1 part per million, will have a higher dose of fluoride than the child in the Chinese studies drinking 1 liter of water at 1.9 parts per million. Thank you very much."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, doctor. We have a couple questions.*

*Commissioner Skelton.*"

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Doctor, thank you for coming down this morning. I find many of your points interesting. I don't want you to go into great detail here, but I have a question for you, and it has to do with your opinion on health effects of genetically modified organisms, antibiotics, used in food supply, and hormones and other chemicals used in meat processing. Do you have an opinion on that also?"*

*Dr. Connett said, "I absolutely do. I think it is another example of man's enormous arrogance, and nature has produced a pretty good system, in terms of growing food and what goes in our bodies, and usually when we make these major interventions, we live to regret it. I think altering genes and putting them out into the environment, organisms and putting them into the environment, is the most outrageous example of arrogance. You will not see a mouse making love to a strawberry. There are good reasons for that.*

*"I am hoping that on Proposition 47, which requires labeling of genetically modified organisms, in California will pass November 6th, and if it does, I think it sounds the death knell for genetic engineering, for Monsanto's efforts to impose this practice on the world. So, very strongly against it."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "You mentioned the study in China. I can also comment, there was a study done also on, China is an interesting place, because it has highly diverse and indigenous populations that, some of them are isolated, and some of them are near urban centers, and they compared the diets of Chinese also. And they did find a correlation in intelligence and rates of cancer, diabetes, pulmonary cardio disorders among populations that were accessing genetically modified organisms with hormones and nasty chemicals used in the production of these food animals, versus the diet of the rural indigenous populations that were growing natural foods. So there are studies out there, and I find it interesting you bring it up regarding fluoride.*

*"Now, I also have a concern about this. So now, you know, we have, I think science in the future is going to come around and the majority of science is going to back your position. I think there is something unnatural going on. We have stories in the newspaper and in the media about how boys are entering puberty at a younger age. One of the hypotheses is the hormones that are used. I get aggravated when I hear about this, because it is more unknown chemicals put into our food and water supply. Not only will we be exposed to, you know, highly abnormal animal product for food, we are going to be having water now that is tainted with chemicals, so my whole philosophy here is pureness. I wish I could play a few quotes from the movie Dr. Strangelove right now, but I am not going to go there. Purity. I appreciate your comments today, and I wanted to thank you and share some of my concerns with you and hear your reaction. Thank you, sir.*

*Dr. Connett said, "Can I just quickly respond to that? I think you've raised a very important issue. One of the first things I learned in 1996, when I first got involved, was the level of fluoride in mother's milk. And when I discovered how low it was, I just could not believe that nature made a fundamental mistake with the baby's first meal, if indeed fluoride was necessary for teeth or anything else, and the whole notion that a group of dentists in Chicago knew more about what the baby needs than nature herself is just preposterous, in my view."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."*

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had a prior engagement and wasn't able to be here when we had the earlier discussion, so some of the questions that I would have liked to have asked at that time, I am going to try and ask some today, so I hope you will bear with me a little bit. Our County's website, I had a lot of problems with the fact that our Health Department put up information that was incomplete, and in my view, highly misleading, and the fact that the federal government recently lowered the level. You mentioned 1 part per million. But my recollection, and maybe I'm wrong on this, maybe it is because of the amount per a certain volume of liquid, I'm thinking the federal level had been, I think it was 11 parts per million per liter and had been dropped to 7 parts per million per liter. Could you clarify those numbers for me please?"

Dr. Connett said, "Certainly. There are two numbers that are important here. One, you have the EPAs (Environmental Protection Agency), safe drinking water standard for fluoride at 4 parts per million. A lot of people think that's too high, and the National Research Council recommended in 2006 that that level should be lowered for a number of health reasons. Now, the other number is the recommended level that we add fluoride to the water to lower tooth decay. And that range is .7 to 1.2 parts per million. And this was the number that was changed, or rather a recommendation was made on January 7, 2011, where there was a press conference between the EPA on the one hand and the Department of Health and Human Services on the other hand, and the essentially they are responding to these huge increases in dental fluorosis.

And so, their concern continues to try to lower tooth decay without getting too much dental fluorosis. They deny any major health concerns. But in order to protect against dental fluorosis, they are now recommending we drop the range and we come down to .7 parts per million as the recommended level to add if people are going to add. Some communities around the country have already adopted .7, but it has not been finalized, it is still open for public input, this recommendation."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Let me ask you to reverse side of that equation. My understanding is the water in Wichita has a natural background level of fluoride of about 3.3 [parts per million], is what I recall."

Dr. Connett said, ".3; .3"

Commissioner Peterjohn said, ".3?"

Dr. Connett said, "Yes."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "In your opinion, fluoride being a naturally occurring element, my understanding is that we all have some amount in our systems, is that amount excessive? Is it a risk or health hazard at that level? Or is it basically something that varies depending where you live in the country, assuming that man hasn't intervened in adding it. Is this a safe level in your opinion?"

Dr. Connett said, "I think that we're going to find more out about fluoride, especially its impact on the brain, the .3 will be too high. We will be in the situation as with arsenic. Arsenic occurs naturally in certain states in the west, they are having to spend money to remove the arsenic. That may happen with fluoride as well. Back in 1939, the American Water Works Association recommended of .1 [parts per million] as the safe level, so it is unfortunate. As far as natural levels are concerned, I think nature has

*given the guideline. Nature has told us what level is safe for a baby, its .004 parts per million. It would cost a fortune to get everybody down to that level, but what we must do right now, I think, common sense says, you don't make the situation worse by deliberately adding fluoride to the water. So .3, I don't think it would sound huge alarm bells right now, until people have thoroughly vetted all these IQ studies and other studies. So I don't think there is going to be a panic, but don't make the situation worse by adding to it."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, let me ask you this. I have heard some of the proponents of fluoridation make the assertion that one cannot get enough fluoride as a coating on your teeth to be able to have the positive effects from a dental point of view. Are there any studies out there that have addressed this question that you are aware of?"*

*Dr. Connett said, "I think that's wishful thinking on their part. It has more to do with public relations than it has to do with any kind of scientific peer reviewed and published study. As we know the major benefit of fluoride, if any exists at all, is topical. It works on the surface of the teeth, and therefore it doesn't make sense to be swallowing it and putting it in the drinking water."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, I was very unhappy with our Health Department when they put up the information, in my view, it was error by omission. They didn't point out the data that you provided that the federal government had reduced the recommended level, and rather dramatically, over 40 percent. Just within the last two years. The question I have for you, have you reviewed what material had been up on the County website, and if there were any other significant areas of fact or errors of omission that were included in that data that the County did have up there, because this was a very strong concern on my part, because of the fact that we did not include the fact that the federal government had dramatically lowered their standards raised some alarm bells for this Commissioner.*

*"And my solution for this is not to take information down, but to give everybody an opportunity to speak, get the information out there and have an informed public discussion."*

*Dr. Connett said, "Commissioner, I am not familiar with all the details. I have seen the leaflet that was distributed, the statement, the factsheet that was distributed, there certainly were serious errors in those facts, and I know that Mark has done his best to clarify what those mistakes were. I think there is a more serious general problem here, and that is with the health system in this country, there is like a chain of command. So what is determined at the center is passed down from, say, the Center of Disease Control to each health department and to the oral health directors and then down to local health boards. And it is a brave soul in this bureaucracy who challenges policy. They don't see their job as investigating the science, the scientific underpinning of these policies. They leave that to the center. They leave that to the people in Washington or Atlanta, their job, as they see it, is to carry out policy. And the Center for Disease Control has made it very clear that they promote fluoridation. And so they are carrying out the, essentially the instructions of the Center for Disease Control.*

*"Now, the problem with this, is that we're not talking about the 20,000 people that work in Atlanta, Georgia, who have an enormous range of medical expertise, risk assessment expertise, et cetera. We are talking about one small section of the CDC called the oral health division. That consists of only 30 people, and they are dentally*

*trained, and their mission is to promote fluoridation. So, unfortunately, I do not believe their objective, in terms of analyzing whether supporting this practice is sound on the one hand, and certainly they are not equipped to objectively review the health studies that I have been working with, and we've published. It could be done, the Center for Disease Control could have one division of dentists that truly believes in fluoridation and promotes it, but only if you have another division at the CDC which is independent of the promotion activities, and instead focuses entirely on the science. That's what I believe civil servants should be doing, giving politicians and decision makers the objective science and not spinning it.*

*"Unfortunately, I am afraid, I am sorry to say this, nothing personal about this, but I'm afraid that maybe of these local health offices in Canada, Australia and New Zealand are spinning the message because that's what they believe that their masters in the ministry of health and department of human services wants from them, promotion of a policy. For some of them, I hate to say, I think for them, protecting this policy has now become more important than protecting the health of the American people. That's a pretty shocking thing to say, and it's a pretty sad thing to say."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Let me ask you one last question. Fluoride is a naturally occurring element. If it's ingested and brought in, do you have any scientific knowledge, in terms of what it may serve to substitute for, in terms of other elements if excessive amounts come in to the body? I'm thinking, also at a second level, sometimes a basic element can have a form, I'm thinking chromium, for instance, different forms of chromium. Some are benign, some are not. I was curious, in terms of a fluoride point of view how it falls, in terms of your expertise on that."*

*Dr. Connett said, "I'm fascinated you chose that example. My PhD thesis was on the toxicity of chromium-6, so I'm very, very familiar with that. And in the process of pursuing that thesis, my interest was on mechanisms of action. How is it that chromium-6 causes cancer, how is it that chromium-6 is so toxic, whereas chromium-3 is not toxic and not carcinogenic. And what does fluoride do when it gets into the body. So what we know is that no one has ever demonstrated that fluoride is necessary, it is not an essential nutrient.*

*"There is a very set procedure to determine if something is an essential nutrient. You starve the animal of the suspected nutrient in its diet. If it is a nutrient, then the animal develops a disease like scurvy or beriberi, or something like that, which is how we found out about vitamins. They've never done that for fluoride. I'm not aware of any bio chemical molecule that needs fluoride for its normal action. In fact, the first opponents of fluoride in this country were bio chemists in Wisconsin. And they were appalled at the notion of putting fluoride in the drinking water, because they had used fluoride to inhibit enzymes. Enzymes carry out all the chemistry in the body. You don't want to put a toxic substance in there that interferes with enzymes.*

*"In terms of interactions with other substances, which I think your question was aiming at, one thing which is particularly problematic is that fluoride forms complexes, with every metal ion in the periodic table except the alkali metals, lithium, sodium, potassium, rubidium. All the rest, fluoride surrounds these positive centers, and forms*

*these complex ions with a new identity, new reactions. And these metal ions are at the center of important biology. They are at the center of enzymes, at the active center involved in neurotransmission and many other functions. Not only can they then interfere with the normal calcium mechanisms, normal calcium as a regulator in neurotransmission, you can interfere with that, but it can also form complexes with toxic metals, like aluminium and lead and get into places it won't otherwise go. I refer to a study which gave rats one part per million fluoride, and they found that it increased the uptake of aluminium into the brain. So the fluoride is forming a complex with the aluminium, and once the aluminium ion, which is highly charged positively can't get across the blood-brain barrier, apparently other complexes of aluminum can get across the membrane, and this is very, very serious indeed.*

