

# Sedgwick County

525 North Main Street 3rd Floor  
Wichita, KS 67203



*Sedgwick County...  
working for you*

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 8, 2015

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 Robbie Berry, Sedgwick County Interim ADA Coordinator, 510 N. Main, Suite 306, Wichita, Kansas 67203*

*Phone: (316) 660-7058, TDD: Kansas Relay at 711 or 800-766-3777*

*Email: Robbie.Berry@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 9:04 a.m. on July 8, 2015 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman Richard Ranzau, with the following present: Chair Pro Tem Commissioner Karl Peterjohn; Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Tim R. Norton; Commissioner James M. Howell; Mr. Ron Holt, Acting County Manager; Mr. Michael Pepoon, Acting County Counselor; Mr. Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk; Dr. Jaime Oeberst, Coroner, Regional Forensic Science Center; Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Ms. Kristi Zukovich, Director, Communications; and Ms. Angela Lovelace, Deputy County Clerk.*

### **GUESTS**

*Ms. Cynthia Gardner-Meerian, 1133 South Persching, Wichita  
Mr. Francis Meerian, 1133 South Persching, Wichita  
Reverend James Toth, Appointee, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board  
Ms. Debbie Willsie, Appointee, Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging  
Mr. Wayne Chambers, President/CEO, High Touch Technologies  
Ms. Carley Phillips, Student, Augusta  
Mr. Dezo McGill, Student, Wichita  
Mr. Avion Love, Student, Wichita  
Mr. Zach Vega, Student, Wichita  
Mr. Marshall Johnson, Student, Wichita*

### **INVOCATION: Pastor Ron Pracht, Olivet Baptist Church.**

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **ROLL CALL**

*The Clerk reported, after calling roll, Chairman Ranzau was absent.*

### **DONATIONS**

- A**      [15-0449](#)      ACCEPT A DONATION TO RECOAT EPOXY FLOOR (VALUED AT \$8,036.25) AT REGIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER FROM MIDWEST TRANSPLANT NETWORK.  
Presented by: Dr. Jaime Oeberst, Coroner, Regional Forensic Science Center.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept the donation and authorize the Chairman to sign a thank you letter.

*Dr. Jaime Oeberst, Coroner, Regional Forensic Science Center, greeted the*

Commissioners and said, "I'm here to present a donation in the amount of \$8,036.25 from Midwest Transplant Network to recoat the epoxy floor at the [Sedgwick County] Regional Forensic Science Center. Midwest Transplant Network is an organ procurement organization that works with donors and their families in Kansas and Western Missouri. The [Sedgwick County] Regional Forensic Science Center maintains partnership and a room is leased on a case-by-case basis for procurement purposes. Midwest Transplant Network also has storage in the body receiving area of the building.

"The flooring of body receiving is currently not suitable for the needs of Midwest Transplant Network or those of the Regional Science Center. Midwest Transplant Network has elected to donate the cost to apply a new epoxy surface to the floor of body receiving. More than one million tissue transplants occur annually in the United States and approximately 48,000 corneas were transplanted in the U.S. in 2014. Tissue recovery can be accomplished in virtually all forensic cases, without detriment to evidence collection, post-mortem examination or determination in cause or manner of death. I'd like to thank Midwest Transplant Network for their donation and ask that you would accept the donation and authorize the Chairman to sign a thank you letter, and I can answer any questions that you might have."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. Any questions for Dr. Oeberst? What's the will of the Commission?"

#### MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to accept the donation and authorize the Chairman to sign a thank you letter.

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

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

#### VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Howell	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Chairman Ranzau	Absent

Dr. Oeberst, said "Thank you."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. I appreciate this donation very much and look forward to providing either myself or Chairman Ranzau who is signing that letter at the appropriate time."

Dr. Oeberst, said "Thank you very much."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. Next item."

**Approved**

#### **CITIZEN INQUIRIES**

**B**      [15-0393](#)

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING LIVING STANDARDS OF PEOPLE WITH SEVERE AND PERSISTENT MENTAL ILLNESS.

Presented by: Cynthia Gardner-Meerian, Wichita.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Good morning. Welcome to the County Commission."*

*Ms. Cynthia Gardner-Meerian, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Poverty among the mentally ill. Here's how poverty among the mentally ill works."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Before you get started. Could we get your name and address, for the record, please?"*

*Ms. Gardner said, "Cynthia Gardner-Meerian. 1133 South Pershing. Here is how poverty among the mentally ill works. You get around \$600 a month SSI, which is Social Security Income. You get an \$8 increase for the entire year. Then they reduce your food stamps by \$3 a month. They pull or reduce your Section 8 housing. They pull or reduce your LIEAP, which is Low Income Energy Assistance Program. Meanwhile, the cost of everything goes up.*

*"You do not have a car because everything goes towards things such as food, water, electric, et cetera, which also has increased. Until now, you were getting your clothes at thrift stores, but now your case manager gets to take you to the Klotches Klotset for free clothes every few months. Keep in mind that everyone is benefiting from the consumer. The case manager gets paid. The administration gets paid. And everything that goes up in price, such as rent, food, electric, means that there's landlords, grocery stores and utility companies get paid. Even the bill to the consumer's medical card goes up because we must make sure everyone who provides services gets a raise. Yet the poor consumer is the one who does without.*

*"There is no money for extra things like education, having a car or maybe even internet access at their house. Yes, there is a library, however your case manager is probably not going to take you to the library while you surf the internet, because they cannot bill for it. Plus, you only get an hour of computer time, and you might have to wait two hours before a computer even becomes available. That is how poverty among the mentally ill works.*

*"My husband will talk about billable hours at COMCARE and Breakthrough Club [of Sedgwick County]. When I worked for the Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas in 2001, we billed \$110 an hour, per client, for psychosocial clients, under the age of 18. The billing starts the minute that the client steps into the vehicle. A maximum of 8 clients, per two staff members results in up to \$880 an hour. That is crazy.*

*"And yet many of the clients that they serve come from families who are living in poverty. When funding gets cut, then the administration and leadership needs their funding cut, too. I am fortunate because I no longer have to go down this path. When I was homeless, I scraped by, by surviving the best I could.*

*"Now, I am a stronger person for it. Thank you."*

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. Any questions for Ms. Gardner or comments?"

