

Sedgwick County

525 North Main Street 3rd Floor
Wichita, KS 67203



*Sedgwick County...
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Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

9:00 AM

BOCC Meeting Room

Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners

Pursuant to Resolution #007-2016, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on January 20, 2016, members of the public are allowed to address the County Commission for a period of time limited to not more than five minutes or such time limits as may become necessary.

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 Crissy Magee, Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator, 510 N. Main, Suite 306, Wichita, Kansas 67203. Phone: 316-660-7056, TDD: Kansas Relay at 711 or 800-766-3777

Email: Crissy.Magee@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 9:08 a.m. on June 14, 2017 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman David M. Unruh, with the following present: Chair Pro-Tem Commissioner Michael B. O'Donnell II; Commissioner David Dennis; Commissioner Richard Ranzau; Commissioner James M. Howell; Mr. Michael Scholes, County Manager; Mr. Thomas Stolz, Deputy County Manager; Mr. Eric Yost, County Counselor; Mr. David Spears, Director, Bureau of Public Works; Mr. Michael S. Borchard, Sedgwick County Appraiser; Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environment Resources; Ms. Lorien Showalter Arie, Budget Analyst, Division of Finance; Mr. Brent Shelton, Tax System Director, Finance Department; Sheriff Jeffrey Easter; Ms. Adrienne Byrne, Health Department Director, Division of Health; Ms. Misha Jacob Warren, Assistant County Counselor; Mr. Rick Durham, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Division of Finance; Mr. Joe Thomas, Director, Purchasing Department; Ms. Kate Flavin, Public Information Officer; Ms. Heddie Page, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

Mr. Scot Rigby, Assistant City Manager, City of Wichita

Chairman Unruh said, "Pastor, thank you for being with us this morning. Appreciate it, I will ask the clerk to call the roll, but I would want to say that Commissioner Dennis will be here in just a few minutes. He's been at a Friends of McConnell meeting at Botanica, [The Wichita Gardens] this morning representing the county. So he will be here shortly, but with that Madam Clerk, please call the roll."

INVOCATION: Reverend Randy Quinn, West Heights United Methodist Church.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

PUBLIC AGENDA

Chairman Unruh said, "Commissioners, I haven't had anyone sign up to speak the on public agenda this morning. So we will move on to the next item."

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- A [17-517](#) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2017.
All Commissioners were present.

MOTION

Commissioner O' Donnell moved to approve the minutes of May 10, 2017.

Commissioner Howell seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Commissioner Dennis | Absent |
| Commissioner Ranzau | Aye |
| Commissioner Howell | Aye |
| Commissioner O'Donnell II | Aye |
| Chairman Unruh | Aye |

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

Approved

B [17-518](#)

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 17, 2017.

All Commissioners were present.

MOTION

Commissioner O' Donnell moved to approve the minutes of May 17, 2017.

Commissioner Howell seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Commissioner Dennis | Absent |
| Commissioner Ranzau | Aye |
| Commissioner Howell | Aye |
| Commissioner O'Donnell II | Aye |
| Chairman Unruh | Aye |

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item, please."

Approved

APPOINTMENTS

C [17-566](#)

**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MICHAEL S. BORCHARD AS THE
SEDGWICK COUNTY APPRAISER.**

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the resolution.

Mr. Eric Yost, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Item C is a resolution reappointing Mr. Michael S. Borchard as Sedgwick County Appraiser, Mr. Borchard has been serving as Appraiser for 12 years. His current term expires at the end of this month, the statute set out various requirements to hold this office. Mr. Borchard meets all those qualifications, his new term if he were to be appointed would expire June 30, 2021 and I would urge adoption of this resolution."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright, thank you Mr. Counselor."

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the resolution.

Commissioner O' Donnell seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. Commissioners, you have an opportunity for comment or discussion. I would just open the comments by saying I think Mr. Borchard has been a faithful servant to the citizens of Sedgwick County through two appointments, I believe, for several years. He's in a job that is, it's a tough job, it's not an enviable position to be in. No one likes paying taxes, everybody thinks their appraisal too high. So, it gets a lot of resistant's I guess you would say to his work and all his staff, but I believe that we are in compliance with state requirements as we oversee this function of our County Appraiser. I'm pleased to say, I think, Michael's doing a good job. So I'm pleased to support this reappointment. Are there any other comments? Commissioner O' Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell thanked the Chairman and said, "I just appreciate Mr. Borchard's ability to work to work with people. Whenever I've had citizens that had issues with their home appraisals. He and his staff have been diligent addressing that, then I also know that the commercial side isn't as much fun. But I appreciate his willingness to work and try the help the citizens of Sedgwick County."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you, is there anyone from the public that wishes to speak on this particular reappointment? His office touches everybody in Sedgwick County one way or another. So, if there is someone that wants to make a comment, we're ready to hear it. I don't see anyone indicating a desire to speak. So, if there is no further discussion, Madam Clerk will you call the vote, please."

