

**WHEREAS,** 96 elephants are killed in Africa every day; and

**WHEREAS,** a leading motivation for the killing of elephants is the global desire for all things ivory and perhaps, by those who may not know about the true costs of these products; and

**WHEREAS,** we cannot be the generation that allows elephants to disappear. It's up to us to insure that elephants have a bright future. We must be the ones who inspire discovery, appreciation and respect for elephants; and

**WHEREAS,** the Sedgwick County Zoo is now home to seven intelligent and majestic African elephants. Our community has always loved elephants and welcomed our newest arrivals with open arms; and

**WHEREAS,** the Sedgwick County Zoo exhibit for the Elephants of the Zambezi River Valley will celebrate its Grand Opening this Memorial Day weekend; and

**WHEREAS,** the Elephants of the Zambezi River Valley will be the third largest elephant exhibit in the United States and features the world's largest elephant pool. It will also have a new elephant barn that will be one of the premier holding buildings for elephants in the country.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Jim Howell, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 22 - 28, 2016 as

**Elephant Appreciation Week**

In Sedgwick County and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

May 18, 2016