MOTION

Commissioner Peterjohn 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 Norton	Aye
Commissioner Howell	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Chairman Ranzau	Absent

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Next item."

**Received and Filed**

**C**      [15-0470](#)

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS REGARDING COMCARE BILLABLE HOURS.  
Presented by: Francis Meerian, Wichita.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Good morning. Welcome to the County Commission, and since I'm pro-tem, I'm a little poor on introductions, so please state your name and address for the record, and you've minutes. I should have said that to the previous conferee, but I'm just getting up to speed here, and I hope you'll bear with me."

Mr. Francis Meerian, 1133 South Pershing, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm a citizen of Sedgwick County. I want to speak about billable hours in general. First, I never seen my psychiatrist for more than six minutes per appointment in the last few years that I went to COMCARE. My wife convinced me to switch to private practice for several reasons. If you are late or miss an appointment at COMCARE, you are told they cannot get you scheduled until three to five weeks. In the meantime, you're down to three to four pills, and told if you have problems, visit a crisis center. Crisis case management is billed at a higher rate. If I'm having problems, then I need to see someone the next day, at the latest, not three weeks later so we can get my medication adjusted.

"Billing is done in 15 minute increments, which means that a five to six minute med[ication] check is billed for at least 15 minutes. Before I was insured through the Affordable Care Act, I paid to see a private prescribing authority rather than ever returning to COMCARE. My medical records will never be turned over to them again, because once COMCARE has your medical records, just about anyone at COMCARE can look at them; doctors, therapists, case managers, billing, and they can release them to just about anyone else, too.

"So much for the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability) Act. I do not like the fact that there are copies of my records and it always takes an attorney to get.

*Private practice does not do their clients or patients that way. Because we are clients or patients; not consumers.*

*"Now I am going to talk about billable hours in relation to Breakthrough Club. I was asked if I would like to attend a conference on mental health, and I said yes. Upon reaching the conference, which was in Topeka, I was not registered, but the staff member I rode with was. My medical card was billed from the time that I stepped into the staff member's car all the way up through the conference, during the conference, and on the way back to Wichita. They were too cheap to register me.*

*"I decided to start attending the DBSA group, which is the Depressive and Bipolar Supportive Alliance group, which met during the evenings at Breakthrough Club. Since we were told by (inaudible), the director of Breakthrough Club, the DBSA Group was going to be given a van to use to attend the NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) conference. Two weeks before, one of the staff members asked me if I was going to the conference.*

*"I said no, because I have the schoolwork that I needed to get done. The next week the group was told they would not be getting a van. I was the only one in the DBSA group that was also a member of Breakthrough Club, and Breakthrough Club was planning on charging my medical card to pay for the trip. Breakthrough Club also offered meals over the noon hour, which the client pays a dollar for, while their medical cards were being billed for the time they were there, also. Yes, at the evening Breakthrough Club events; staff, volunteers, took their clients home because there was no bus service. Speak for yourself. I'm sure there was a medical card billed. Breakthrough Club staff was signing in and out members. A large petty cash fund allows the top five members money to do things with; like eat out, while they give, a select few clients, a few dollars. Thank you."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. Any questions? If not, I'll entertain a motion that we receive and file."*

#### **MOTION**

*Commissioner Unruh moved to receive and file.*

*Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the motion.*

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

#### **VOTE**

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Howell</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Ranzau</i>	<i>Absent</i>

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Next item."*

**Received and Filed**

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

D      [15-0456](#)      RESOLUTION APPOINTING REV. JAMES TOTH (COMMISSIONER JIM HOWELL'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD.

Presented by: Michael Pepoon, Acting County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

*Mr. Michael Pepoon, Acting County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We can probably handle Items D and E at the same time. If you prefer. Both appointments by Commissioner Howell to the, newly renamed, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board. The four year appointments and resolutions are in proper form. I recommend we appoint both Reverend James Toth and Carol Pavetto to this board."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Without objection, I'll combine Items D and E. Is there a motion?"*

MOTION

*Commissioner Howell moved to appoint Rev. James Toth and Carol Pavetto to the Sedgwick County Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board.*

*Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the motion.*

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

VOTE

<i>Commissioner Unruh</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Norton</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Howell</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Commissioner Peterjohn</i>	<i>Aye</i>
<i>Chairman Ranzau</i>	<i>Absent</i>

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Is either Reverend Toth or Ms. Pavetto present? Please come over so the Sedgwick County Clerk can get you sworn in."*

*Mr. Kelly 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 Sedgwick County Intellectual and Developmental Disability Advisory Board, so help me God."*

*Reverend James Toth, Appointee, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board, greeted the Commissioners and said, "So help me God, I will. Thank you. Thank you so much for this. This is a privilege for me to serve."*

*"My wife and I were blessed with a handicapped daughter 32 years ago; that changed our lives, and anything that I can do to help others, especially parents, down the road, it is truly an honor for that. So thank you very much."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you for being willing to serve. And Commissioner Howell, I believe you have some comments."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to throw out there that I know Reverend Toth, and I have known him for a number of years. I've met his daughter. He lights up around her. He and his family, all of them, have been very sensitive and loving and caring towards her. In fact, he moved back to the Wichita area from Chicago just to be near his daughter as she receives the services and anything she needs here in Sedgwick County. I know this is a great sacrifice. He really wants to be up in Chicago with all the hockey and everything else going on up there."*

*Rev. Toth said, "Go Hawks."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "There you go. Anyway, he has sacrificed and I've seen him truly love the people in this population, especially his daughter. I think I couldn't have found someone better than Reverend Toth in for this position. Thank you for serving, I really appreciate that."*

*Rev. Toth said, "Thank you."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. Is Ms. Pavetto here? If not, we'll go on. Next item, please."*

**Adopted**

- E**      [15-0460](#)      RESOLUTION APPOINTING CAROL PAVETTO (COMMISSIONER JIM HOWELL'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD.