VOTE

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Commissioner Dennis | Absent |
| Commissioner Ranzau | No |
| Commissioner Howell | Aye |
| Commissioner O'Donnell II | Aye |
| Chairman Unruh | Aye |

Chairman Unruh said, "Mr. Borchard, did you want to make a statement?"

Mr. Michael Borchard, County Appraiser, thanked the Commissioners and said, "I just want to thank the Commission for their support, thank the County Manager and his folks for their support too. As well as all the staff in the Appraiser's Office for their support. We're going to continue to work on our mission to provide quality public service and provide an accurate appraisal roll annually using the formulation of property tax."

Chairman Unruh said, "Well, we want you to know that we appreciate your efforts and the efforts of all your staff. I don't remember how many folks you have that are involved in this service to the community. How many folks do you have?"

Mr. Borchard said, "There are 65 in our office."

Chairman Unruh said, "Sixty-five people, well, we, you know, we appreciate your work and we want you to carry forward and keep us in compliance with the laws, and if you could make my appraisal lower, well that's okay."

Mr. Borchard said, "Alright."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay."

Mr. Borchard said, "Thank you, Commissioner."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, I think we are ready for the next item, please."

Adopted

D [17-570](#)

RESOLUTION NOMINATING THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT AND REAPPOINTMENT, TO THE WICHITA CITY COUNCIL, AS MEMBERS OF THE WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the resolution.

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, item D is the resolution related to the Board of County Commissioners nominations for the Wichita Airport Advisory Board. Currently the County Commission has five members who are nominated by you all and then voted upon and appointed by the city. This resolution would nominate two individuals who are currently serving and then two individuals who would replace others."

"Commissioner Unruh, is recommending that Ron Ryan be re-nominated by the Board of County Commissioners and then reappointed by the city. Commissioner Howell is recommending that David Eslinger be re-nominated by this board and then reappointed by the city, Commissioner Dennis is recommending that Tim Bonnell be nominated by this Board of County Commissioners and appointed by the city. He would replace Mr. Rick Kerschen and Commissioner O' Donnell is recommending that John Hennessey, Jr. be nominated by this board and appointed by the city. He would replace Dr. Thom Rosenberg. The fifth person serving on the Airport Advisory Board is Commissioner Ranzau's recommendation, Mr. Rob Benton, whose term, he who has already been appointed a year ago and whose term expires June 30 of 2018. I think the paperwork all in order, Mr. Chairman and I would urge adoption of the resolution."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you, what's the will of the board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Howell moved to adopt the resolution.

Commissioner O' Donnell seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, "Is there any discussion? Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell thanked the Chairman and said, "I don't know all of these folks. I do know a couple of them and I just want to make a quick comment on David Eslinger. That is I used to work with him for very long time. He is in the audience, I just want to commend him for his service, like myself he is addicted to airplanes, he loves everything about aircraft and airport. So, he is a tremendous appointment to

this and a good member to our community. I just really appreciate his service and I am sure these other ones are wonderful people as well. I do know at least one other people being appointed here and great respect for him as well, but I just want to say about Dave and how great of a guy he is and how much I appreciate him specifically. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. Is there any other comment? Before we call the vote, I want the clerk to note that Commissioner Dennis has arrived at the meeting from his representation with Friends of McConnell, so."

Ms. Heddie Page, Deputy Clerk, said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Is there any other comment? Madam Clerk, call the vote."

VOTE

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Commissioner Dennis | Abstain (changed to Aye on page 7) |
| Commissioner Ranzau | Aye |
| Commissioner Howell | Aye |
| Commissioner O'Donnell II | Aye |
| Chairman Unruh | Aye |

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item, please."

Adopted

NEW BUSINESS

E [17-450](#) CONTRACT FOR A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOTE COLLECTION EVENT ON JUNE 17, 2017 WITH JEFF LANGE FOR THE K-MART LOCATED AT 47TH ST. S. AND BROADWAY.
Presented by: Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the contract.

Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environment Resources greeted the Commissioners and said, "Lot of us have unwanted chemicals around our house whether it's used oil, gasoline mixed with water or that chemical that we bought that we thought would be so great to clean everything in the house that just didn't work and it's shoved to the back of the cabinet under the kitchen sink. We can help people get rid of those unwanted chemicals. They can take them for free to our Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 801 Stillwell. It's open Tuesday through Friday, 9-5 and Saturday's 9-3.