*"The other interaction which is complicated, but obviously there, is the interaction between fluoride and iodine. As you know, we need iodine in thyroid hormones. And scientists in the [19]30s, [19]40s and [19]50s in Argentina, France and Germany used to give patients with hyperthyroidism, overactive thyroid, they gave them fluoride tablets to lower the activity of the thyroid gland. So what we have to ask today, with an epidemic of hypothyroidism, underactive thyroid glands, are some people with normal thyroid activity having their thyroid gland activity lowered because of the fluoride in our environment. Just how the fluoride in the iodine interact to effect the lowering of thyroid activity is complicated. It is not as simple as saying, well, fluoride interferes with the uptake of iodine into the gland. Doesn't seem to do that. Fluoride does not appear to interfere with the insertion of iodine into the molecule to make the thyroid hormone.*

*"There is some other mechanism involved there. And one of the things which is of huge concern, but neglected in U.S. research, is that when you have borderline iodine deficiency, fluoride is horrible, very toxic. And if you look at one of those IQ studies that was reviewed by Harvard, by the way, one of those IQ studies, they found a lowering of IQ at .88 parts per million. Compared to children at .3 parts per million.*

*"And it was a case of the fluoride striking at this low concentration, because it was borderline iodine. So it made the borderline iodine problem worse by having a little bit of fluoride there. We have 12 million people in the United States with borderline iodine deficiency. They, in my view, should not be getting any fluoride from any source if it can be possibly avoided."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Unruh."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dr. Connett, thank you for being here today. Appreciate your scientific approach to this. And all the information for people like me, who are not scientists, we have to depend on experts and people who help us with this. Which leads me to my question. On the other perspective you brought to us today, are there any, I mean, my understanding is the Center for Disease Control, and American Dental Association, and the Academy of Pediatrics, the Academy of Family Medicine, the Mayo Clinic, all those folks are supportive of fluoridation, so laymen like me, it is confusing. Do you know any medical organizations or agencies that, like that, would adopt your perspective on this, are they all on the other side of the line?"*

*Dr. Connett said, "I think you can look at the medical organizations in the vast majority of countries worldwide."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "I mean in the United States."*

*Dr. Connett said, "Well, Germany, France, Belgium, Scandinavia, they all have the same bodies, they all have the same expertise, they looked at the same information that the U.S. Authorities are looking at, and endorsing fluoridation, they looked at the same information, and they have rejected fluoridation. So I think you should look at all those bodies. But certainly, more specifically, the National Kidney Foundation has recently removed its support for fluoridation, because of concerns that the kidney, somebody with impaired kidney function cannot get rid of all the fluoride that they take in each day, like a normal person. And there is some evidence that the fluoride also damages the kidney. We also have a growing number of dentists who have broken away from the American Dental Association. One example is the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology. They, as a body, are opposed to fluoridation. Now, I would also like to put this argument in historical perspective."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "I didn't have an argument."*

*Dr. Connett said, "The experience, then, you said all these organizations endorse fluoridation and why. I want to explain why. In 1950, the U.S. Public Health Service endorsed fluoridation, which was an extraordinary event, because in 1950, none of the trials of effectiveness had been completed, and there was practically no health data published in the scientific literature. So this was a very strange decision in 1950 that they endorsed it. But what is also interesting is that many of those organizations that you are talking about, American Dental Association, American Public Health Association, followed the leader and they all endorsed fluoridation, still with no trials completed, still with no health data on the table. So endorsements you have to take with a pinch of salt. It is not like selling shoes. It is not like somebody going out there and promoting Nike shoes. We're talking about a serious public health policy here."*

*"We should be looking at the scientific data. If the AMA (American Medical Association) supports fluoridation, where is their review. Where is the scientifically based review which has reached that position, or did they just feel comfortable endorsing it, because the Center for Disease Control endorsed it, and so on."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "All right, thank you. Thank you. That's all I have."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Ranzau."*

*Commissioner Ranzau said, "Thank you, Dr. Connett, for being here. Greatly appreciate this. I have a question. I have been told that fluoride is absorbed by the skin. I would like you to comment on that. Is that correct? And, if it is, is it at a rate that is problematic or could add to the problem?"*

*Dr. Connett said, "The science of that is not really in. I think there have been a few studies, but we haven't had the definitive study yet. And yet it should be relatively straightforward. You put someone in a bath, draw blood from them before the bath and then draw blood every five minutes and see if the fluoride goes up in the blood. My gut feeling is that if you soak in a hot bath, your pores will open. Fluoride will not pass through the skin, from the cold water, the skin is fat essentially and the fluoride won't go through that coetaneous layer. But in a hot bath, those pores can open, and that's when the minerals in the water can enter the bloodstream. So my gut feeling is that*

*this would be a source of fluoride, but incredibly, after 65 years, there is no solid, scientific research to establish that that is the case.”*

*Commissioner Ranzau said, “Thank you.”*

*Chairman Norton said, “Commissioner Skelton.”*

*Commissioner Skelton said, “Doctor, is fluoride classified as a metal in the periodic table?”*

*Dr. Connett said, “No, it is a non-metal. For those who are puzzled by what this is, most people know the difference in metals and non-metals. Metals tend to be shiny and conduct electricity. Non-metals tend to be brittle and don't conduct electricity. But the fundamental difference between a metal atom and a non-metal atom, is metal atoms want to get rid of electrons, and non-metal atoms want to gain electrons.”*

*Commissioner Skelton said, “With that being said, sir, I want you to know I'm qualified to teach safe work practices for the State of Kansas.”*

*Dr. Connett said, “Yes, yes, yes.”*

*Commissioner Skelton said, “So I'm telling you that the effects of fluoride poisoning sound a lot like lead poisoning. In fact, learning disabilities, interference with neurotransmitters, your body can substitute fluoride, as it can with lead for calcium?”*

*Dr. Connett said, “Okay.”*

*Commissioner Skelton said, “Is that what you were saying?”*

*Dr. Connett said, “You are on the right track here. Absolutely on the right track. My first issue of interest in environmental health was lead poisoning. Back in the [19]70s.”*

*Commissioner Skelton said, “It is not only gasoline, its paint.”*

*Dr. Connett said, “Yes. In those days the argument was between those scientists who said overt lead poisoning caused brain damage, and that's the problem, and there were other scientists who said, well, if it overt, if high exposure to lead caused brain damage sufficient to get parents to bring their kids to hospitals and clinics, what about lower levels of lead. What about very low levels of lead, which don't cause obvious symptoms. Could that be damaging to children's brains. And that was resolved in 1979 by Herbert Needleman who showed that very low levels of lead did cause mental development problems, lack of concentration, et cetera. And when I started fluoride in 1996, it struck me just like you that there was a very distinct parallel between leads effect on the brain and fluoride's effect on the brain.*

*“Now, as far as what happens to it, most of the fluoride, when you absorb it and digest it, will get stored in the bone. The bone is like a place to deposit things that you don't want. So lead goes into the bone. Also, lead tends to follow calcium. So that's another reason that lead would go into the bone, because that's where calcium is. Fluoride has a great affinity for calcium, and this is a way, let me back off. When you take fluoride into your system, the kidney does its best to get rid of it. The kidney excretes 50 percent of the fluoride we take in each day; hence the problem with people with impaired kidney function. The rest of the fluoride will fairly quickly settle down in the*

*hard tissues, in the bone, in the tooth. And in the pineal gland, which also is a calcified tissue. Yes, there are interesting parallels between lead and fluoride, even though lead is a metal and fluoride is a non-metal."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Thank you, sir."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Thank you. I see no other lights? Thank you for being here today, Dr. Connett."*

*Dr. Connett said, "Thank you very much."*

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

L [12-0864](#)

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS REGARDING FLUORIDATION.

Presented by: Dr. Albert W. Burgstahler, Lawrence, Kansas.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

*Chairman Norton said, "And, Dr. Burgstahler."*

*Dr. Albert W. Burgstahler, Lawrence, Kansas, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I will be very quick with this. First of all, I am Albert Burgstahler, retired Professor of Chemistry at the University of Kansas. I came here in the middle [19]50s, thinking fluoridation was fine, then gradually I began to develop a great deal of tiredness. Went to my physician. After a few years he said you better check your thyroid. It turned out to be quite negative. I said what's causing this? Well, I don't know.*

*"So I was doing my research with making fluoridated amino-acids and so forth, gradually came across a report that 4 to 5 milligrams a day of fluoride for some people would cause a depression of thyroid function. This was reported by [inaudible] in Switzerland. So I said, what the heck, I just switch to distilled water to see what happens. I was stunned at how quickly many of these symptoms disappeared.*

*"Waking up with a parched throat stopped, finding that my joints were no longer painful, waking up with more energy. It was just amazing to me. After three months not taking the thyroid extract, went back to my physician, and after checking my metabolism, it was at zero. He did not say he agreed that fluoride was necessarily doing it, but he was not surprised.*

*"During that time I also got acquainted with Dr. George Walbott in Detroit, an allergist, on reading his research on reversible effects of fluoride, got organized with him in the Journal of Fluoride Research, been publishing it since 1968. And in my research at that journal as editor, I found a great deal of material from the scientific world from all over the world, as Dr. Connett has pointed out. I did some research myself on the correlation of Down Syndrome among younger women in fluoridated areas. That's quite an extensive study based on data from U.S. Public Health Service. I also looked at the connection between fluoride and cancer in different ways. That of course is developing into a problem with Osteosarcoma in young men, which is also related to fluoride.*

*"I also did some studies on fluoride levels in California wines, and found some of them were excessive because they were using aluminum fluoride as an insecticide, and those wines are not permitted to go to export if they are above 1 part per million. I would also add a couple points here, that is the question of the study of dentifrices, it has been raised here, as fluoride dentifrices is very effective. Well, in Holland some years ago they took two groupings of children, oh, dear, I will make this very quick. They found children on the fluoride dentifrices, and non-fluoride dentifrices, both same eating habits, both same socioeconomic level, had no difference in tooth decay. They could not prove the effectiveness of fluoridated dentifrices.*

*"As far as the necessity for fluoride, a very careful study by a London Dental Group*

*showed that when they put mice on a chlorella diet with very low fluoride, .01 parts per million, that was not enough to make them healthy, reproduce perfectly with no problems of stillbirths, but live excessively long. They couldn't believe how long these mice were living. Five, six years, which normally with a laboratory diet and with some other things, they had a perfect diet nutritionally, and the fluoride was not hurting, in fact, the diet showed that fluoride certainly was not essential. That's really all I would care to say, except thank you very much for this opportunity to speak with you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Before you go, Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. Dr. Burgstahler, appreciate you coming down from Lawrence this morning to be with us, and provide some points. I would have been happy to recommend as an expert and a PhD to give you a little more time if there were additional points to make. The question I would like to throw out to you is a variation of what I asked Dr. Connett, I've been told by a number of folks here in this community that it is not possible to get an adequate amount of fluoride by using a fluoridated toothpaste on your teeth. That that's not possible at all. I was curious if you had an opinion on that one way or the other."*

*Dr. Burgstahler said, "Well, yes, I do, in the sense that fluoridated toothpaste, although it seems like a lot of it is not swallowed, certainly children swallow a great deal, so they are getting much of it from that. The levels of fluoride in our diet, even in a non-fluoridated city, with food and beverages, certainly puts into what is considered to be an adequate level of fluoride. The extra amount from the fluoridated toothpaste can hardly make any difference. But I would say this about fluoride in the teeth. Studies in Denmark show that only a trace amounts of fluoride would be necessary to help promote decay, if adequate amounts of phosphate are in the saliva. So the fluoride is more of a catalytic than beneficial. Furthermore, any fluoridated enamel formed in the teeth is an abnormal form of enamel, and that is something we would rather not have, we would rather have a good, normal, hydroxyapatite enamel form. I also mentioned I am co-author of this book Fluoridation The Great Dilemma. It was a great delight to work on back in the 1970s. Thank you."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, Dr. Burgstahler, question to throw out to you and follow up on Commissioner Skelton's earlier question to Dr. Connett. He talked about lead and similarities, some of the problems from lead exposure, but also exposure to fluoride. I was curious, because there is a whole host of naturally occurring elements. I'm thinking cadmium, also of arsenic, for instance, and some of this is, if I brought my book on elements here with us today and I thought about it, frankly, I forgot, almost every one of the basic elements on the periodic table, except for the most recent man-made ones at the bottom of the table are part of our environment overall, and I was curious, because we have gone to major efforts, for instance, to keep cadmium, a metal, out of our environment, just like we have with lead more recently and arsenic, too, is obviously problematical. But these are naturally occurring elements, some of the heavy metals, mercury toxicity is another one, in terms of it, and I was curious, in terms of your opinion on the background levels, how fluoride compares with some of these other elements that exist, albeit often in trace amounts on this planet."*