Presented by: Michael Pepoon, Acting County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

*Action on Item E was taken with Item D.*

- F**      [15-0469](#)      RESOLUTION APPOINTING DEBBIE WILLSIE (COMMISSIONER UNRUH'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING.

Presented by: Michael Pepoon, Acting County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

*Mr. Pepoon said, "This is a resolution appointing Debbie Willsie, Commissioner Unruh's appointment, to the Sedgwick County Advisory Board on Aging. The resolution is in proper form and I ask you approve the resolution."*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the resolution.*

*Commissioner Peterjohn seconded the motion.*

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



VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Howell	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Chairman Ranzau	Absent

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Mr. County Clerk, will you please swear in Ms. Willsie."

Mr. Arnold 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 Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging, so help me God."

Ms. Debbie Willsie, Appointee, Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I just want to say thank you for being asked. I'm honored to serve. I'm the Director of Field Practicum at Wichita State University, so we work with the Social Work students who are entering their professional last year. I'm seeing more and more interest and dedication in young students to serving the aging population. I think this will be a good opportunity for me to be able to carry back information to them and represent their interests to the community. So thank you very much."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Debbie, I want to thank you for the willingness to serve. I know you bring expertise to this advisory board that will be very valuable. I know our Director of Aging Services, Annette Graham, is very pleased that I'm appointing you, so we look forward to your service. Thank you very much."

Ms. Willsie said, "Yes, thank you. Thank you."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. Next item."  
**Adopted**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**G**      [15-0471](#)      SOUTHWEST REVENUE GUARANTEE AGREEMENT.  
Presented by: Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer.

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

Mr. Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "In 2002, the City of Wichita initiated a program that has come to be known as the Affordable Air Fares program, and they did that, at the time, out of concern, expressed by local businesses, primarily that air fares in Wichita were extremely high, as compared to other jurisdictions, and as you know, if you remember that time, many people were traveling from Wichita to remote airports to do their air travel because it simply was so much cheaper at those locations. For businesses, that was impractical, and in fact, a couple of businesses relocated out of Wichita to other communities and said at the time that one of their primary motivators for relocation out of Wichita was

*the extremely high air fares in this community. And so, in response to that, the City of Wichita initiated the Affordable Air Fares program, through which they agreed to provide a revenue guarantee to AirTran airways to come to Wichita and provide low fair service from Wichita to the city of Atlanta.*

*"The belief of Wichita at the time was that the nature of competition would cause all air fares from competitors of AirTran to decrease, and in fact, that is what happened. The County of Sedgwick joined Wichita in that program in 2005, and then in 2006, Sedgwick County assumed responsibility for the contract with the airline. Sedgwick County has had annual contracts, first with AirTran and then with its successor, Southwest Airlines, since 2006. The program has proven to be successful. It has accomplished the result that Wichita had hoped for when it started the program back in 2002. In fact, we have estimated that passengers using the Wichita airport are saving in excess of \$100 million a year on fares, not just through Southwest, but through all airlines which have reduced their fares in response to the competition of the low fare carriers. In 2014 alone, we estimate that passengers using the Wichita airport saved \$127 million as compared to what the fares had been before Wichita started the program. The agreement that's before you is identical, in all material respects, to the agreement that Sedgwick County has had with Southwest for the past two years and with AirTran before then. The agreement provides that Southwest will agree to provide direct flights from Wichita to Chicago, Dallas and Las Vegas, multiple flights per day, and from those locations; it will provide connections to its other destinations throughout the Americas.*

*"Southwest entered the market in 2013, and we have learned from observation of fare and passenger counts since then that they have achieved the same kind of effect on our market as AirTran had achieved on the Atlanta market. Since Southwest began serving Wichita, we have seen the average cost of fares for trips to Chicago decrease 22 percent and passenger counts increase 88 percent, and we have seen the average passenger fares for Dallas decrease 54 percent with passenger counts increasing 138 percent. All of that since Southwest, the low fare competitor, entered this market. In contrast, when AirTran went out of business and left this market and we stopped having low fare competition to Atlanta, we saw pretty much the opposite picture. In the year following the loss of low fare competition to Atlanta, fares to that designation increased 61 percent and fares to Denver, the other location that AirTran had been serving, increased by 87 percent. And so we think the combination of those factors is a pretty clear illustration of the effectiveness of low fare competitors in this marketplace.*

*"Now, the question is, will low fare competitors stay in this marketplace without a revenue guarantee? In fact, the documentation that Southwest has provided to us suggests that they are operating at a loss from Wichita. And they said when they came to the market that they expected that they would be operating at a loss, for the first several years, as they built up their market share in Wichita.*

*"And so the agreement that's before you provides a revenue guarantee to Southwest of not more than \$6.5 million for the 12-month period, that began July 1st, just last week, and culminates June 30th of next year. That \$6.5 million revenue guarantee will be paid out, in monthly payments, depending on reports that we receive from Southwest showing the amount of operating loss that they incur, serving Wichita, in the prior month. And so the amounts of money that we pay out will vary from month to month. In*

*some months, in fact, we probably will not make payments to Southwest, because in high traffic months, they typically don't operate at a loss, but we do expect that they will consume the entire \$6.5 million, over the life of the contract. The agreement does obligate Sedgwick County to pay up to \$6.5 million to Southwest. That \$6.5 million is expected to be funded with \$4.75 million that has been appropriated to Sedgwick County by the State of Kansas. It has been appropriated for the State's 2016 Fiscal Year, but we have not yet received that money.*