"But in order to better help our community we also have remote household hazardous waste collection events. We have one this Saturday, June 17th and it's located at the Kmart store at 47th Street South and Broadway. That's on the southeast corner of that intersection and will be at the parking lot just north of the building. The remote would be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and we encourage any Sedgwick County citizen in the area to come to that facility and drop off unwanted chemicals. Before you, you have a contract signed by Jeff Lange representing the Kmart store and I recommend your approval and ask the Chairman to sign. I will be happy to answer any questions."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Susan. Commissioners, are there any questions? I think we're all familiar with this and the reason for it and the success of it. So, what's

the will of the board?"

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Mr. Chair, I am very excited about the event this Saturday, and I move that we approve the contract."

MOTION

Commissioner O' Donnell moved to adopt the resolution.

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Dennis Aye

Commissioner Dennis thanked the Chairman and said, "And I have a question? I was not, I didn't know which item you were on last time, I have no problem with item D and I would like to change my vote to aye on that because I concur."

Chairman Unruh said, "If that's legal, well we will certainly."

Mr. Yost said, "Sure it is."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Then we're all in agreement. So, thank you."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Now where were we, Madam Clerk?"

Commissioner Ranzau Aye
Commissioner Howell Aye
Commissioner O'Donnell II Aye
Chairman Unruh Aye

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item, please."

Approved

F [17-502](#)

CONTRACT FOR A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOTE COLLECTION EVENT ON JUNE 24, 2017 WITH USD 260 FOR DERBY NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL.

Presented by: Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the contract.

Ms. Susan Erlenwein said, "Not going to repeat everything I just said on the past one except that we have an event a week from this Saturday on June 24th. It will be located at the Derby North Middle School that's 3400 North Rock Road in Derby, it's on the east of Rock, easy access in and out of the school. So, we're looking forward to people going to that event as well.

"It's again, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on June 24th and the USD (Unified School District) 260 has signed the contract that's before you, I would recommend your approval and ask

the Chairman to sign. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you. We have a comment from Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to say like Commissioner O' Donnell, I am very excited to have this in the community, in my district. This is a new location, Derby has built a beautiful brand new middle school on the north end of Derby and it's going to be very accessible to people in south Wichita, people who might have connection to the military base, McConnell Airforce Base. It's a great location and great facility there, so I'm excited about using that and to have this in my community and just really excited. Again, that is 10 days from today, I think, today is the 14th, so 10 days out."

"So, people can start planning ahead, I hope people will show up I just want to make a little bit of a plea again. I'm still looking for, I think, six volunteers, if anybody wants to help with this event. It's a great opportunity to do this and what are the hours again of the event?"

Ms. Susan Erlenwein said, "9 a.m. to 1 p.m."

Commissioner Howell said, "9 a.m. to 1 p.m., so if anybody wants to be a volunteer for that let me know, I sure like to talk with you, that's great. With that Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we approve this contract."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you."

MOTION

Commissioner Howell moved to adopt the resolution.

Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner Dennis Aye

Commissioner Ranzau Aye

Commissioner Howell Aye

Commissioner O'Donnell II Aye

Chairman Unruh Aye

Ms. Susan Erlenwein said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Susan. Next item, please."

Approved

G [17-563](#)

CENTER CITY SOUTH TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT: AMENDMENT TO DISTRICT PLAN.

Presented by: Brent Shelton, Tax System Director, Department of Finance.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Take action as deemed appropriate by the Commission.

VISUAL PRESENTATION

Mr. Brent Shelton, Tax System Director, Finance Department; greeted the Commissioners and said, "The item before you this morning is a request from the City of Wichita for your considerations for an amendment to the district plan for Center City South Tax Increment Finance District. On May 20 or May 16th the City of Wichita voted to adopt an amendment to the plan that basically started a 30 day clock within which the city or the county and the school district have their right to weigh in on the plan and effect the change to that plan. You have three options before you today, as with any TIF (tax increment finance) district proposal you may vote by simple majority to approve this amendment, you may vote to deny it or you may also take no action, which would allow the amendment to the district plan to take effect.

"As we get into why this is before you today, it's an amendment to the district plan, it's not a project plan that would be a specific improvement. This would allow a change to the overall plan that was, is part of the initial approval of a TIF district. So, let me give a little bit of history about this TIF district and then what you are going to be looking at this morning. First of all this TIF district was approved in 2008, or I'm sorry 2007. See if we can get the technology working this morning. Basically the area that you see described here was the original TIF district. It's the Center City South Exchange Place TIF, you can see Century II over here, the Intrust Bank Arena and this TIF district, like I said was established in 2007.