*Dr. Burgstahler said, "Well, normally, humans would be drinking surface water from unpolluted lakes and unpolluted rivers. When we start digging wells we bring in all these extra elements that are not normally present in surface water, such as fluoride. And as I think Dr. Connett mentioned, 1/10th of a part per million back in 1938-[19]39"*

*by the American Water Works Association was considered to be the maximum they would like to see in the water supply. As far as lead goes, I want to tell you something very quickly. I visited Caltech (California Institute of Technology) years ago and I met Clair Patterson who was doing some high sensitivity studies on lead levels in bones, going back to the pre-revolutionary period, pre-industrial period of the world, and he found that the levels were very low except where there was lead pewter in the drinking cups and so forth. When they looked at the increase with the industrial revolution, the levels went to high levels, but compared to what they were claiming were safe levels from the Kettering Laboratory. The Kettering Laboratories, on the other hand, were taken from the Mexican Indians eating off lead glazed pottery. So the control was useless. And that is what is so important about doing good science. You know exactly what you are looking at, make sure your controls are correct.*

*“One final point. When I taught chemistry, I was hoping that the students would understand the importance of using scientific approach to whatever they do. When they go into professional fields, it seems like some of that sort of swept aside as Dr. Connett has pointed out and we get this following of a main line thinking without really doing what they should be doing, continuing the training in science and scientific approach. I hate to take more of your time, but that’s what I really have to say. “Thank you.”*

*Chairman Norton said, “Thank you Doctor, we appreciate you being here. Now I’m going to open it up to anyone else that would like to speak. I’m going to try to limit it to new information, and we know we’ve had this before. So we don’t want to continue to repeat. And if you have spoken in a previous meeting, if you would keep your remarks very quick. I don’t want to make this whole day a forum on fluoridation yes, or fluoridation no. But we’ve offered up to the public a chance to come. So if you would queue and give your name and address.”*

*Dr. Charles Hinshaw, 1320 Perth Court, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Commissioner Peterjohn, I’m not sure that you really got your question answered. Were you trying to say do we need fluoridated water as well as fluoridated toothpaste?”*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, “No.”*

*Dr. Hinshaw said, “Okay, I thought you were. Because there are studies that show adding fluoridated water does not enhance the anticariogenic effect of the toothpaste. So you do not need the water.”*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, “My point had been strictly that we had been told by staff that it’s impossible to get enough, you cannot set the proper level of fluoride just by using toothpaste.”*

*Dr. Hinshaw said, “See, that’s when they say that’s why you’ve got to have fluoridated water.”*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, “That’s the argument.”*

*Dr. Hinshaw said, “And the study shows that’s not correct.”*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, “Okay.”*

*Chairman Norton said, “Before we move on, how many other people would like to*

*speak before we finish up?"*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "So we've got three out there? Okay."*

*Ms. Zella Newberry, 9111 West 21st Street North #80, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I just have, I wanted to add, did you know that our Head Start children, our poor children, get a capsule every day of fluoride. I was there. I saw it, and I asked."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Question Zella. Do you happen to have any idea how much fluoride was in the capsules that were being given to the kids? I had gone there to read, and when I saw this, I was aghast, and I'm sorry, I was so shocked. I didn't ask, but I could do that, because one of the things that they say is that for our poor children we need fluoride in our water, where our very poor children are getting a capsule every day, and I did, a friend of mine said she had a friend who wanted to put her children in Head Start, but she could not if she did not give permission for the fluoride that was given every day to our small children."*

*Mr. James Gragg, 1835 North Holland, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "There is just one point I'd like to bring up about what types of fluoride. We've been pressing the pro-fluoride people on this issue. What do they intend to put into our water? It is not pharmaceutical grade fluoride of any kind. Sodium fluoride is the only one that's ever been tested. Hydrofluoric acid is the one generally used to fluoridate water because it's the cheapest available source. It's never been tested.*

*"So you know about the issue with coal and the pollutions from coal and how we have to put wet scrubbers in our coal plants. My father worked at a coal plant in Lawrence, and I'm familiar with that a little bit. The hydrofluoric acid comes from the wet scrubbers of phosphate plants. It's not refined in any way. There is more than just a fluoride compound, a man-made compound. It also contains lead, mercury, cadmium, arsenic. As a result of just a simple smoke, these are all collected from which the hydrofluoric acid comes from.*

*"Arsenic is a known carcinogen. It's not allowed in our food sources. I include water as a natural food source. So if they propose to use hydrofluoric acid, gentlemen, as representatives of the county, and as the principal body of the health of the County, we have to assure the people that arsenic will not be in our water in any amounts. Thank you, sir."*

*Chairman Norton said, "And I saw one other lady. Well, that would be our last speaker then for people that raised their hands. I appreciate everybody being here today, being civil and remaining composed as we went through this very important conversation in our community. We thank you for being here today. We are going to take, we need to receive and file. I need a motion to receive and file."*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Peterjohn moved to receive and file.*

*Commissioner Skelton seconded the motion.*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I particularly appreciate the folks who traveled a long*

*long distance to be here and glad to have this dialogue this morning. I appreciate everyone's patience with my questions."*

VOTE

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "At this point, we'll take a 10 minute recess, be back here at 10 minutes till 11:00 [a.m.]."*

*The Board of County Commissioners recessed at 10:39 a.m. and returned at 10:50 a.m.*

*Chairman Norton said, "Okay, we will return from our recess. Madam Clerk, call the next item."*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Peterjohn, seconded by Vice Chair Skelton, that this Receive and File be Received and Filed. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

**APPOINTMENTS**

M [12-0850](#)

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF TANIA COLE FROM THE SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (SCKEDD) BOARD OF DIRECTORS DUE TO A CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT.

Presented by: Richard Euson, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept the resignation.

*Mr. Richard Euson, County Counselor, greeted the County Commissioners and said, "This resignation has been tendered and I recommend you accept it."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioners, you've heard the recommendation. What's the will of the Board?"*

MOTION

*Commissioner Unruh moved to accept the resignation.*

*Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.*

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

VOTE

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "Next item."*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Unruh, seconded by Commissioner Ranzau, that this Appointment(s) be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Skelton

**Aye:** 4 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

N      [12-0849](#)      RESOLUTION APPOINTING JILL TINSLEY TO THE SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (SCKEDD) BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER DUE TO THE CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT OF TANIA COLE.

Presented by: Richard Euson, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the resolution.

*Mr. Euson said, "Commissioners, we prepared this resolution. This position serves 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 Skelton seconded the motion.*

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

VOTE

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "And Kelly Arnold is here to swear her in."*

*Mr. Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk, greeted the Commissioners and said, "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 South Central Kansas Economic Development District Board of Directors so help me God."*

*Ms. Jill Tinsley, Director, Community Relations, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I do."*

*Mr. Arnold said, "Congratulations."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Jill, we'll offer you the microphone for a second if you'd like to say something."*

*Ms. Tinsley said, "I would just like to say thank you for this opportunity to serve Sedgwick County."*

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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Unruh, seconded by Vice Chair Skelton, that this Appointment(s) be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton,  
Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

**NEW BUSINESS**

- O [12-0839](#) PRESENTATION OF CAREER DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES.  
Presented by: Kelli Grant, Training Coordinator, Division of Human Resources.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Recognize the certificate recipients.

*Mr. William P. Buchanan, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is our employees take their work really seriously. The bad news is those who were here to receive the certificates went back to work, and that's the good and bad news. I would recommend that you pass a motion to recognize the certificate recipients, and I will gladly do so by communicating to them our apologies for running the meeting over and congratulating them on their completion of the certificates."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Do we have the listing in here, Bill?"*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "It's under Item O, yes, sir."*

*Chairman Norton said, "I see Kelli is here. Can we go ahead and read the names for the record? Would that be, or somebody..."*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "Well, it will be in the record."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Okay."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Mr. Chairman, I'd be happy to read the names. I think we should."*

*Chairman Norton said, "If you would, Commissioner, that would be fine."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Okay. The names that I have listed in front of me as are the part of the background, Mr. Manager, if I either omit or mispronounce any names, please feel free to correct me, because I do want to try and get this correct for the record. We had two folks who received the certificates for Supervisory and Management Development. That was Pedro Juarez from Department of Corrections and Andrea Maurer from EMS (Emergency Medical Service). We had two who received certificates for Transitioning to Supervisor, Robert Haley in Public Works, and Tam Tran from the Department of Corrections. We had a number of folks who received the Professional Development Certificate. This includes Jennifer Archer from the Appraiser's office; and Adam Bates also from the Appraiser's office; Claudia Davis from the Department of Corrections; Daniel Foster from the Sheriff's office; LaTisha Marzett from the Department of Corrections; Bonnie Patrick from the Division of Information and Operations; Pam Russell from the Department of Corrections; Trudy Strunk from the Appraiser's office; and also Tam Tran got a second certificate, once again, Department of Corrections.*

*"We've got four folks who received the Diversity Certificate, and this included Heidi Barclay from the Department of Corrections; as well as Claudia Davis, all four from the Department of Corrections; Mr. Manager, I may need help on the pronunciation of this name. Daarina Felton, I hope I'm pronouncing that correctly; as well as Pam Russell, both from the Department of Corrections. So I wanted to include those for the record. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."*

*Chairman Norton said, "I don't know that we need to take any action other than to recognize those certificate recipients, and I think we did that. So Madam Clerk, call the next item."*

P [12-0791](#)

EXPLORATION PLACE REPORT.

