

WHEREAS, reading takes us places – in our imaginations, in our lives, and as a society; and

WHEREAS, the habit of regular reading raises one’s likelihood of academic and economic success, as well as stirs one’s social and civic sense; and

WHEREAS, when the citizens of a community experience the same book, they have the unique opportunity to share ideas and forge new understandings together; and

WHEREAS, The Big Read, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with Arts Midwest, was created to restore reading to the center of American culture; and

WHEREAS, Sedgwick County supports the Wichita Public Library, and its partners across the region, as they encourage all citizens to read, discuss and celebrate F. Scott Fitzgerald’s “The Great Gatsby” during The Big Read.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Tim Norton, chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as

“THE BIG READ MONTH”

and urge all citizens to read “The Great Gatsby” and take part in the numerous related events offered throughout the area.

October 3, 2012