"In 2008, the city council asked that the boundaries of this TIF district be expanded. The expansion of that included the area here in the red, which moved over around the Intrust Bank Arena further to the south. Now at the time that they brought this to you this is one of the three things for which the county or the school district has the ability to effect a change or creation to the TIF district. One is the actual creation, second is a material change to the boundaries, which is what this was and the third is a change the district plan, which is the overarching agreement that describes what the TIF is for.

"At the time, in December of 2008 that the expansion was approved by the Board of County Commissioners, you had a couple of caveats or conditions to that approval. One was that the scope of improvements that TIF funds could be used for was narrowed to basically street improvements, streetscapes that sort of thing. Also, parking as well and you put a limit on the amount of money for parking at \$10 million. "The other thing was that a share of the incremental revenues that would come from the increased in the assessed value in the TIF area, 30 percent of that revenue would go back to the districts that contributed, the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County and USD259. Typically, all of the incremental revenue goes to the TIF district in this area they get 70 percent and 30 percent then comes back to the districts.

"So, as you're looking at this, there are somethings that we need to consider as whether or not this change would have adverse effect on the county. Now, what the city is proposing is that the uses of TIF eligible funds would be expanded to include expenditures to drastically change the Naftzger [Memorial] Park area. Naftzger Park is the park that is just north of the Intrust Bank Arena. What the city is proposing is it would change from its current use to an urban park that's designed to maximize that space, it would be a more open space designed for events and different things that could be used in conjunction with event in Union Station, which is on the other side of the railroad. It could be used with events at the Intrust Bank Arena. So, it's more of an open urban concept plan, rather than what the park is designed for today.

"The impetus for this, one of them is that the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Basketball Tournament will have some games here in March of 2018. This would put a better face on the Intrust Bank Arena if the park is cleaned up, if you will, and changed into more of an events based venue. I'm told that the Naftzger family, who is the family that initially contributed money for the park is in support of the proposed improvements to the park and these expenditures are legally, statutorily TIF eligible expenditures, it's just that they were excluded from the limited scope that was made in the district plan when the, when the TIF was expanded in 2008.

"A couple of things to note is that the next steps in this will be a new project plan would need to be filed that would outline the specific improvements, give more focus to the money that has to be approved by a two-thirds majority of the city council and this does not change the amount of money that the county contributes to this TIF district going forward. Whatever money we would contribute next year, this is going to be the same. We're just allowing the city to reallocate resources that were already going to be contributing to this Tax Increment Finance District.

"Now, since this is an item that is one of the three that's identified as something that you have the ability to affect, we go through an adverse effect analysis to see would this change create an adverse effect on the county. Now remember, we have five items that we look at and because of the fact that the amount of money next year and in subsequent years wouldn't change, we're not really able to determine much, if any, adverse effect on the county. But let's walk briefly through the five items, just so you see how we got to that analysis.

"The first one is dealing with the potential loss of tax revenue and whether that hinders our effective future delivery of services. As I've mentioned, our contribution is going to be the same. In 2016, the county's levy goes into this TIF district, [\$] 68,000. If that goes up to 70 [thousand] next year, it will go up to 70 [thousand] whether you approve or deny this change today.

"If these park improvements do increase value or activity in the area, the county will share in 30 percent of that additional revenue. If it goes the other way, then, of course, then your contribution would go down. So, I'm not seeing anything that would indicate that the county's contribution is going to go up or down. If it does, our revenues from this area will go up or down accordingly.

"The second thing is, whether or not this project is economically feasible without county support. I'm told by economic development folks from the city that are projecting about a million and a half dollar project in the park that they do not have money currently budgeted to expend, make these expenditures in the park, that if they went forward with anything, it would be a much smaller version of this and that they probably wouldn't proceed at this point in time.

"The third thing is that deals with private equity funding, since this is just a reallocation of public money. We're don't, we're not looking to a developer and whether or not they have skin in the game. The fourth one talks about cost to county government being greater than benefits to county government. Again, the only time that we could find costs or potential costs to the county, if this reallocation results in something 20, 22, 24 years down the road, extending out the life of the TIF district, but in this area, they have identified 12 different potential project areas. So, I don't see any, no immediate impact to this going forward at this time.