*"And the balance of the funding, \$1.75 million, is expected to be provided in equal shares by Sedgwick County and by the City of Wichita. Sedgwick County's 2015 budget includes an appropriation of \$875,000, the county's share of the local funding required for this contract. And the next item on your agenda is a funding agreement with the City of Wichita, which will obligate them to provide Sedgwick County with their share of funding, also \$875,000. Wichita City Council is scheduled to take up that contract at their next meeting, next Tuesday. If you have any questions about this agreement, I would be happy to try and answer them. If you have no questions, then I would recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign it."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. Questions for the Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Chronis. Commissioner Unruh."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Chris, there was some conversation during the Legislative Session that this may be the last year of this agreement with Southwest. Do you have any insight about that conversation?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "Well, the contract with Southwest and with AirTran, before Southwest, always has been an annual contract. It is for one year only, and we have no obligation beyond that year. When Southwest entered this market, they indicated, as I said earlier, that they expected to run at a loss for at least several years and that they would require the revenue guarantee in order to stay in the market for that period of time. They said that they would hope to be profitable within three years. This is the contract that's before you would be the third year of service by Southwest, and so based on Southwest's statements, when they first entered the market, we would expect not to have them requesting an agreement for the third year. The State Legislature has indicated and the Governor has indicated that they will not provide funding for a fourth year in the next Legislative Session. Sedgwick County is not expecting to appropriate local funding for another contract starting in July of 2016. So, all indications are that this will be the last year of this transaction. Now, can I guarantee that Southwest will stay in the market if we fail to give them another revenue guarantee? No, I cannot. Southwest has made no assertions one way or the other."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you. That clearly answers my question. Thank you. That's all I have."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Commissioner Howell."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. so we're talking about Fiscal Year 2015 budget has already been approved, \$875,000 for this program, and today we're just basically approving the contract to administrate what we've already budgeted; is that correct?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "That's correct, yes. Essentially, that's the case. But we're also entering into the much larger contract with Southwest. We will be obligated under that*

*contract to pay Southwest up to \$6.5 million, whether or not we receive the state funding and the expected city funding. As I said, each of those agencies has the money budgeted. The state has appropriated it. The city is considering the agreement next week. If for whatever reason we should not receive the funding, we still would have the contractual obligation with Southwest. The contract provides that we can terminate the contract with 75 days notice. And so in the event that we failed to get the money, I anticipate that we would choose that option rather than have the county absorb the full cost of the contract."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "That's good information. That was my next question. You answered that very appropriately. Thank you. What would happen for county budget Fiscal [Year] 2016 if we don't appropriate money for this program? Because of this agreement, we would still have to pay the \$6.5 million?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "For the first half of calendar 2016, we will still have six months remaining on this contract. The contract will have been fully funded in 2015, and so that money will roll over, the contractual obligation will roll over to the extent that a portion of the \$6.5 million has not been consumed by December 31st of 2015, we will have an ongoing obligation to pay out money to Southwest through the end of this contract."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "With your knowledge of this program, has the program ever not fully paid out the full amount to the airline? Have they always received the full amount every year this has been done?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "Yes."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "I assume if we approve this today, we really kind of need to plan on putting probably half of this money for this obligation into the Fiscal 2016 budget for Sedgwick County?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "No. The money that Sedgwick County has appropriated in 2015, the \$875,000, fully funds the county's share of the funding obligation for this contract. There will not be a need for additional county appropriations beyond that."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. I understand that now. You mentioned a minute ago about the losses of Southwest, and sometimes it's variable. It goes up and down, and sometimes we don't pay anything. Sometimes we pay a little bit more. Do we have any reports to the Commissioners to see what those losses are?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "I can send you the information, yes."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "That would be very good, because some of the comments made in the last year's meeting relate to the fact that there was not evidence of any losses that they incurred or any revenue that they might have made during their time here. So, I was curious to know whether or not we actually had any evidence to back up the idea that they actually did have losses. Do we have any indication from Southwest what they would do, with respect to the Wichita market, if this is not approved? Do we have any idea what their plans would be?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "No."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Do we have any evidence of Southwest pulling out of other markets?"*

Mr. Chronis said, "Yes."

Commissioner Howell said, "Are there other communities that have programs similar to Fair Fares?"

Mr. Chronis said, "I believe there are now. There were not when Wichita initiated the program. This was, to the best of my knowledge, the first of its kind in the country. Because of its success, I understand that a number of smaller airports, regional airports, have initiated similar programs, but I don't have any specifics about that. I don't know which ones or with which airlines. I am aware that in some cases where the community has opted to have a program and then terminated the program and the airline was continuing to lose money, the airline pulled out of those markets."

Commissioner Howell said, "Back to the issue of losses, it would seem if the market is stabilizing and they're becoming more accepted by the community and there's a lot more dependence on Southwest Airlines. Their losses, over those three years, have, presumably, gone down. Do we have any evidence that their losses are going down and beginning to move towards profit?"

Mr. Chronis said, "I don't believe I would say that I had that kind of information. We receive reports from them to the extent that they need to draw on the \$6.5 million. They always have consumed the entire \$6.5 million before the end of the contract period, and so the months after that, presumably, they're continuing to operate at a loss that is not being supported by our revenue guarantee, but we have no information about that."

Commissioner Howell said, "I guess this is for my colleagues. I make the point I think the state is being clear they are only continuing to fund this one year. They are on a two-year budget right now, and they only debated in the statehouse funding for the first year. I don't think there is any intention to bring this up next year. I think they are planning to dissolve the program. This is a program that's, I guess, dwindling, towards the end of its life, and if it hasn't met its outcomes at this point, this is not a subsidy that's going to go on in perpetuity. It is intended to accomplish its mission and then end. At some point it's going to end. I just wanted to get information on those questions. I'll continue to think about this for a few moments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Any further questions for Mr. Chronis? Commissioner Norton."