Presented by: Jan Luth, President, Exploration Place.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

*Chairman Norton said, "Welcome Jan."*

VISUAL PRESENTATION

*Ms. Jan Luth, President, Exploration Place, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Good morning. It's still morning. I can't believe that it's been a year since I came before all of you and gave you a progress report, and so I'm here today to give you an update and tell you how we're doing with all kinds of things going at Exploration Place. I hope I'm doing this right. When I spoke with all of you last year, I told you that we were really focused around four key focus areas with our work at Exploration Place, and those are still true today. That's where we're focusing. I just want to review those quickly. We're continuing traveling exhibits, rejuvenating the permanent exhibits and programs, expanding educational programming, and developing partnerships. So these are serving us well, and we're still working based around these four key focus areas, so I'm going to give you a quick update based on all four of them.*

*"The first one is continuing our traveling exhibits. This is what we were busy with this past year, High-Tech Treasure Hunting GPS (Global Positioning System) Adventures, of course, Star Wars. You'll hear a little bit more about that soon, and right now we have Videotopia: It's Game Time. For all of these projects, we've had partners, sponsors, lots of programs to go along with it to maximize these coming to our community. Here is what's on the plans for next year. We have Animation that will be opening up for the spring and wintertime, Dinosaurs next summer will be a wonderful dinosaur unearthed exhibit that's doing very well all over the country, and then Mindbender Mansion will be next fall, and right now what we're doing is really lining up all of those partners, programming partners, promotion partners and sponsors with all of those exhibits. That's what we're in the mode for right now.*

*"But let's talk about Star Wars. I imagine you're all kind of wondering how we did with that. There was a little bit in the newspaper recently, but I want to share a little bit more with you. 57,310 people attended the exhibit from Memorial Day to Labor Day, which was really fantastic. 109 percent increase in out of state attendance, almost 9,000 people came here from out of state to see Star Wars. 122 percent increase in attendance from other Kansas counties when you add those two together, you have about 30,000 people that came to see this exhibit that came from outside of our area outside of Wichita and Sedgwick County, which is fantastic, because our hope had always been that it was going to pull from outside, and it most certainly did.*

*"So everybody always wants to know, well, how did this measure up? Well, first of all, it was the highest attended exhibit we've ever had in a summer season from Memorial Day to Labor Day. It was our number one, which was incredible. And of all of our traveling exhibits, it ranked third. There were only two that exceeded it. One of them was Bodies, which was here for twice as long, and the other one that exceeded it was Titanic, and Titanic had a very small up charge. So we feel really, really good about the attendance that we had with Star Wars.*

*"In addition to that, it exceeded every single projection we had. It exceeded membership for the gate with \$57,000. We projected \$34,000. So it exceeded it with our store, with sponsorships, every aspect of the project. It beat all of the projections. So what we did was we brought a \$1 million exhibit here to Wichita and Sedgwick County. It enabled us to have amazing partnerships. Lots of people came to the table to help us. Lots of people came through the doors. It was a very, very ambitious project, and in the end, we broke even, which was really fabulous. We were thrilled with that. We also tried a lot of new things. We learned a lot from it, and we will be utilizing a lot of those things that we learned with future projects that we do, so that's always a good thing, too. You can take it with you.*

*"Rejuvenating our exhibits is the second of our big focus areas that we've been working on. I want to just run through a little bit with that. Kansas In Miniature, last year we restored the model, but we didn't stop there. That exhibition still needed a lot of work. This year we created a new entrance for it. We have seating in the back now, we have interpretive signs, and we are wrapping up a very large project to actually do all the behind the scenes work, the light boards, the computer controls, all of those things were 12 years old and out of date, and all of that was able to be done through donations that we received from this community. Tots' Spot was relocated for the Star Wars exhibit, and it is now located in one of our Discovery rooms. It's a nice cozy location for parents and grandparents who come with very young children.*

*"We opened up a few new exhibits this fall I want to tell you about. Nano Science came to us from the Minnesota Science Center and actually through a grant they had from the National Science Foundation, we are the only location in the State of Kansas that was fortunate enough to be able to receive this exhibit. We got it for free, and it's because we've been part of this Nano Science network for the last six years. We will now be traveling this exhibit to some other locations in the State of Kansas, which is wonderer. We opened up Big Mouth, and I'm not going to discuss the topic that was here earlier, just to say that the exhibit does stay neutral on this very contested topic."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Does it talk about bad breath?"*

*Ms. Luth said, "No, but it does talk about the source of bad breath. It's really a fun exhibit. We are very fortunate to have that, thanks to Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation. As many of you know, we are very optimistic that this is the first element of a new health gallery for us to have in the Grand Hall. We also opened Keva: Build Your Mind, this fall, and that was thanks to Dollinger Construction Company. And this is a fantastic exhibit. It is with planks and people can build and construct and it's creative, you can do it individually, you can do it as a family, as a team. So we're really working on lots of exciting programming ideas to go along with it that we're not quite willing to announce today, but we're really working on that.*

*"The last part of looking at some of these exhibits is to understand that we also have plans for the future, and all of those aren't here today to share with you, but I want to just let you know what we're working on. We do have new plans for Kids Can Connect, a new preschool exhibit. It's very important to touch early childhood with the youngest citizens if you're really hoping to make a difference with career choices when they go to college. You actually have to start with preschoolers. So we have great plans, and we are in the fundraising phase right now.*

*"And as many of you know, we have a wonderful plan for a new aviation exhibit. It was just finalized in September. It was a tremendous collaborative effort that was done with*

*NIAR (National Institute for Aviation Technology), NCAT (National Center for Aviation Technology), WSU (Wichita State University) engineering, the six big aviation companies here in town, as well as some of our staff and an exhibit designed from out of Ohio, and we are also in a quiet phase of fundraising for that right now as well.*

*"This past weekend, we converted our bridge between the two buildings into a new gallery called Bridging Art and Science. We will be featuring the work of Kansas artists in partnership with arts partners, and the art that will be shown in there either is of the subjective science or it's interesting technology to be able to create the art. So we had a great opening Friday night, about 150 people came and the two artists were there, and it's a wonderful course to be able to use that bridge in a new creative way.*

*"The third focus area for us is expanding educational programming, and the first area of that that I want to talk about are our revenue fee-based programs and how we're doing there. Outreach, outreach has been growing incredibly. Last year, it grew by 80 percent, and this year it grew an additional 36 percent. So it's an area that's really growing. We're out in the schools all the time. As you know, school field trips across the country, not just here in Wichita, are down, but museums can't just sit back because of that. You still have to touch the lives of these children, so you go into the classroom to touch the lives. And outreach has been growing and doing really well for us.*

*"Summer camps have also grown. The summer of 2011, we tripled in summer camps, and this past year we grew by an additional 27 percent. So it's another area that's really growing. This is our second year doing after school science clubs for the independent school, and we also did summer camps for them. Currently we have an advisory committee that's helping us to reach the home school audience. We have a big event planned in February for home school, and next fall we hope to be able to launch a lot more programming for home school. We're moving slowly and carefully working with our advisory committee on that.*

*"Another area of educational programming that is expanding is our service to at-risk students. Last year we served 12,000 at-risk students with all programs that are supported through grants, sponsorships and donations. I wanted to share just a few of those with you. Through an arrangement with the film distributor of Wildest Weather in the Solar System, we are going to be able to have 5,000 Title 1 school kids go through the Boeing Dome Theater and Planetarium and see this film for free this year. The downtown Kiwanis club meets at Exploration Place every week, and as part of their kindness to us, they gave us a gift to be able to bring 1,500 Head Start students through for what we call the Make Way Program. That enables them to have educational field trips to Exploration Place.*

*"Currently, we are doing after-school programming, thanks to Cargill. It's called Grow Your own Nutrition. We are going to 15 different latch key schools in the area, Title 1 schools, why we're doing this three-week program with them. But to me, the exciting piece of this is also the fact that many of the schools that we're working with are part of the West High theater system. And some of you may know that the United Way currently has an initiative called Promise Neighborhood to be able to work with the neighborhood and the schools that feed into West High. So we're very pleased that our program is actually aligning with that community initiative.*

*"We also in the last year or two have worked very hard to expand our educational programming for the visitors who come in, you know, just walk in the door, pay*

*admission and go through our galleries. They need to have expanded educational opportunities as well, and we've done several different things. I'll share them quickly. We have pocket programs where our presenters have little things in the pocket to be able to engage our visitors and teach them new things. We have more formal science cart programs, and we also have big shows in the Kemper Creative Learning Studio. Those have become so popular right now with our visitors that we actually have to offer a new show every single month because those have really taken off. And we have some great resources for all of these education programs that we are involved with, because we are part of several networks around the country, as I mentioned before, the Nano Science. We're also involved in a chemistry network program around the United States. So we're able to draw upon a lot of those materials for these programs.*

*"So, let's talk about partnerships, because that's pretty important, as well, and we are doing a tremendous number of things in the world of partnerships, which is our fourth focus area. So I just want to give you a few highlights of that. With the GPS exhibit, it was really incredible one day when I received a phone call from Senator Roberts office that they had heard about the GPS exhibit we were doing, and he wanted to hold a symposium at Exploration Place to be able to bring in industry folks from Kansas who are utilizing the GPS technology in their businesses and their work. That was pretty exciting. That was a pretty exciting thing and a really unusual way to be able to connect and reach with our exhibits. The 50 first, the wonderful Star Wars reenactors sanctioned by Lucasfilm, they were in our galleries every weekend, they kept our visitors totally excited, children were so excited. There were so many photographs taken with them, but they also did things in the community. For example, they worked with Go Wichita when they were training taxi drivers to help with tourism. They participated in the Wichita Ballet Run. Here you see them in the Riverfest parade, and they also participated with the Wichita Symphony Orchestra with their Riverfest performance. We shared the 501st with the community, and it was really nice. Everyone appreciated and enjoyed that.*

*"Butler Community College has been doing a lot of work with us here lately. Right now, they are involved with our Videotopia exhibit because they teach video gaming. They have displays right now showing student work, because this is really the merging of art and technology video gaming. Wichita State University, there are so many departments, so many professors helping us with many different projects, with research, with exhibits, with education programs. I would be afraid to mention them that I would leave somebody out. But there are just many departments from Public History to the Museum Studies to Entomology.*

*"I mentioned before about NCAT, NIAR and the aviation industry community partners, the six primary companies that are part of that helping us with all of our aviation programming and civic development that we're doing. This summer, we had a lot more employees to be able to handle the masses of folks that were coming through our doors with Star Wars. So one of the ways that we accomplished it was really working with the YMCA's (Young Men's Christian Association) job corps program they have, or job prep program, in the summers, and we also worked with the Wichita Children's Home with their teens that have aged out of the foster care program. So a lot of them came to us as volunteers and a few have moved into paid positions. You know, similar to some of the other things I mentioned, this is very near and dear to my heart, because what matters here is that as a museum, we are helping to align ourselves with some social service needs in the community as well. So these teens had a place to go. They were off the streets. They had really fantastic, positive role models with the rest of our staff at Exploration Place. They had a wonderful time, and it's really*

*marvelous that several of them now are some of our part-time employees.*

*"We also this past year began a Hispanic initiative. The Wichita Hispanic Chamber of Commerce helped us to be able to put together a task force, and we have been working really hard in the last year taking very serious guidance from this task force to be able to make some changes in how we do business at Exploration Place. This is a very large population in our area, and it's important that we help serve them with science education, and so we're really working very hard. In this image, you can see that our directional signage is now dual language. It's just one little touch for you to be able to see what we're trying to accomplish.*

*"So what's our future like? Optimism with some challenges, just like everything else in America right now. We have improved efficiencies tremendously in the last couple years, which is one of the ways that we can remain optimistic. We've overcome some challenges. We did things like had an insurance task force. We're reviewing every contract that we have to be able to try to save some dollars. We closed our cafe and opened up a snack bar, which was very bold, but very needed, in terms of being business smart with our dollars. And we've also been doing a lot of things with efficiencies, in terms of how we do business, our operation and how we work.*

*"We have a fabulous, dedicated staff, but I would be remiss if I didn't also point out that we are extremely lean. We're like off the charts in terms of the national data for science museums. We're so low with our full-time staff, but we are supported by fabulous volunteers, board members, members to Exploration Place, and tremendous community support, lots of folks are really moved by our energy and they're stepping forward to help us, so we're being augmented in that way.*

*"We are creating new exhibits. You see that we're creating new exhibits. We're working hard and moving in that direction. But also it's a very slow, expensive process. You know, it took about a year to get Big Mouth, and it's taken us a year just to get the plans for Design, Build, Fly. Now we'll raise the money, and then you do the detailed design and fabrication. So the exhibits are our primary product, and it's important that we create new ones after 12 years, but it is a slow, expensive process.*