"The fifth one deals with whether or not we were given sufficient data or notification

from the city, we've known about this for some time. We've been provided with information and answers to questions as they have come up. So, to summarize in the short-term, I'm not seeing any adverse effect to going forward with this amendment to the district plan. It will not affect our bottom line for the foreseeable future. With that, I will stand for questions."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you, Brent. Commissioners, are there any question or comment? Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, like the TIF question we had a couple weeks ago, I spent a fair amount of time on this one, trying to analyze it. I appreciate the presentation this morning. Thank you very much."

Mr. Shelton said, "You're welcome."

Commissioner Howell said, "I think, those five questions are pretty much the key to what we should do on these types of questions. I appreciate you analyzing that and helping us understand this impact. A couple of questions that I have. So, let me understand. The 70 percent of the growth in the base for the park, for the park is what we're talking about that's the \$615,000 over the 20 years; is that right? The county's portion is \$615,000, which is the growth in the base related to the park itself?"

Mr. Shelton said, "Right. That would be the, our contribution over a 20 year life span at the maximum development that they're looking at this point. So, we would contribute that's what that number is part of the incremental growth that we don't receive back."

Commissioner Howell said, "Right now, in terms of what's already been approved prior today the, this is a, this is already a TIF district and the money has already been essentially allowed to flow for purposes of the TIF, but what we're talking about today is changing the purpose slightly to allow them to do some renovation inside a park versus streets and lighting and landscape as was previously approved. Is that correct?"

Mr. Shelton said, "Exactly."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay, first of all let me just say, I can't say the name Naftzger very well, because there are four syllables. I'm sorry, four consonants back to back without any vowels between. So, that's a tough one for me, but overall think as I understand this, this is essentially no, cost to the county government except for the growth in the base that is what we're talking about, which going to go away regardless whether this was approved or not."

Mr. Shelton said, "Right."

Commissioner Howell said, "This doesn't change that equation. This simply the same thing, it just depends what the money is going to be used for. This is essentially City of Wichita, which passed this, seven to zero, them asking the county to agree to let them do this. They take the risk, they, if they're going to bond this out it's their bonds it's not our risk to the county. I don't know that there is any growth in terms of our cost of government, once again. So, I don't think our Sheriff's Department or our Fire Department or any of the other 40, roughly 40 agencies that we have will have a tremendous impact by this decision. So, again I think we ought to be good partners

with our friends across the street and support them wherever we can.

"So, I'm inclined to support this, but my only question would be, you know, if this original TIF was for streets and lighting, to the extent that this might shift some of that revenue toward the renovation of the park. Are they prepared to cover the costs of streets and lighting some other way? That might be a concern, but it's not our concern necessarily. It's a concern to the city, but I have that question. Have they addressed that at all?"

Mr. Shelton said, "I have not seen anything about that, I would say that this portion of the TIF district has exceeded the expectations in terms of value increase. So, it doesn't appear to be an issue at this time."

Commissioner Howell said, "Alright. I'm, I do have one other concern, but I don't know that you can answer this question. But I did talk with someone who represents Intrust Bank Arena. They were concerned a little bit about whether or not this could get done between now and March, 2018. Has anybody looked at the schedule of these renovations and making sure that that could actually happen?"

Mr. Shelton said, "What I know that at this point is that the city is considering their requests for quotes and so forth at this time. But as far as a time line for completion, I don't know."

Commissioner Howell said, "Alright. Well, Mr. Chairman, I see we have three options today. That is either we vote for this, approve the amendment or to not vote for this. I should say vote to veto the amendment or to take no action. Based on those three things, I think, my preference would be to be very clear with our support or our opposition to this proposal this morning. So, with that I would like to make a motion that we would take action, this morning by approving the amendment to the [TIF] district plan."

MOTION

Commissioner Howell moved to approve the amendment to the Center City South Tax Increment Finance District Plan.

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, we have further discussion. First, Commissioner Ranzau."

Commissioner Ranzau thanked the Chairman and said, "Well, I just going to share, I have a couple concerns, I think this is a good project, but I do have the concern that Commissioner Howell brought up that the original intent was for street improvements and parking facilities, I think is a good plan. Then by diverting resources away from that, I'm not sure that's the best idea and I guess I'd have to take issue with your assessment on item two whether not the project is economically feasible without county support. I think it's clear that it is and could be funded in other ways. I think it's best to retain the current agreement and dedicate the revenue for street improvements and parking facilities as previously agreed too. I think that's the appropriate use, so those are my concerns."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner O'Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I am very happy to support this project. I think it will be a great asset to Intrust Bank Arena, which is a county project."