Commissioner Norton said, "I don't know that I have questions. I'm going to be supportive today. I've been supportive over the years. I think that the idea that we've got the new Eisenhower Airport, that it has taken air travel to the new level in the Wichita regional area. It is important that we don't back off of having Southwest in our airport. I have to tell you over the years, I've been a County Commissioner, one of the issues that people continue to whisper to me about is why can't you get Southwest Airlines here. When we had AirTran and the precursor to that, people knew Southwest was an affordable airline. They liked their service. They flew a lot of the places even though maybe the secondary airport in large metro areas, but they flew where people wanted to go, and that the fares were very, very reasonable. So I had heard considerable amount of conversations from just the public. Maybe not even business flyers, but recreational flyers, average citizens that had to go other places, that

*Southwest would be a real jewel if we could land them. So we have. Now, how long we need to give Southwest to make sure they can uphold their business plan and stay stable and be in our community for many years, I don't know. I think that's part of the ongoing conversation and partnership agreement we need to have with Southwest and among ourselves on what's important with air travel. If you talk about the cost-benefit ratio, when you throw out numbers like \$127 million worth of saved air fares to the public, and I assume that's business travelers and recreational travelers, that's a lot of money in our community that can go for other things and that the investment from the state, the city, the county, is minimal compared to that loss.*

*"And I go back to my business travel days when I was with Target. We'd have to go to Denver occasionally, and we consistently rented a van, here in Wichita, I picked up several store managers along the way, and we flew out of Kansas City, all together because it was so cost efficient. At that time, I think the flight to Denver out of Wichita was over \$1,000. And out of Kansas City, it was like \$300. And those days, because of affordable air fares, have gone away. I've actually had conversations sitting in our airport here with people from Tulsa and Oklahoma City that have reversed and come here because the fares were lower. In fact, I just flew back from a vacation with two ladies from Ponca City, and they could have gone to Oklahoma City, but they selected Wichita because the fares were considerably cheaper flying out of Wichita. So I think we have to understand the cost-benefit ratio for our community, what it does for the air fares and the traveling public, and then finally, when you talk about it as a state issue.*

*"The Eisenhower Airport is the state's airport. It's the largest airport in the state, serves about 70 percent of the population, in the catchment area, and if you think about it, yes, there's KCI (Kansas City International). It's firmly in Missouri, so that the Eisenhower airport is ours so I would hope that even though the state is looking to end the agreement that that there will continue to be conversations that an economic driver, for the Wichita catchment area, is the Airport, and the state has some obligation because it is the largest airport and it serves a huge population of the state. To be sure that they don't just end the conversation because they don't want to spend the money, because we, deserve in our regional area, in this part of the state, to take part of the transportation dollars that come out of the state coffers, because we pay money into it. I would hope they wouldn't back out before we know what the end game is for affordable air fares. I'm going to be supportive today. I always have been. I think the cost-benefit ratio clearly shows that this is good for the flying public, and that our investment makes a difference, a huge difference. So that's all I have, Mr. Chair Pro-Tem."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Commissioner Norton. Other comments and statements? Commissioner Howell."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you know whether the state's funding to this is some of the EDIF (Economic Development Initiative Fund) money, money from the casino? Revenue from the State of Kansas? Where does this money originate from?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "It's a direct appropriation, and to the best of my knowledge, it's State General Fund (SGF) money."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "And our money to this would be our property tax revenue."*

*Mr. Chronis said, "It's general fund revenue, yes."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "You mentioned a minute ago that you do have the analysis; the loss statements from Southwest that you would present if I wanted those?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "Yes."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Can you tell me who did the analysis? You mentioned a bunch of numbers, benefits to the community, \$127 million in 2014. Do you have that analysis?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "Yes. It's in the attachments to your agenda summary. The state requires us to submit an annual report, showing the results of the program, and our report to the state was dated June the 11th. That report was prepared, primarily, by the staff of the Wichita airport authority, which has access to the detailed reports that come, primarily, from the federal government."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Do you know whether or not we've entered into communications with any of the other airlines, America West, American Airlines, Continental Airlines, Delta, Northwest, United or Legion Air? Regarding their support of our policy to support Southwest, independently, of all the other airlines. Have they weighed in at all and given any commentary whatsoever to tell us whether or not they are."*

*Mr. Chronis said, "I'm not aware that they have. I know that, at one time, in the fairly distant past, I'm thinking two or three years after Wichita initiated the program and before Sedgwick County was participating, Delta Airlines had expressed concern about the fact that the revenue guarantee was being provided to one of their competitors. I'm not aware of any complaints or concerns expressed by airlines since then."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Can you break down this subsidy in terms of dollars per ticket or [dollars] per flight or [dollars] per passenger in terms of how much this is benefiting each of the flyers, reducing the cost of the tickets; that type of thing? Do we have any analysis on that?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "We've not done that kind of analysis, no."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "It would be nice to have that number, because I know that there's a fee now that's being charged at the Eisenhower Airport regarding the new airport. The fee that they're charging because of the new building, new facility there. I believe that's roughly \$8, per ticket, if I remember correctly. I've talked to some people who have flown out of there and believe that's the number they gave me. Do you know what the fee is they're charging?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "No."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "It would be nice to know that, as well. Is there any requirement that we pass this today or is there some opportunity for you to go back and do some study? If we were to push this off for a week, is that something that*

would cause a problem?"

Mr. Chronis said, "I don't believe it would."

Commissioner Howell said, "Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion that we delay these two items for the next week so that I have time to get more information and do further analysis. I'm not ready to vote in favor of this right now, and if you guys want to go on, that's fine, but I think right now I'm not going to be supportive in the fact that I don't have the data and the understanding to know this is the best policy right now. So I guess I would make a motion we would delay this for one week and see what happens."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Is there a second? The motion? Let me jump in and put in an advance. I second it, at this point, as the Chair Pro-Tem for this meeting, and I've had a number of questions about this program in the past. The last kind of semi arm's length analysis I've seen of this program, I think legislative post-audit did a report on the Fair Fares Program, I'm thinking about three years ago. At that time, they ran through a number of questions concerning the performance and I think ran into some of the details that Commissioner Howell was asking for. My concern is, I think with the information you're really looking for would be an updated post-audit report, and you would need a lot more than one week to do that. To get the information I think you're looking for would take longer than a week, and we may I think easily have a week to do that. My personal feeling and reservations on this program, I think it's a program that was originally started to try and bring a discount airline into this market, and that was over a decade ago. The original goal had been to bring Southwest here, but they couldn't do that at that time.

"We ended up with AirTran. And also Frontier Airlines going west, and the program changed over the years and kind of evolved. It originally was a city-only program, and then became city and county, and then the state got involved. So there's a lot of history that goes with this program, and we're talking about an industry that's been going through a lot of change, a lot of dynamics. I used to travel quite a bit. I've flown in and out both the new and old airport. I've traveled Southwest and I've traveled, I think, just about every other carrier here, although I haven't flown Continental [Airlines] recently, because they're part of United [Airlines] now. But I have flown in and out of the new airport since it opened just earlier this year; last month. Having said that, I've had some reservations, in terms of, where we really stand on this program, and so I'm going to throw out a question or two to Mr. Chronis, if I could, relating to kind of the cash flow situation since we've got three parties, the city, the state, and the county involved. The county administers the program.