*"We have the iconic building of this region, and we take that responsibility very seriously. We understand that we are the stewards of this very, very important piece of architecture, but it is also a very high maintenance building. It is 12 years old and things are now starting to happen to it. It's 12 years old, so we've got to, we have a great building committee that's been guiding us on the work that we've started to do, and there is lots more that we hope to do this year. So we do feel optimistic, and one of the reasons we feel optimistic is thanks to all of your support. With your support, we are able to think about more than just day to day and getting through. We're able to be able to think forward and be able to maximize this incredible asset that's here for our community. So thank you for being able to give you an update, and I'm happy to answer any questions."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just going to make a couple points and begin by, I understand you're going to be hosting an event next month, Jan, for adoption."*

*Ms. Luth said, "Yes."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "And as an adoptive parent, I was delighted to find out about that event and would include that, certainly I think, in terms of your list, in terms of partnerships."*

*Ms. Luth said, "Certainly."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I was just curious how the Videotopia event is going. My kids had a lot of fun when I went there to enjoy that recently, and often my kids get onto video games and they show me that they're much more adept at it than I am, but if you go back and some of the video games from the 1980's, the reverse can be true, too."*

*Ms. Luth said, "So you're beating them at the games?"*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, on a few."*

*Ms. Luth said, "The public is loving it. They are really enjoying it. They're staying in there for extended periods of time, which is the best sign of how an exhibit is doing. So, so far, we're getting fabulous feedback on Videotopia."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Skelton."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "I just wondered if there is any consideration for getting something like a yuck mouth to go with the Big Mouth, something that has cavities, gingivitis and really can belch out some horrible odor? Comments?"*

*Ms. Luth said, "Well, Commissioner, I'll show you Big Mouth, because it has some cavities in it. It has some gum problems."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Well, I think if you have the effect of bad breath, we could really impress it upon our children more, a really serious odor I'm talking about."*

*Ms. Luth said, "And I'm sure young boys would love that. Thank you for that great idea."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "I just wanted to make that suggestion."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Unruh."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Jan, it's good to see you here again and see your energy and enthusiasm. It's a big part of the success of Exploration Place, I think, and you have every right to be proud of a good year. I have a couple questions. You mentioned that on the Star Wars exhibit with the great numbers we had, it was a break-even event. Is that typically what the goal is on some of these big events, just to break even, or do they generate any excess revenue?"*

Ms. Luth said, "You know, I think in some of the larger metropolitan areas, they might generate a little excess, but generally speaking, most people are jubilant when you break even in these big propositions. There's lots of costs associated with these, and it's hard to recover it solely through the gate."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay. Well, another question kind of related to that, all the education programs that you provide out there. You had many slides, a lot of different things going on. Are any of those revenue generators, or are they part of the service?"

Ms. Luth said, "Yes. There are a fair number that are revenue generators. Like our birthday parties, school group field trips, outreach programs, summer camps, our science clubs, after school outreach. That isn't done through these grant supported things, all of those are revenue generating, and I don't have that data in front of me, but our educational revenue programming has been growing at a great rate over the last few years."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay. Thank you. Well, I just want to express, I think, on behalf of the whole Board, we really appreciate your leadership and your board and staff has done a great job of really bringing Exploration Place up to something we're truly proud of. So, thank you."

Ms. Luth said, "Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "Thanks for being here today, Jan. I sat on the board for several years now, and I can remember a conversation we had several years ago when we were three or four months away from padlocking Exploration Place because it just was upside down on exhibits and the money to refurbish and a lot of different things, and to know today that we're re-stimulating the life of Exploration Place, that people are passing through there, they're enjoying exhibits, and you're growing towards the next future is pretty exciting. So thank you for being here."

Ms. Luth said, "Thank you."

Chairman Norton said, "And I would entertain a motion to receive and file."

#### MOTION

Commissioner Skelton moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

#### VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Commissioner Ranzau	Aye
Commissioner Skelton	Aye
Chairman Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, "Next item."

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Skelton, seconded by Commissioner Peterjohn, that this Presentation(s) be Received and Filed. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

Q [12-0843](#) DONATION TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING RETIRED SENIORS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP).  
Presented by: Annette Graham, Executive Director, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept the donation, and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of appreciation.

*Ms. Annette Graham, Executive Director, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging, "The Wichita Sports Commission in appreciation for the work that the RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Program) volunteers did in support of the Prairie Fire Marathon has donated \$500 to the Sedgwick County Department on Aging RSVP program. The RSVP volunteers helped to prepare approximately 5,000 information packets that went into the backpacks that were given out at the recent marathon that was held on October 14th of this year. This donation was requested to be used to support the program and the recognition events that acknowledged the valuable work of the volunteers, and that was a request by this organization when they provided that \$500 donation. So I'm bringing it before you today to request that you accept the donation and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of appreciation for this."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioners, you've heard the recommendation. What's the will of the Board?"*

MOTION

*Commissioner Skelton moved to accept the donation and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of appreciation.*

*Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the motion.*

*Chairman Norton said, "We have a motion and a second. Madam Clerk, if there's no other discussion...Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just going to, Commissioner Skelton beat me to the punch, but since I'm celebrating this year my 25th anniversary of running in the Wichita Marathon, because of scheduling problems, I wasn't able to go down there and participate this year. Commissioner Skelton beat me to the punch, in terms of making a motion to accept the donation, and authorizing the Chairman to sign, but I am very much appreciative of this contribution and I'm glad the marathon was a success and they had a good turnout, and most importantly, for the runners, they had very nice weather to run a very good course."*

*Chairman Norton said, "We have a motion and a second. Call the vote."*

VOTE

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Annette, next item."*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Skelton, seconded by Commissioner Peterjohn, that this Donation(s) be Received and Filed. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

R      [12-0842](#)      PRESENTATION OF THE QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT.  
Presented by: Troy Bruun, Deputy CFO.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

VISUAL PRESENTATION

*Mr. Troy Bruun, Deputy CFO, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here to present to you the financial results of Sedgwick County for the first nine months in 2012, but before I begin, I want to thank the continued brilliant work of David Miller and the budget staff and Sarah Jantz in accounting. Both staffs are down personnel, and they continue to operate as if not. Thank you, David.*

*"This first slide was the financial plan projections you saw in February of 2011. Just coming off of 2010 where we used \$5 million of our fund balance, you were faced with a 2011 projection of using \$13.4 million, \$16.3 in 2012 and \$17.7 million of fund balance in 2013. It was after that meeting that you gave staff three goals, zero deficit by the end of 2013, we wanted smaller more focused government and less debt.*

*"I just want to remind those listening, some of the decisions you have made, in 2010, the list is long, I'm just going to highlight a few each year. In 2010, you adjusted the employee health plan. You eliminated \$2.1 million in operating costs. You provided a 2 percent pay increase for those employees making \$75,000 or less, and nothing for those making more. In 2011, you again made adjustments to the health plan. You offered a special voluntary retirement program. You reduced the capacity of adult residential from 120 to 65 beds. In 2012, you cut all public safety operations 3.3 percent, all other County Departments 6.6 percent, and no compensation increases for 2012.*

*"And for the 2013 budget, you implemented a credit card convenience fee. You reduced support for the [Sedgwick County] Zoo, Extension, Exploration Place and WATC (Wichita Area Technical College), and you also eliminated Public Works employees. A lot of difficult decisions you've made over the last couple of years. The results of those decisions, as you can see in line one, I have a column on the February 11th financial plan and then the most recent financial plan. We anticipated ending the year using \$13.4 million of our fund balance. We ended 2011 using \$7.3 [million]. We were on track to spend \$16.3 million of our fund balance in 2012. We are now projecting ending 2012, \$900,000 in the black, reaching zero deficit a year before your goal.*

*"In 2013, the anticipated \$17.7 million balance, still projecting in the black at the end of 2013 \$300,000. The last couple years, the decisions you have made have eliminated \$41.3 million in projected deficits. This slide shows you the quarterly total fund balance in the general fund. It's also a great depiction of the county's cash flow cycle. We collect more money than we spend in the first six months, and we spend more money than we receive in the last six months. We ended the third quarter, 2012, with \$95 million in the general fund balance equal to the balance at the end of the third quarter in 2008.*

*"The investment portfolio, at the end of September, we had \$237.5 million invested, up from \$219.6 [million] a year ago. And we were earning .57 percent, but higher than the benchmark of the one-year treasury, which was yielding .17 [percent]. This is the most difficult slide for me to prepare because I have numbers on it, and they don't add up.*

*I'm showing you some key revenues from Sedgwick County, not all of them. But the line at the very bottom titled all the revenues from all the property tax supported funds. But I wanted to show you that ad valorem taxes are up \$1.14 million over last year, an increase of slightly more than one percent.*

*"The collection of back taxes is up almost 30 percent, a half million dollars. Sales and use tax, up 4.4 percent, which is a good sign for our local economy. And mortgage registration fees up nearly 40 percent. Now, we had one mortgage registration fee that was \$1 million, so if I take that out of the computation, mortgage registration fees are up about 15 percent. And gaming, a new revenue for Sedgwick County, 2012, at the end of the third quarter we had received \$1.3 million.*

*"Prisoner housing fees have dipped about \$400,000, which is probably a good thing. The intent with the prisoner housing fees was not to collect money from other cities in the county, but to have them only put people in jail who should be in jail. So the fact that that's going down I think is working. Motor vehicle tax is essentially flat. Investment income continues to fall, down 25 percent, and the penalty and interest on back taxes is down about \$1 million. Total revenue for Sedgwick County and the property tax supported funds is up \$600,000 or .3 percent.*

*"Switching to expenditures, the salaries and wages are down \$7.37 million. Part of the reason for that is in 2011 we had one additional pay period in the first three quarters than we did this year. But I went back and took a snapshot of County employees employed September 30, 2010 compared to September 30, 2012, and we are down 229 full-time equivalents, so that is playing a part in that number, too.*

*"The health, life and dental premium, up slightly, about \$200,000. Our pension contribution rate, which should flow exactly with our salaries and wages, is only down 1.6 percent. State of Kansas is increasing the contribution the County is required to make to KPERs (Kansas Public Employees Retirement System) and KP&F (Kansas Police & Firemen's Retirement System). Contractual services are down, commodities are nearly flat. Debt service up \$1 million, but nearly \$800,000 of that is a principle payment, and we currently have \$6 million less in debt outstanding than we did a year ago.*

*"Transfers out, down a little over \$1 million. All of that is related to the amount of money we're transferring out of the general fund to do cash fund to capital projects. Last year at this time we transferred \$2.9 million, and this year it's slightly less than \$800,000. Again, this graph just shows revenue up .3 percent through three quarters in the property tax supported funds and expenditures down 5.3 percent.*

*"Some significant capital projects, the outdoor warning system, \$1.2 million project, is complete. The Sheriff's squad room is essentially complete. It will be completed at the end of November. The repair of the lower spillway at Lake Afton, a \$3 million project, completed with \$2.1 million. The highway preventive maintenance plan is essentially complete. We spent \$9.2 million. And 71st Street South from 135th Street West to K[ansas Highway]-42, a \$4.1 million project completed with \$3 million.*

*"Some key points from the presentation, our financial difficulty is a revenue problem. We've eliminated \$41.3 million in projected deficits. No deficit projected for this year or next. Sedgwick County is smaller, is more focused. There's more work to do because the deficits return again beginning in 2014. In the items of concern which we still have, the state budget, how that may impact us and the way we operate, any new state*

*legislation, how that may impact us, and the health of our local economy. I'd be happy to answer any questions. If not, I ask that you receive and file."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Skelton."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "I just wanted to make a comment that I attended a candidate forum last night in Derby, and it was highly disappointing to me to hear some of the comments made by some of the candidates about local government in the practice of where they would characterize us as spend, spend, spend. And other statements such as that we need to live within our means, and you know, they have all the answers. You know what? I think that is a perpetuation of ignorance because this county has cut \$16 million in the last two years. We're going to have a balanced budget here before the time that the Commission had directed staff to, and that's an indication of our hard work, our values here to keep our budget balanced and to live within our means of spending.*