But this is a great way for the city and the county to work together and improve quality of life downtown. I would also like to make a public plea with this that the city help us with our EMS (Emergency Management Services) contracts, since we're always so more than willing to help them with projects like this. So, thank you, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner, well said. Any other comment? Since this is an issue of broad public concern, I want to ask if there is anyone from the public that wishes to speak or make a comment or voice an opinion or if someone from the city, representative would like to make a comment."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Here's a guy who can help us with the EMS contract."

Chairman Unruh said, "Yes."

Mr. Scot Rigby, Assistant City Manager, City of Wichita, greeted the Commissioners and said, "You know, I'm smart, I'm going to stay out of that one. Thank you so much for hearing this issue. We're excited to really partner with you because we really want to have a great welcome mat to Intrust [Bank] Arena. We really view this project as an opportunity to put the best face on Wichita and Sedgwick County area. I know a lot focus is on the three days of NCAA Tournament, but we know there many other events that take place in and around Intrust Arena. One of the things we've heard from not only existing businesses, but as well as people who go to events at Intrust is where can we gather pre and post event. I kind of call it linger longer. We always wanted to have people linger longer downtown that benefits both the county and to the city.

"We also have heard from our businesses around who have identify Naftzer Park as a challenge. Unfortunately, we have issues with the park that has a gathering places for people who have, I'll call it, challenges. We have no silver bullet to answer that, I'll call that, the homeless issue. But we do know that this is one of the areas we can continue to work on that and improve that with our HOT team, which is our Homeless Outreach Team, because we have met with businesses, it is starting to impact their ability to recruit businesses as well as residents to these new apartments in the downtown. So we knew we had to take a look at this.

"The benefit we have now is we have proposals for new development adjacent to the park that would help clean up some of that area, but as well as generate incremental tax increase that then we could funnel to help meet these improvement to Naftzer Park. To the design that is out on the street today for RFQ, request for qualification for design. The goal is more of an open, I'll call it, event space that we hope to work with Intrust Arena and your team, to how do we do pre and post events.

"I know as I watch NCAA Tournaments and, you know, NFL events it's always those events pre and post, where they're doing videos of what's going on in and around our community, we would love to have the opportunity to showcase that to the world as we work to attract talent.

"I know we were just at the event at Douglas, celebrating the success of that in Cargill, to be able to respond to businesses needs to be able to recruit for not only today, but for long term. We feel Naftzer is important. So, we agree with you, it is very aggressive schedule to try and get a park done by March. We're going to do our darnedest, is that the right word, I'll call that's the correct word in this setting to make that happen.

"Sometimes people complain government doesn't move fast enough, this is one we are going to work hard as we can to makes sure if we aren't fully complete, but

substantially complete that we can put our best foot forward. So, I appreciate the support, we the partnership and we look forward to working with the county for a long term. Thanks."

Chairman Unruh said, "Well, thank you, for the record just state your name and title."

Mr. Rigby, said, "Sorry, Scot Rigby, Assistant City Manager, City of Wichita."

Chairman Unruh said, "Right, okay, thank you. Commissioners, do we have any questions for Mr. Rigby? I see none. So, thank you very much."

Mr. Rigby, said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Any further questions or discussions from the bench. Seeing none, we have a motion and a second, I think, Madam Clerk, please call the vote."

VOTE

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Commissioner Dennis | Aye |
| Commissioner Ranzau | No |
| Commissioner Howell | Aye |
| Commissioner O'Donnell II | Aye |
| Chairman Unruh | Aye |

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, Brent, thank you for that presentation. Next item, please."

Approved

H [17-495](#)

ADOPTION OF THE JUNE 2017 SEDGWICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE.

Presented by: Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the annual update for submission to Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE).

VISUAL PRESENTATION

Ms. Erlenwein said, "The Kansas Department Health and Environment (KDHE) requires counties to develop a solid waste management plan and to update that on an annual basis. Our anniversary for that is June of every year. This Solid Waste Management Committee has reviewed this plan update, they did not have a quorum at their meeting. They were one short, but all of ones in attendance approved the plan update unanimously.

"So I would like to review with you what the Kansas Department of Health and Environment requires and some of the projects we've accomplished. One of the things they require is listing who collects trash in our community, another word for trash is Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). They always try to make it sound prettier than what is. There are 19 business licensed to haul MSW in our county, 14 of those provide weekly residential collection, the others are one that do huge clean ups that you see ads for, so we have list in the plan update.