"Do we get ever in a situation, Mr. Chronis, where the county is having to put out money because the payments from either the city or the state are behind, the draws that are made by Southwest?"

Mr. Chronis said, "The payment that we were expecting from the state for the State's 2014 Fiscal Year that we were expecting to be received in the last half of the 2013 calendar year, the state didn't provide to us until three or four months after it has been expected. That's the only time that I can think of when we were making payments to Southwest in advance of receipt of money."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "The state has not made the payment that would fund the portion of this agreement that would cover the time period from July 1, this year, to



*June 30th?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "No, and we've not requested it yet. Until you take action, affirmative action on this contract, we have no reason to request the money from them. The process is that we make the request, tell them that the contract has been executed and that the local funding has been made available, and then they send us 90 percent of the annual installment, and they would hold 10 percent until towards the end of their Fiscal Year."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "You said there are some months that they're doing better than others and that they don't draw against that account. Is there certain months that that's a regular trend?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "No."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I'm going to recognize Commissioner Unruh."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My comments are that I would encourage us to go ahead and deal with this today, and make a decision that approves the agreement. This is not brand new territory for us. This is not a new program. It's been around for, in some form or another, since 2002, as Mr. Chronis said. The State Legislature has been our partner in it now for the last several years, and it has been scrutinized from about every angle possible from post-audits from the state and from our own internal audits and from the KU [University of Kansas] School of Business even did an audit that was commissioned by the Regional Economic Area Partnership, a couple years ago, to make sure that everything is being done appropriately and in order. So we have the data on the number of flights and the number of passengers and that sort of thing that I believe validates the value of this program, but I think in light of the fact that the state legislature has approved funding and has for the last several years, City of Wichita has approved funding, we've been a partner in this. It's supported by the Wichita Chamber of Commerce.*

*"We know of some of the benefits it's brought to us, and we also know that before we had this program that we lost some major business partners the community who have pointed to the fact that high air fares was one of the reasons they had to leave the community. So all of that put together, I don't think we have to be concerned or have questions about whether or not the money is being paid appropriately. You know, there may be some timing issues as far as that goes. And I think the whole issue is that we have to decide if you want to continue the program or not, but all the data has been out there now for 12 years or so. So I'm personally ready to move forward and approve the action. That's all I have, Mr. Chair."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Mr. Chronis."*

*Mr. Chronis said, "Mr. Chair, if I could make just a bit of a clarification. Commissioner Unruh referred to a report that had been commissioned from University of Kansas by REAP. In fact, REAP commissioned a report from the Center for Economic Development and Business Research at Wichita State University (WSU). They commissioned that, as I recall, in 2009. The legislative post-audit was completed about a year later.*

*"The analysis for REAP concluded that the program was providing a very positive return on investment or benefit to cost ratio for our community. That's what they had been*

*asked to examine. The legislative post-audit concluded that using different databases concluded also that the program was providing a very positive return on investment, although less positive than the WSU analysis had indicated. Since then, and this may be what you were thinking of, Commissioner Unruh, since then, the legislature has commissioned a report from the University of Kansas, actually from Art Hall, who is associated with the University of Kansas, and he delivered one report, I believe it was two years ago, that I have seen, and my recollection is that he was trying to answer different questions, not cost-benefit, but he concluded that the program was beneficial. My understanding is that he has been commissioned to do an additional report or a follow-up report for the most recent year, but I'm unaware if he's completed that. I certainly haven't seen the results if he has.*

*"So there have been reports done from Art Hall, at the University of Kansas for the legislature. There have been reports done locally for REAP and all of those, and there has been the legislative post-audit report, and all of those reports have come to the conclusion, in one way or another, that the program is beneficial."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "I appreciate getting that timeline of when those reports occurred, because I haven't seen anything that would cover 2014 or more recently, and I'd be very sympathetic to Commissioner Howell's idea of postponed to try and get material pulled together, except I don't think it can be done that quickly and can come up with the information that I think everybody would like to have, in a perfect world. I would say that there's a dynamic to this, and the challenge I've had with this program is how do we know that this is the right amount of money? The county's contribution has fluctuated a little bit at one time. I think initially when I became a Commissioner, it was \$1 million a year. It's currently \$875,000, but the overall commitment for tax payers altogether has grown from what it was when just the city was involved, to when the state was involved. I think at one point and maybe for a couple of years it was over \$5 million or at least that or a little higher than what it is that we're looking at today.*

*"So I think this is a program that continues to need studies, and I'm comfortable in terms of completing the agreement. My understanding was, and I'm going to maybe direct this a little bit to Commissioner Unruh, because I think he was directly involved when he was Chairman. I think the agreement that we had in place with Southwest was for 3 years. If that's the case, this would be the third year, and it involved the State, and the City and County all participating. With the state no longer there, I think that this is a program we can determine we don't know what would happen if this program did not exist.*

*"Southwest might continue. They might change which markets they serve. Under the current agreements we have in place, they can still change the markets they are services. They aren't locked into Las Vegas, Dallas and Chicago. They could move that around with notification. But I'm looking at this in a situation where we've been trying to work together, and for three governmental bodies with different Fiscal Years and different modes of operation and different chords, it's been a bit after challenge, but I think it gives credit to the city, the state and I think also Sedgwick County that we've been able to be able to work this through and have this work for this period of time. Commissioner Norton."*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Norton moved to approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign.*

*Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Mr. Chairman, just for clarification, did the motion for the deferral have a second?"*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "The motion for deferral I don't think had a second, Commissioner Howell."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Mr. Chair. I have a couple more questions. I just need to be reminded. What did AirTran state as their reasons for leaving our market?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "They were acquired by Southwest."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "I couldn't remember the detail of that. Okay. And then do we know whether the state's support for this program is contingent on county support for this program?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "Yes."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "It is contingent. Okay."*