*"I think some of the candidates need to take time to spend and worry about issues that are germane to their government, like the disaster of the [Department of] Motor Vehicle system and how to help us recover delinquent taxes. Those are two issues that nobody addressed that directly affect the citizens here in our county. So I want everybody to know that this government, this County Commission is having our balanced budget. We've lived within our means, and I think it would be very wise for some of those state candidates who clearly missed the boat to come down here and learn something. So those are my comments."*

*Mr. Brunn said, "If I may add something. This Commission lowered tax in 2009, [20]10, and [20]11. At the same time other jurisdictions were raising taxes to meet the financial crunch."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "You know what? Another thing here. We're a small Board. We're five people. I don't have the opportunity to go hide out in a gang of other people and come out and perpetuate misinformation like this, so I find it pretty disgusting out there, some of the misinformation out there and lack of understanding and the ignorance. I think it's about time for the people who don't know what they're talking about to get with the program and speak the truth. Those are my comments, Mr. Chairman."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me just ask a couple questions. We've been in process of restructuring how we operate the Judge Riddel Boys Ranch to try and generate savings from there. Are any of the changes that we've put in place at the Judge Riddel's [Boys Ranch] recently showing up in any of these numbers, Troy."*

*Mr. Brunn said, "The changes you made for the 2013 budget are..."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, for the 2012, because my understanding is we started them initially, now I'm sure they'll show up for next year, but I was curious, would any of that be included in this report or should we basically look at that on the expenditure end if we really get into the numbers, expect to see that in the fourth quarter?"*

*Mr. Brunn said, "The changes that we have made are already factored in the financial plan, so the current year end estimate, they've been factored into that."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Okay."*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioner, I don't believe that the 12-hour shifts were instituted in the middle of September sometime, so whatever savings, if there was any savings, would be marginal in this report."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Okay. Well, that's basically what I was looking for. Let me ask, because we had a, there was some news coverage about the successful option the county had for asset sales. Obviously this was so recent, I don't think it would show up, because this report is through September 30th, and this just occurred just Monday. If we had any asset sales, would that have been included through that end of the third quarter of September 30th? How far back would you have to go to be able to include in the asset sales, in terms of these numbers and when will they show up in the projections going forward?"*

*Mr. Brunn said, "They are not in these numbers. These numbers are through September 30th. So any sales after September 30th would not be included. They're also not included in the projections, because David was done with his financial plan prior to the sale of the assets."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "So that will show up, we had the initial proposal on the tower sale at \$280,000, and then of course, we had the auction at \$610[000] with the county netting about \$553,000. So neither one of those figures would have been included in anything, because you're only working off that February 2012 financial plan, in terms of your projections; is that the way it works?"*

*Mr. Brunn said, "The most recent projections were the October financial plan. I don't believe either number was in that. David?"*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Okay. Thank you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Unruh."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, Troy, I just wanted to make sure that the comment that you offered was not lost in the conversation, because this Commission has produced budgets in [200]9, [20]10, and [20]11 that resulted in mill levy reductions. We've had a lot of conversations lately about, which essentially we're capping mill levies and capping budgets and that sort of thing. The fact that we've eliminated nearly 237 employees, I think, 229 employees, as your report states, and we've had budgets that reduced the mill levy, I think that most of our citizens who want to think about this will see clearly that we're trying to be good stewards of the resources in Sedgwick County and carry out our responsibilities effectively at the same time. That's not done just by five Commissioners, you know, making decisions here at the bench. It's done because we've got great employees at Sedgwick County who help us achieve those goals. This is a good report, and I just want to let the people know we're trying to do a good job, and our employees are all working hard to help us achieve that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."*

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to segue a little bit off Commissioner Unruh's comments, because I thought about perhaps saving them for later, but it might be appropriate at this point, in terms of the context of the environment we're here.

"Yesterday the Kansas Policy Institute released numbers, and they were provided in electronic form to all the Commissioners from a survey that they conducted between October 23rd and October 25th. And they asked a number of questions, and one of the questions they asked, are property taxes too high, too low or about right? And this was asked statewide, and the statewide figure showed that 69 percent of Kansans statewide thought that they were too high. Only 3 percent said too low, and 22 percent said about right.

"Now when they broke it down by region, Wichita region, the too high percentage actually increased to 72 percent. The too low, interestingly enough, also increased a little bit. It increased from 3 percent to 5 percent. The just about right percentage dropped to 19 percent, and I share these numbers because as we look at the financial plan and where we are going forward, the idea that the challenge that we have, in terms of taxes and whether we're at the state level where we have a statewide mill levy of 21.5 mills or if we're talking about other local units, and of course, we're a little bit over 29 mills, it's a continuing challenge for all five of us here on the County Commission as well as for any other elected officials who were involved in either receiving citizens property taxes for the expenditures or involved in making those expenditures.

"I wanted to provide that for our discussion this morning, because these quarterly financial reports are important documents, and I very much appreciate the work of our Finance department in producing these documents as well as the monthly updates that we receive electronically. We received this report yesterday. I don't know if the information from this report is online yet. I guess I'll pose that as a question to you, Troy. But, it is a very helpful document, if you want to understand where the county is financially."

Mr. Brunn said, "As soon as you receive and file it, we'll have it online."

#### MOTION

Commissioner Peterjohn moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Skelton seconded the motion.

Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Troy, for being here today. It is interesting, our colleagues have talked about it we have lowered the mill levy three years. This year it was a little more problematic because we did have the appraised values flattened out considerably. But we still eliminated \$8.5 million out of the budget to start working on the deficit reduction. It's good to hear that we're a year ahead of that challenge that we gave our staff to get to an even balanced budget. And it looks like we're there ahead of time, and that's good for the taxpayers and that's good for the County Commission, because it makes sure that we can look forward and try to ensure that we provide the needed services we do but we don't overstate how we're spending money.

"We do have a healthy reserve fund. We could have dipped into that a little more this year and maybe not had to cut as much, but I think we took a profound look at what the out years were going to be and just said we can't do that and use good prudence

*with the taxpayers' money. Deficit reduction is important in today's environment, and I think we've worked real hard over the last few years, painfully so, to make sure, because we know we've affected some people's lives that have worked for us for years. Obviously some people took some early retirements, but other people lost their jobs, and that's never good, but part of what we have to do.*

*"I guess my final statement when we talk about property taxes and the burden of property taxes and how we have tried to reduce the mill levy, I'm still concerned that there is a LAVTR, which is local ad valorem tax reduction statute on the books at the state level where sales tax goes up from the local jurisdictions and should come back in property tax relief. And several, several years ago, that was eliminated. It was not funded. It's still on the books at the state level, but that's had a profound impact on being able to lower the property tax burden at the local level, because that sales tax money has not come back to us. I don't know the exact figure, Troy. Do you have an idea of what that might be now?"*

*Mr. Brunn said, "I don't have the exact figure either. David."*

*Mr. David Miller, Budget Director, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You brought that up yesterday in staff meeting, and unfortunately, I went back to my office and failed to look it up. But if my recollection is correct, I believe that it was about \$7 million back in 2001, 2002 when the state cut that."*

*Chairman Norton said, "So today that's probably grown to a much more significant number?"*

*Mr. Miller said, "I would agree with that, yes, sir."*

*Chairman Norton said, "And my colleagues have got their lights on, so I'll call on them, but I think it's important to understand that that would help out the local jurisdictions to balance their budget and maybe reduce the mill levy and property tax burden at the local level even more, because we're paying it on the front end in sales tax, and it should be redistributed to us. There is an impact on small cities, municipalities, the City of Wichita, because it's property tax relief, not only for counties, but also for municipalities, as I understand. Is that correct?"*

*Mr. Miller said, "Yes."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Okay. I'll yield to my colleagues now that I've said that. Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I thought Commissioner Skelton's light was on first. That's okay. I'll proceed, because just for the record, I followed the LAVTR for many, many years, long before I became a Commissioner, even thought about becoming a Commissioner, and my understanding was that that program for the level here was eliminated, I think, about five or six years ago. Am I correct in that, David? Troy? Can either of you help me as to when the state stopped funding that?"*

*Mr. Miller said, "It was right after 9/11 and the state was going through that economic crisis at that time, and they cut out LAVTR. They cut out a variety of different funds that used to flow to local governments."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "So it's a little longer, about 2002 then, 2003, in that*

time frame?"

Mr. Miller said, "My recollection is it was in [20]01 and [20]02."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, we've faced a number of challenges. States changed, in terms of how personal property has been handled, but I think the point would be clear, while this Commission has reduced the mill levy in the last three years, the mill levy today, if my recollection is right, is a good deal higher than it's been, say, a decade ago or even longer, and plus the probably much more important factor, in terms of the level of property taxes being paid is how the assessed value has changed, whether it is real growth, which hopefully it has been. But I know one of the challenges out there, you have an increase just in people's appraised value on their property, on their existing property. They haven't made any changes in it, but the belief is that the market conditions have changed and the valuation has changed. Maybe it's there. Maybe it isn't. You'll never really know for sure until the property gets sold. And that's one of the challenges, in terms of, I think, appraisal as more of an art than exact science. But they have to do that, but the appraised value increases has been a significant generator for increased property tax revenues in the last decade, I believe, as well as obviously changes in the mill levy. Am I correct in that belief?"

Mr. Brunn said, "Yes, sir."

Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Skelton."

Commissioner Skelton said, "On the LAVTR, is it true that the state still owes us money?"

Mr. Brunn said, "It's still on the books."

Commissioner Skelton said, "Pardon me? Hello? Can staff answer my question? Does the state still owe us money under LAVTR?"

Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioner, the legislation that authorizes the LAVTR is still in effect. The legislature has chosen to ignore that provision."

Commissioner Skelton said, "Well, then I think that if I've got a piece of paper that says I owe somebody something and it's in effect, then I still owe them something. So I can add that to my list of complaints about the legislature I made a minute ago. They failed to address that fact. Okay and that's called team work and working together when everybody does what they're supposed to do, and that's not happening. And that's frustrating to me."

Chairman Norton said, "Well, at this point, we do have a motion to receive...Commissioner Peterjohn."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Just a quick question. My recollection is, and please, Mr. Manager, or maybe the County Counselor, maybe more of a question for him, I thought we had a provision in our legislative statement addressing LAVTR, and we've had it there a number of years. I think it's still there, although obviously we'll have to adopt a new one for next year. The current adopted position for 2012 does address the LAVTR, doesn't it?"

*Mr. Buchanan said, "Yes."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "We have a motion to receive and file. I'll call the question."*

VOTE

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "Thank you, Troy."*

*Mr. Brunn said, "Thank you, Commissioners."*

*Chairman Norton said, "We appreciate it. Next item."*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Skelton, seconded by Commissioner Ranzau, that this Receive and File be Received and Filed. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

S [12-0063](#)

PROGRAMS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.