"We also list how much waste is disposed of in our community. Over 402,000 tons were received at our two transfer stations in 2016. Now the two transfer stations are

both privately owned, one is located up north at 37th Street North, just west of West Street and the other is down south at Hoover and 53rd, 55th Street South. Excuse me, but compared to last year we had a slight increase in the amount of trash thrown away, 2.5 percent increase. This graph shows a five-year trend on how much material has been thrown away. You can see 2014 was a low year and then it's gone back up. We're still less than we were back in 2012. The reason for the dip could have been economic reasons, also we had, as you'll see later we had more recycling preformed in 2014.

"State requires us to look at the look at the census numbers and how much we're throwing away per person per day and this is what this graph shows. We're at 4.31 pounds per person per day thrown away in our community. That's right in line with what the state number is, which is 4.28. So we're about normal with the state number. They want us to look at how people manage grass clippings or yard waste. Of course, it's recommended that people mulch mow when they can, not have to pick up the material that helps fertilize the ground as well. But we do have two composting facilities where people can take material. One is Evergreen, located up north at 53rd Street North, just west of Broadway. The other is at Brooks Landfill, which is just north of K-96 at West Street. You can see 332 tons of material was taken to the Brooks, and over 3,000 tons taken to Evergreen. Also some small cities have their own compost area just for the residents. One example I can give is Haysville. They have a compost area for their citizens.

"There were four facilities receiving recyclable material from our community and they reported over 46,000 tons were received in 2016. That's a look at that over a five-year period. You can see, as I mentioned, trash was low in 2014. It was high in recycling in 2014 and we've kind of evened out. Unfortunately, last year you may know that the large recycling bins at the Dillion's stores were pulled. These bins were provided by Waste Connections who paid for them. Dillon's provided the locations.

"Due to so much material left outside of the bins and trash being thrown inside them, which unfortunately, if there was trash mixed in then the whole bin was considered trash and the material thrown away. Waste Connections along with Dillon's decided to pull those locations. Those bins are still located in the City of Haysville, Park City and Valley Center, because they have not had those problems. So for now we have those three, but there other locations where people can take materials, such as International Paper and Pro Kansas Miller [Recycling]. So, people still have the ability to drop off or get curbside recycling, they need to contact their waste hauler for those options.

"County also provides a Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Last year we received over 1,144,000 pounds of material from over 26,000 participants. So, we have a lot of people going to our facility, dropping off household hazardous materials, such as oils, cleaners, paints, gasoline.

"So, that's very good. We also take pharmaceuticals over-the-counter and non-controlled substances. We cannot take the controlled, which is the painkillers that you would have to pay, for the morphines and codeines, except on National Drug Take Back Day. We participate with that with DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) and the local Sheriff's Department. You need someone with the Sheriff's Department there in order to take controlled drugs.

"We also work with businesses, the smaller businesses that don't have a lot of hazardous waste, our permit allows us to take materials waste from them. We do charge the businesses at our cost, which is a lot less than they would pay if they

called a company and had this come to their facility. Because of our contract, we have lower rates than what they can get. So we work with businesses and that helps them save money. It's over 60,000 pounds from small businesses last year. We have our swap and shop area where material that's brought in and is in good condition, we check it, make sure, for example, that the paint is not moldy, can be used again or cleaners that the labels are readable. We put those out on the shelf and people can come in and get those materials for free. It saved us money, last year we saved over \$116,000 in disposal costs from people picking up this material. It saves them money because it's free to them and it's worked out very well over the years. So, we encourage people to go use the facility. You don't have to bring something in to pick something up.

"Also, we have five remote collection events every year. Last year, we received over 155,000 pounds from the five remotes. You can see the locations there, Textron Beechcraft, Haysville, Goddard, Park City, Oaklawn and earlier today I mentioned the next two that we're having the one down at Kmart at 47th and Broadway and the one the following week at Derby North Middle School.

"But we've also had them in other areas and this works very well, a lot of people come out, we always hope for good weather and that's an actual picture, of a remote event with all material brought in. We hope for good weather and that a lot of people attend these. This graph shows the amount of pounds of material coming into the household hazardous waste facility. You can see it's been increasing. Last year, slightly lower than the year before, but it's over a million pounds that we've been receiving there.

"Our customer base, if you look at the blue line on top, the number of customers has been increasing, coming to the facility. So we're trying to get the word out so people know about us and that they come and properly dispose of their household hazardous waste. We also have construction and demolition landfills in our community. There are two of them. Brook's Landfill and CDR North. They're both up at K-96 and West Street area. This takes material such as drywall, two by fours, carpeting, shingles, concrete, any material that's considered inert can go to these facilities and it's a slight increase, less than one percent, from 2015 to 2016.