*Mr. Chronis said, "Well, the state has made a direct appropriation to Sedgwick County in the budget. The Department of Commerce, over the years, has required the county to provide proof of local funding equal to a certain percentage of the state funding. Whether that requirement is in the state law or not, I don't know. But as a practical matter, yes, we are providing to get local funding in order to get the state money."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Do you know when Art Hall's study, his analysis would be available to reanalyze this? Is it pending?"*

*Mr. Chronis said, "I don't know. I understand he was commissioned to do an additional report for the Legislative Session that has already concluded, but when I talked to a contact at the Department of Commerce within the past month, the report had not yet been completed."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "I understand we're just about to vote on this. I just want to make a couple more comments and I'll be ready to vote."*

*"First comment is, I want everyone to know, I have supported this from the state level in the past. As a state legislator for the last four years, I've had budgets I've voted on that including funding for the Fair Fares. During the deliberations and process of getting those budgets together, I've had to make comments, over the four years, whether I would support Fair Fares or not, and I have supported Fair Fares in the past based on the analysis that was delivered to me at the time. I think the analysis we have right now is very old and outdated. We don't know right now whether or not this is still working and whether this is necessary."*

*"Southwest is a very successful company. They've been here long enough that if they're not turning a profit at this point, I don't know that it's going to change next year. I don't perceive the state is going to fund this next year, and I believe the program is*

*dwindling. I guess we're going to find out soon enough, when the program ends, what the results of that is; whether or not we'll have to return back to the 2001 air fares or whether or not things are stabilized in this market. I think that's the reality of what's going to happen in the future regardless of this vote. Our vote has no control on what the state does at this point. I believe the state has been pretty clear on their intention to end the program. So we're going to find out one way or the other.*

*"It would be nice to wean these programs off, to see them reduced over time, so there is not a cliff change in our policies, in the things we do in Sedgwick County. I think these cliff changes are very hard for people to absorb and the reaction it creates is not good. I guess the one final comment I was going to make. That is, we're just about to get into a budget cycle for 2016, and I guess \$875,000 may not seem like a lot of money to some governments and some decisions in the past, but I think right now looking at the budget as far as I've looked at it so far this year, I think \$875,000 is a huge amount of money. It is a game changer for this county. We're trying to support a lot of the things that are valued in this community, things like museums, Exploration Place, the [Sedgwick County] zoo and many other things we value in this community that are choices we make to make this a great place to live and to work, and we see a value in those things.*

*"Unfortunately, \$875,000 is a big amount of money that it can really make an impact on other things we do here. I guess I see right now that's a big enough amount of money that I am not comfortable supporting this at this time without the analysis that we need I think to know that this works and that there's a way that we can be assured this is actually making a difference, and so thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't plan on supporting the motion, but we'll see what happens. Thank you."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you, Commissioner. I'm going to make a few additional comments to clarify, because I've had concerns about the program and how effective it's been and the history of it, but we made an agreement. I think we need to stand by, complete it, both with the state and with Southwest. So, I'm going to be supportive of the motion in front of us today, but I do so in a cautionary mode with the idea that, the state will no longer be participating. I still think we do need to get the data. I would have supported Commissioner's Howell's motion, but I don't think we can get that data in one week in a way that would be meaningful or even one month. I think it's going to take a longer analysis.*

*"The concern I have with this program from the get-go is I don't know what the optimal amount is, and that's one of the dynamics in the marketplace. The government, whether we're talking local, state or even national; governments struggle in terms of trying to respond and fit within the price discovery process that is a free and open market where there's freedom of entry and freedom to get in and out of markets. And we can get into a fairly academic discussion in terms of how open and how much opportunity there is to enter or not enter certain markets. I know in the past I've gotten some great air fares here in Wichita.*

*"At other times, that hasn't been the case. And to what degree Fair Fares has been able to help I think is arguable. The question is, what is the optimal amount, and is it \$875,000? Is it \$1 million? From the county side, in terms of the total end of the*

*program, is it \$4 million, \$5 million, or some other number? And that's not a number that I'm totally comfortable with, but I do think we need to fulfill our commitments and work this program through, and so I'm going to be supportive of this motion today. Are there any other comments? seeing none, we have a motion before us. Please call the vote."*

VOTE

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Howell	No
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Chairman Ranzau	Absent

**Approved**

H [15-0477](#)

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF WICHITA.

Presented by: Chris Chronis, Chief Financial Officer.

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

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Mr. Chronis are you speaking on the next item, Item H?"*

*Commissioner Norton said, "Mr. Chairman, before these young people leave, I would like Mr. Chambers to introduce them and tell us why they were here. They were very attentive. They made good eye contact. They look like they've got the agenda in front of them, and I'm curious."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "If you wouldn't mind coming up to the podium, please, so we can get you on the record here, if you wouldn't mind."*

*Mr. Wayne Chambers, President/CEO, High Touch Technologies, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I didn't want to be disruptive. I have a group of Young Entrepreneurs with me, who are in their shadow program this week at High Touch [Technologies]. They happened to be with me, yesterday. We went to City council, and today, they wanted an opportunity to come to the County Commission meeting. "They have not been to either before now, and they found it pretty exciting. So I'll let them introduce themselves."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Please come on up. Tell us what school you're from and what grade you're in."*

*Ms. Carley Phillips, Student, Augusta, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I am Carley Phillips and I am going to be a Senior at Augusta High School."*

*Mr. Dezo McGill, Student, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "My name is Devon McGill. I graduated from Heights High School."*

*Mr. Avion Love, Student, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm going to be a Senior at Heights High School."*

*Mr. Zach Vega, Student, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "My name is Zach Vega and I'm going to be a Junior at Southeast High School."*

*Mr. Marshall Johnson, Student, Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "My name is Marshall Johnson. I just graduated from Northwest High School."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Welcome to the Sedgwick County Commission. We're glad you all came, and if you've got other young folks who are interested in local government, you're always welcome here. We meet most Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m., and our agendas are online, if you want to kind of check out what we're going to be talking about. It does vary from week to week, but welcome, and good luck in the future, wherever you're going. Commissioner Norton has some comments."*