Presented by: William P. Buchanan, County Manager.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

VISUAL PRESENTATION

*Mr. Buchanan said, "This is our monthly review of the Criminal Justice System to talk about existing programs. You can see that September of 2012 compared to September 2011, follows in a similar pattern. The booking numbers are down. The detention facilities are up just by a couple. Work Release is down, and out of county is down, and that would cause the Detention facility to be up.*

*"The total for the month, comparing month to month, you can see that our numbers in our system are down. Here is a view again of who is being held in municipal inmates. These are inmates that are there on municipal charges only, and so you can see those numbers. The bookings and releases, again, the pattern of bookings is down, and therefore, the releases would be down from the previous month, and that's what we expect to see, and that's what we do see. The average length of stay continues to be an issue that we continue to work on and look at.*

*"The booking numbers are up a little bit between this month and this time last year. The year-to-date bookings are down slightly from previous good work. Housing days are down comparing one month, September [20]12 to September [20]11. And then you can see the combined days at the bottom of the page are down. The trends, this is a trend we continue to watch. Now that we're getting closer to the year, we're getting more excited about what's happening in the total system. You can see what it was for the year 2011, it was 502. So far this year, with three months to go, 1,466.*

*"My favorite chart is this one which we examine on a monthly basis, and you can see that the trend line continues to jump around a little bit, but it continues to go down. And as Commissioner Peterjohn is about to tell us, that today's number is only 1,397. So we're less than 1,400 today. You'll see that the snapshot of programs, county funded programs, that continues to work to keep people out of the system. Pretrial services is down a little bit. The corrections intensive supervision, Adult Intensive Supervision program is down.*

*"But again, remember bookings have been down, and so that would be reflective here. Diversion in the District Attorney is up, but SCOAP (Sedgwick County Offender Assessment Program) is about the same and drug court is about the same.*

*"The other funded programs around the community, mostly Wichita, [Wichita] Mental Health Courts, and those numbers, drug court diversion is down a bit. Drug court probation is down. Probation numbers from the city are down. DUI diversion is down. And then 18th Judicial District probation is up.*

*"We have the snapshot of BICE (Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement) holds, 2.3 [percent] of the population was on hold. We know they have other charges. The other initiatives, we have a data work group. We're still continuing to work on that. We're going to produce with WSU a new instrument that will help with pretrial services. Using this instrument, we can judge the risk factor, and we will put the person in the right program at the right time. Some of the people that get booked before pretrial, before their trial, can be released, and there is proven assessments that can be used,*

*and we're going to try to make sure that we get this right and make sure that we get people out of the jail that are a very low risk.*

*"Systems Planning Committee continues to work on what legislations might be, pieces of legislation that would be helpful to us. And there's no update on the mental health subcommittee. So that's the end of the report. I'd be happy to answer any questions, and I would recommend you receive and file."*

*Chairman Norton said, "I would entertain a motion to receive and file."*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Skelton moved to receive and file.*

*Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.*

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

**VOTE**

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

*Chairman Norton said, "Thanks, Bill."*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "Thank you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Next item."*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Skelton, seconded by Commissioner Ranzau, that this Presentation(s) be Received and Filed. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

T [12-0854](#) AN AGREEMENT WITH CERTIFIED ENGINEERING DESIGN, P.A., FOR SEDGWICK COUNTY PROJECT 803-BB; ROAD PROJECT ON 135TH STREET WEST FROM 95TH STREET SOUTH TO 103RD STREET SOUTH (CLEARWATER). CIP# R-299. DISTRICT 2. Presented by: David C. Spears, P.E., Director of Public Works/County Engineer.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.

*Mr. David C. Spears, Director of Public, greeted the Commissioners and said, "In Item T we are asking your approval of an agreement with Certified Engineering Design for design of road project R-299. In 2005 the Board of County Commissioners approved this project for the improvement of 135th Street West from 95th Street South to 103rd Street South. Most of this portion 135th Street is inside of Clearwater and is designated as a County connecting link that is maintained by the County.*

*"In order to take advantage of economies of scale, this project will be bid with R-259a, which we are designing in-house and will improve 135th Street West from 71st Street South to 95th Street South. We anticipate bidding the two projects in late 2014. Certified Engineering Design serves as a city engineer for the City of Clearwater and has been selected for the project because they have extensive knowledge of Clearwater's utility drainage and road systems. They have good working relationships with city officials and they have provided reasonable pricing. The cost of this work will not exceed \$91,809 and will be funded with sales tax. We recommend your approval of the agreement."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Skelton."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "David, I don't think this is a project, but you sent us an e[lectronic]-mail saying our design of a project came in about \$60,000 less than anticipated?"*

*Mr. Spears said, "We had \$150,000 for the design of this. It came in at 91..."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "So this is the one we're talking about right here?"*

*Mr. Spears said, "Yes, sir."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "So what happens to that money that's saved? What are we going to do with it?"*

*Mr. Spears said, "Well, with sales tax, we have what's called a sales tax carryover, and it goes into a fund that we then incorporate into the next CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) process."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "So we don't just throw it into some slush fund and piddle it out however we want to."*

*Mr. Spears said, "No. We try to plan."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "I appreciate, I think that's a good answer. I think that's*

*the appropriate thing to do, to carry it forward to use for future CIP projects. That would be the proper practice in my opinion. Thank you."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've got several questions for you on this one, Dave, because when I, this area used to be in my district, and I know how important 135th Street is to the folks who live down in Clearwater, and they've got a number of concerns, not so much with this section of the road, but 135th Street further north, and we've had work being done to try and understand some of the problems with 135th Street further north, and I believe that's part of, the areas that are problematic that are part of that are [R-]259a that would be combined with this plan later on. Am I correct in that regard?"*

*Mr. Spears said, "That's correct. We're having a study done right now on the sinkhole problem."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I'm just kind of curious why we're doing this so early since this isn't scheduled for late 2014, you said?"*

*Mr. Spears said, "Right."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "And we've got the sinkhole problem that's being studied, and I'd like to, that's going to be, I think, a bit of a challenge, and maybe quite a bit of a challenge depending on what they discover, and I was frankly looking forward to getting an understanding of that, because if we get increased usage for county roads, particularly in light of any items that I'm going to bring up, Mr. Chairman, later, was increased oil exploration and using heavy equipment on roads within Sedgwick County, including our county road structure. When are we going to get a report on the update on 135th Street on that sinkhole concern that is there?"*

*Mr. Spears said, "First, let me address the timing issue, and generally, and I think I've told all of you this in the past, it takes about three years to do a project. You have to design, and this design is due back on August the 2, 2013. So it takes almost a year to get a design. Then, if you have to move utility, you have to buy right-of-way possibly to move any utilities that might be in the way of any drainage. That could take another year, and then the following year, 2014, that that's when you could be constructing the project. Most projects like this, it's a three year time frame. We're not really starting early here. This is the schedule."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "But if we end up trying to combine this with R-259 and that takes three years, and we don't know where we stand with the sinkhole problem, I mean, I don't want to mess around with a road project and discover we're going to have to go back and redo it. We need to get the horses in front of the cart and not the other way around."*

*Mr. Spears said, "We have a report from Terracon about the sinkhole problem. We're going on to the next phase of that where they're going to drill two more holes out in the roadway where our two potential problems of this whole stretch of the sinkhole. You know, I don't want to say that we're optimistic that we're going to be okay here, because we don't know, but the first report is favorable except for two spots, and then we're going to look at that. There will be a way to design around that or over that in some method. So we think it's important to go ahead and get started here."*

*"This piece, especially, is not where the sinkholes are, so it can be done, and then our staff, that part up there is not a complicated design because we're not really adding lanes, no turn lanes, no drains. It's a rural section and will stay a two-lane rural. Our piece is not as complicated as this piece today that goes down through the city where they're going to do some drainage improvements, which by the way, Clearwater is going to pay for those drainage improvements. We are only going to pay for the roadway through there."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Okay. That's good to hear, and I appreciate the clarification, in terms of the drainage side of the equation, and I want to commend the city officials and Clearwater for being willing to work with us together on this project. But maybe let me ask you this question then, because of this situation, shouldn't this be a separate item as opposed to combining it with R-259 since we have so much uncertainty because we don't really know what Terracon is really going to discover with that?"*

*Mr. Spears said, "Well, we're being optimistic. This problem has been there for years and years and years, and it's simply been covered up, covered up with asphalt. And what we're saying is, we get a better economy of scale if we add our piece to this piece, we get a better bid per unit price for ton of asphalt rather than do that small project there. We're being optimistic. We have not started our design yet. We're going to get the final report from Terracon and then we're going to proceed."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Let me say, speaking hypothetically here, in terms of worst case, if they come back and say because of the sinkhole situation we have some significant engineering challenges, couldn't that force the whole project time frame back because we might have to make some extra effort to resolve that sinkhole problem first?"*

*Mr. Spears said, "That's a possibility, but we don't anticipate that or you could do this piece and not our piece, or we could close down the road and go around. There's a lot of options out there. We don't really think that's going to happen, but this is why we're doing the study with some experts that know more about that than we do."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I have no problem with this project going forward at this point, but I don't want the folks in Clearwater to get unrealistic expectation of changes occurring, because until we can get more information on the sinkhole side of the equation, their concerns about 135th Street aren't going to be fully addressed, although they may get a much nicer road within the city limits which Clearwater once this project gets done and completed, but if it's tied to the portion that has the sinkhole side of it, that's not on the near term horizon."*

*Mr. Spears said, "Just let me say this to the citizens of the county and especially Clearwater, we certainly won't design anything there that is going to be unsafe."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I think that's a priority for this Commission to have a safe project and to proceed once we have the full information, in terms of any design or engineering challenges in front of us. But this piece that we're talking about today, that's why when you said it's combined with the other one, I had a lot of concerns and*

questions, and I appreciate having a public discussion on this and hope that that will be helpful for the folks who use that road regularly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.”

Chairman Norton said, “Do we have a motion? No. Okay. At this point, I would entertain a motion on Item T.”

MOTION

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

Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Commissioner Ranzau	Aye
Commissioner Skelton	Aye
Chairman Norton	Aye

Chairman Norton said, “Thank you, Dave.”

Mr. Spears said, “Thank you.”

Chairman Norton said, “Next item.”

**A motion was made by Commissioner Unruh, seconded by Commissioner Ranzau, that this Agreement be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Commissioner Peterjohn, Commissioner Ranzau, Chairman Skelton, Chairman Norton and Vice Chair Unruh

**Present:** 0

**CONSENT**

- U**     [12-0743](#)     Acceptance of a grant award in the amount of \$24,321, and approval of the agreement with Episcopal Social Services, for the Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) Title V Grant.
  
- V**     [12-0797](#)     Agreement to Provide Clinical Supervision to an Employee to Achieve Licensure as a Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker (LSCSW).
  
- W**     [12-0836](#)     Resolution Rescinding Resolution 47-2002 and Authorizing the Division of Human Services Department Directors and the Division of Public Safety Director to Enter into Certain Contracts and Agreements.

- X      [12-0844](#)      457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan Committee recommendation to close and transition the Perimeter Small Cap Growth Investment Fund (PSCGX) to the Wasatch Small Cap Growth Fund (WAAEX).
  
- Y      [12-0851](#)      Amend the Capital Improvement Program to add Remodel Third floor Lobby, Main Courthouse.
  
- Z      [12-0862](#)      Waiver of policy to hire an ERP Analyst above midpoint of B429.
  
- AA     [11-1271](#)      Payroll Check Register.
  
- AB     [11-1320](#)      General Bill Check Register.

*Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioners, you have the Consent Agenda before you, and I would recommend you approve it."*

*MOTION*

*Commissioner Skelton moved to approve the Consent Agenda.*

*Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.*

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

*VOTE*

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Ranzau</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Skelton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>

OTHER

*Chairman Norton said, "And we are now at the point for other. I don't think we have an Executive Session or a Fire District [No. 1 Meeting] today. So, Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Manager stole a little thunder with my weekly report on the jail numbers. He is correct, our population this morning is under 1,400, and that is a significant reduction and well below the average that we've had during the last five years. If you break down the numbers, you had 1,032 in the main jail facility, 136 in Work Release, and out of County was 228. What's interesting is I did a quick calculation here from the Manager's report on the population, and there were 180 people who are either having BICE holds and/or convicted felons, and I'm assuming those don't overlap.*

*"So I added them together, 180 of the 228, or 79 percent, of our out of county population could be eliminated if we took the convicted felons and put them in the Sedgwick County, I'm sorry, were taken out of the Sedgwick County Jail and placed in the custody of the Department of Corrections. Or if the federal government was able to control the borders and keep illegal immigrants who commit crimes, keep them out of the United States. The Sheriff has broken down these groups by security classifications, and of the security classifications, maximum security classification there were 439; medium security was 512; protective custody was 35; special housing unit was 56; and the minimum security was 312.*

*"On a different subject, I want to just report to the Commission and to the public, I attended this week, I believe, the last of the public meetings ongoing on the comprehensive plan that the Metropolitan Area Planning Department had put on. This was out at the [Langston] Hughes Center. I also attended a meeting last week. There is going to be more energy exploration here in Sedgwick County. Think that's ultimately a good sign. I'm very hopeful that we will find more energy resources, particularly American energy resources and can help get some of our energy crisis down and take them down on that side of the equation.*

*"I also want to comment my colleagues in a sense, because recently we decided to go ahead and try a new approach for excess county assets, and when we had the auction beginning of this week, I thought we would be able to get some additional money from the excess piece of property about the tower and five acres, and my colleagues were kind enough to go along with my desire to have a public auction, and I think the success of that auction, I appreciate the support of all my colleagues in that effort.*

*"The last item I'd like to bring up this morning was an item I brought up at the staff meeting yesterday. It was an off-agenda item because of some of the comments Governor Brownback had made last week and some legislative leaders and State Senator Susan Weigel and State Representative Steve Brunk concerning the problem with property taxes. Earlier in this meeting I alluded to that. With the new polling information that's come out from the Kansas Policy Institute, I believe they've placed that up on the website, so I think that's available to the public at this point in time. If it isn't at the moment, I expect it will be very shortly, but the point that I brought up at our staff meeting yesterday was that because of Governor Brownback's recommendations about the property tax challenges we face, I wanted to put together a recommendation that we place as part of our agenda going forward, since one of the*

*reasons we won't be meeting in November is it conflicts with the Kansas Association of County's (KAC) meeting, and my understanding is to bring up items on the Kansas Association of Counties agenda, the way to do it is to have a, each county has the opportunity to bring items up, and I provided all my colleagues with a draft copy of that language that I put together yesterday.*

*"I'd be happy to read it for the record this morning and also provide a copy to the Clerk. The statement I had, 'Kansas property taxes are too high. Our property taxes are an impediment to economic growth that destroys jobs in our state. A few years ago, Governor Sebelius and her legislative supporters proposed raising Kansas property taxes as well as income and sales taxes. Fortunately these tax hike recommendations were not enacted. Sedgwick County Commission strongly supports improving the tax climate in Kansas and commends our elected state officials who are working for real property tax. Kansas needs tax reform that will limit property tax growth and improve the state's overall tax climate.'*

*"I provide this recommendation because I fought very hard on the property tax issue in all the years that I was an advocate for taxpayers in Topeka. I think taxes overall in this state are too high. Obviously we've had discussions about whether the voters should have a say on property tax increases as part of our legislative agenda, but I tried to put together a general statement here that would show we are proposing, we want to commend efforts to improve our tax climate and make us more competitive with the other states. We have three neighboring states, Colorado, Missouri and Oklahoma, where local units cannot raise taxes unless they get voter approval, and some of those states and in some cases, actually they require a super majority, not just 50 percent plus one, but they require a super majority, I believe as high as at least in one case as much as three-fifths majority before property taxes can be raised.*

*"So I bring this up this morning to my colleagues because with the meeting coming forward with the Kansas Association of Counties, I think it would be important to bring this up at that time in the meeting, and I'm willing to work, in terms of if there's problems with my proposed language here. I'm certain willing to see it modified or changed, but I wanted to throw it out as a recommendation to us this morning. Thank you.*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Skelton."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "You know, property tax or tax reform in general nationwide, at the federal level, local level, surely could use reform. Reform is a broad based word. You know, some of that reform would be, in my opinion, including, you know, working with the state to get the money that they owe us that's part of a tax equation. Okay? And also I'd like to see how do we collect on delinquent taxes, also, in this proposed legislation. Those are all tax-related issues that could all be incorporated into tax reform. Manager, what's been going on with our income tax receipts in the last few years? Or our, excuse me, what has been going on with our tax receipts in the last few years?"*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "Commissioner Peterjohn's proposal deals with real estate."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Correct."*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "If I recall correctly, and I'll get these numbers for you. If I recall correctly, the growth in assessed valuation has been less than around one percent for*

*three or four years. This last year was a negative, was a decrease. So that would indicate that the tax collections that we've received have been relatively flat. The other thing I know, and I'll get these numbers to you, is that the taxes that we have control over, Sedgwick County; we are one of the lowest county, one of the lowest mill levies in the state. I don't know that we're the lowest, but we're certainly one of the lowest in comparison with what's going on."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "So what's the dollar figures? Or what are the approximate dollar figures? Are they going down?"*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "I'll get that information."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "The quandary is we want to have fair taxes. Of course, so you know, when property goes up, taxes go up, and when property goes down, taxes go down. So if we have a control mechanism for property tax, how do we deal with fluctuation in market values?*

*"The example would be, I've got a house that was worth \$100,000, and nowadays it's only worth about \$85,000. My property tax bill goes down. Okay. And we've had this addressed by our Treasurer. So that is the quandary I see in that, but I think I'm willing to talk to you about it some more. I want to see some additional tools put in for us to collect delinquent taxes, and I want the state to either get rid of this legislation or pay us what they owe us, because if they pay us what they owe us, we would be able or possibly be able to lower taxes on a mill levy."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate Commissioner Skelton's comments. I know we had some of it earlier. Since I read this statement, I'm going to make a motion that we take this up as an off agenda item and that we add this statement that I read into the record just a minute ago into our list like we did last week when we added a couple items as part of our legislative agenda. I'll see if I get a second for it or not. If we do, great, we can proceed. If not, I drafted this language up, and I appreciate my colleagues comments, whether they agree or disagree with it. Thank you."*

*Commissioner Ranzau said, "Second."*

*Chairman Norton said, "I have a motion and a second. Commissioner Skelton."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Well, you know, I can't support it at this time, because I'd like to see it taken in a different form. I think you're right on track here with what you're saying in general, but I want it fleshed out a little bit more. I mean, we can even do this at a staff meeting, and I'm willing to work with you, but is that the language exactly as it is that goes into our legislative agenda? I would say I'd like to work with you a little bit more on it before I can support it."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Unruh."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. You know, we will be having a Board of County Commissioners meeting on November 9th, which precedes the KAC, and perhaps it would be better to just defer this until that meeting so you can work with Commissioner Skelton with language that is agreeable. If it's going to be a platform issue, we ought to have at much buy-in as we can have it, and we can talk about it on*

*the ninth. That's before KAC. So I would suggest that. If there seems to be some agreement on that, well, then, we could either withdraw the motion or, but I'd rather do that so I would be voting no on the motion at this time, I'd rather talk about it on the ninth."*

*Chairman Norton said, "I'm certainly willing to talk about it, but I'm still a little, there's a little nebulous on me on what the draft is. I mean, it's just a draft legislation piece. It's not the legislation piece, and to try to preempt that. The other thing that we talked about yesterday, and I think Commissioner Skelton brought it up, is that the first paragraph is really more historical as opposed to a plank in our platform, and I think we really need to narrow down the language of whatever we agree on to deal just with property tax and what we think needs to be our legislative platform that we can communicate to the KAC. And to have additional language that is just historical, I don't think makes any sense. I think it makes sense to have a little more conversation about this. Be sure we come to the right latitudes on this.*

*"So I'm not going to be supportive of this particular motion, but I would be supportive of us having conversation, talking about it on November 9th and advancing whatever we agree on at that time. But to take it as an off agenda item today I think is preemptory. But we do have a motion on the floor. Commissioner Peterjohn."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate everyone's comments and I appreciate the thought, and we do have that option, in terms of November 9th. I was interested, because everybody had this language yesterday when I presented it at the county staff meeting, in terms of the Commissioners, so I was interested, in terms of my colleagues' comments either privately or this morning publicly, and I appreciate the thoughts and suggestions in that regard. I mean, going forward, I think it's important when we put together our agenda we clearly address the issues that I think are a significant concern for most of our constituents, because that's ultimately who we represent. And I think it's important that we provide some feedback for our state officials, because Commissioner Skelton made the point earlier on that he thought there was some comments that he heard at a meeting in Derby?"*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Yes, sir."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "In Derby recently where some folks, and perhaps they were candidates for the legislature, didn't fully understand where things were, in terms of local government and local property taxes, and the thing I would throw out is that there's an awful lot of property tax jurisdictions receiving tax funds, and so to generalize over all, there could be some doing well and some that are not. I believe the Manager is absolutely correct when he said that Sedgwick County has one of the lower mill levies for any of the counties in the State of Kansas, and I believe he's also correct that we are not the lowest, but I believe we are in the bottom 10 for sure and maybe even in the bottom 5 in terms of having the lowest county wide mill levy. But having said that, there are a lot of other jurisdictions, whether you're talking cities, school districts, townships, special taxing districts, there are a lot of other entities there that bring up the tax bill, and the state's 21.5 mills is a big part of that and that should not be overlooked either.*

*"But when we've got state leadership under, important state leaders like the three who held the news conference like I mentioned earlier, Governor Sebelius, Senator Weigel, and the Representative Brunk, I think it's important that we have a say and that we bring it on there. I want to work with everybody here, and I would like to get some*

*language, but having said that, I think we need to understand the past and if there's some problems with what I presented here, whether we discuss it here, I mean, I do think it needs to be included, and I don't know if I can have a commitment. I'm happy to bring it up again at a future date if the majority of the Commission doesn't want to address this this morning. But I do think it's an important issue that does need to be discussed and does need to be invaded and does need to be voted upon."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Does that mean you're..."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Commissioner Skelton."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Sorry. Would you consider withdrawing your motion until we have a chance to discuss this? I mean a no vote; I just don't want to entirely throw that out. You're on the right track. I just think that we can make it better yet, sir."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Well, I appreciate that. I guess I'm, I wanted to get feedback from my colleagues so that we could hopefully have some language drafted prior to the KAC meeting. I'll be happy, okay, I'll go ahead and withdraw my motion. Of course, I don't know if the seconder will withdraw the second."*

*Commissioner Ranzau said, "That will be fine."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "But with the commitment that we will have this on the agenda to discuss it at our November 9th meeting."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Absolutely."*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "Consider it on the agenda."*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "Absolutely."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Okay. We've had a withdrawal and a withdrawal of the second. So is there anything else to come?"*

*Commissioner Skelton said, "I'm going through lunch withdrawal right now, sir."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Anything else to come before us today? Mr. Counselor?"*

*Mr. Euson said, "No, sir."*

*Chairman Norton said, "Mr. Manager?"*

*Mr. Buchanan said, "I'm with Commissioner Skelton."*

*Chairman Norton said, "If there is nothing else we are adjourned."*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.*

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

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*JAMES B. SKELTON, Chairman  
Fifth District*

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*DAVID M. UNRUH, Chair Pro Tem  
First District*

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*TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner  
Second District*

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*KARL PETERJOHN, Commissioner  
Third District*

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*RICHARD RANZAU, Commissioner  
Fourth District*

ATTEST:

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*Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk*

APPROVED:

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