*Commissioner Norton said, "In the youth entrepreneur program, we look forward to your business start-up and being able to flourish in our community. Don't go away and get education and leave us. Start your business right here. We need all the young entrepreneurs we can get. And if you're from Augusta, you can come over to Sedgwick County. It's okay. We're proud that you're thinking about your career and about business and how you make a difference in the economy and use your education to start a business or be part of a corporate business. So thanks for coming today, your interest, and thanks, Wayne, for having them shadow you at the County Commission."*

*Mr. Chambers said, "Thank you, Commissioners, for this opportunity to have them sit and watch what happens in the real world, as you said, policy. So I didn't want to be disruptive, so I apologize for that. Thank you again."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "We needed a little break after our previous discussion, so you all are welcome and glad you came by. Come on back."*

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

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Speaking of coming on back, Mr. Chronis is recognized."*

*Mr. Chronis said, "I apologize Commissioners."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "No apology needed."*

*Mr. Chronis said, "I was fully prepared to take yes for an answer and forgot that I need two yeses. The item that's before you now is the agreement between the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County through which the city agrees to provide Sedgwick County with its share of local funding that we just discussed \$875,000. The agreement is in all material respects, identical to the yearly agreements that we have had with the City of Wichita since the county assumed administrative responsibility for the program in 2006. As I believe it was Commissioner Peterjohn may have noted, the amount of local funding from each jurisdiction, city and county, has changed over the years, but it has been \$875,000 for each jurisdiction for the past several years, and that's what this agreement is, as well. City Council is scheduled to take up this agreement at their meeting next Tuesday, and I have no reason to expect that they will not approve it. If you have any further questions about it, I would be happy to try and answer them. Otherwise, I would recommend that you approve the agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign."*

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Any questions or comments for Mr. Chronis? Seeing none, what is the will of the County Commission?"

**MOTION**

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

Commissioner Norton seconded the motion.

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "We have a motion and a second. Any discussion? Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess my only question, this is just the administration of the Fair Fares Program primarily, receiving money from the other two government units and making payments to Southwest? This is primarily just administration of the program; is that correct?"

Mr. Chronis said, "It's even less than that. This pertains solely to the receipt of the city's share of that funding, the \$875,000."

Commissioner Howell said, "Well, I do plan on supporting this one. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Thank you. I'm going to state for the record my reasons for supporting this are similar to the past one. I view this as administrative in nature and less than the previous motion. I'll be supporting. We have a motion and second before us. Seeing no further discussion, last chance, please call the vote."

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Howell	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Chairman Ranzau	Absent

**Approved**

**CONSENT**

- |   |                         |  |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| I | <a href="#">15-0453</a> | Two (2) Right of Way Easements, One (1) Permanent Drainage Easement and Three (3) Temporary Construction Easements for Right of Way Acquisition for Sedgwick County Project on 53rd Street North at Hydraulic. CIP# R-340. District 4. |
| J | <a href="#">15-0459</a> | Federal Funds Exchange Agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for Federal Fiscal Year 2015.   |
| K | <a href="#">15-0464</a> | Amendment to Employment Agreement with a COMCARE employee.   |
| L | <a href="#">15-0465</a> | Work Study Agreement with a COMCARE employee.  |

- M      [15-0466](#)      Community- Based Mental Health Services Agreement with Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC).
- N      [15-0468](#)      Second Quarter 2015 Range Reallocations.
- O      [15-0462](#)      General Bill Check Register for July 1, 2015 - July 7, 2015.
- P      **15-0463**      Payroll Check Register for the June 27, 2015 payroll certification.

*Mr. Ron Holt, Acting County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You have the Consent Agenda Items I through [Item] P. I recommend your approval."*

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Any questions or comments? What's the will of the Commission on the Consent Agenda items?"*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Norton moved to approve the Consent Agenda.*

*Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.*

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

**VOTE**

Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Commissioner Norton	Aye
Commissioner Howell	Aye
Commissioner Peterjohn	Aye
Chairman Ranzau	Absent

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Next item. I don't see anything in the way of legislative issues at this point. We'll then move to other."*

**LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

**OTHER**

*Commissioner Peterjohn said, "Any comments on other for this morning? I have a couple of items on the other. We did mention that the Sedgwick County Fair does start today, out in Cheney. There is a parade tonight, and I hope the weather will be accommodating. I believe it starts at 6:30 p.m., and they are planning a host of activities; now through Saturday night, and it's going to be quite an event. If you haven't been to the county fair, I recommend it highly. Winners get to go on to the state fair later on this year.*

*"I would also be remiss if I didn't point out that July 8th is an important day in American history. And on this date July 8th, 1776, the Liberty Bell was rung in Philadelphia. So it summoned Philadelphians to hear Colonel John Nixon provide the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence, and it's interesting in terms of*



*the Liberty Bell, because it's been a symbol of our country. It's even been on our coinage at some points in time. And the original Liberty Bell proceed claims from Leviticus 25:10, 'Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.' It's interesting that it struggled, had been cracked a number of times, and of course, very ceremonially, it was tapped June 6th, I believe, the last time, in 1944, announcing the allies landing on the beaches of Normandy.*

*"July 8th, other important events have occurred on this date. Commodore Matthew Perry sailed into Tokyo Bay in 1853 and opened up Japan for trade, and July 8th, 1932, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at its lowest level during the Great Depression at 41.22. So July 8th is an important day in history, and I wanted to get that added on to the record.*

*"Any other comments for other? Seeing none, Executive Session? There is no Fire Agenda, according to what I've checked. So seeing no further business before this County Commission, I'm going to adjourn this meeting."*

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.*

*BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS*

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*RICHARD RANZAU, Chairman  
Fourth District*

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*KARL PETERJOHN, Chair Pro Tem  
Third District*

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*DAVID M. UNRUH, Commissioner  
First District*

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*TIM R. NORTON, Commissioner  
Second District*

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*JAMES M. HOWELL, Commissioner  
Fifth District*

*ATTEST:*

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*Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk*

*APPROVED:*

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