"Our county offers bulky waste coupons to help residents dispose of large items, sofas, chairs, anything they can't fit in the trashcan, we'd like them to use this coupon. We will be offering it again this year starting in August. What this allows is the person to go online or call, sign up for a coupon, it's mailed to them.

"They'll have three months to use it and they can get rid of 1,000 pounds for free at either the north transfer station or the south transfer station. Unfortunately, as you can see, we issued over 7,000 in 2016 because people say, oh, it's for free, I might need it and they get one, then they don't use it. Thirty-eight percent of the people did redeem their coupons last year. So that's good, and we like it, order it if you need it, not just maybe. You know, if you think you're going to use it and they give you plenty of time to use it. But just because it's free doesn't mean you should just get one and throw it away.

"We also work with Christmas trees. We have a recycling program where we have parks all around the city and county where people can bring their Christmas trees if the material is mulched, they can come and get the material for free. We have 22 sites, we had almost 5,000 trees converted to mulch last year. That was a 23 percent increase from the previous year. So, I think you see cycles of the people using fake trees and then going back to real trees.

"We have special cleanups that we've performed. This past year, I gave a talk to the

townships at their annual meeting about having a cleanup in the township, like a city, neighborhood cleanup. Salem Township took me up on it last year. We had five different locations around Salem Township where we put out two dumpsters for trash, one for appliances and one for tires. It would be there from one weekend, the following week and the next weekend, so nine days for people to bring material. If the dumpster became full we'd have it removed and brought back, so more material could be set into it.

"Over 203 tons of material was collected in Salem Township from this. Thirteen CFC (Chlorofluorocarbons) appliances, that's with your freon in it, so your air conditioners or refrigerators and over 3,600 tires without rims and 200 with rims were dumped in that. That would still be out in our community today, I'm sure, if we hadn't done this program.

"We also worked with the Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department (MABCD) and the Aging Department on helping specific residence clean up the area. When MABCD is citing people with fines that if they don't clean up they will have to pay money. The people may be willing but not have the money to get rid of the materials. So, we actually deliver a dumpster to the home that they can fill up, the neighborhood looks better, it's cleaner, we get material out of the neighborhoods. Same with the Department of Aging, they may have elderly people are hoarding situations where we help clean those up.

"We had a 105 of those in 2016, so far 111 of those in 2017. We're actually limiting the number that we do per week because we want to save money for the next coupon program coming up in August. There is an example of a dumpster that was dropped off at a house for one of these clean ups. We also help clean up illegal dump sites around the county, we've worked with Kansas Department of Health and Environment on this and with the townships. Here's an example of one in Sedgwick County, so you could have tires, cars, trash and if there is trash we try to work with the Sheriff's Department on identifying who may have dropped it off. "If there is any envelopes in there, again, mattresses, and tires and trash. We provide free no dumping signs to townships for them to put out on the road, letting people there are fines up to a \$1,000 for doing this. We like to keep it cleaned up, we don't like having tires out there that's going to collect water.

"Since we started doing this back in 2002, we've collected 1,600,000 pounds of material from the townships cleaning up the roads. They take it to the transfer stations and the solid waste fee pays for the disposal costs. So, it's a nice partnership where they're providing labor and we're providing disposal.

"We also look at storm debris and try to know when there is large storm events, we let the citizens know they can bring it to the material to the county west yard. At that west yard we have tub grinder, which is also portable, we have taken it out to other cities to grind material and turn it into mulch for the citizens. We also have an air curtain burner that's much cleaner than burning on the surface. On the left is a picture of an open burn, you can see the flames, there's a lot of smoke. On the right is the air curtain burner, much cleaner and this is the way the state prefers it. So, we try to work and be ready for if there is a widespread storm, we can help the citizens.

"Just this past April we had a tire collection event and it was held for three days. The first day we had it, it was for governments and townships, cities, schools, anyone who had tires in a large truck. We wanted to keep them separate from mom and pop with a trailer backing up for safety reasons. So we collected from them on Thursday and Friday. Saturday from anybody coming in from the residents. "The three days we did this we collected over a 101,000 tires and that came from 1,300 vehicles. I would like

to say this is the fifth tire event we've had and each year, except for the first two, it's been getting lower. Actually, the first year we had it was like 212,000 tires.

"The next one was just above that 220 something thousand tires and it's been going down since then. So, I think, it show we are getting the tires out of the community the fact that it keeps getting lower each time we do this. We don't like the tires out there, the mosquito breeding habitat, there could be a road hazard if they are left in the road, so we try to work again with townships to get them out and have events like this.

"The state also requires that we look at permit and grant applications in the county there were none for last year. We also do public education on our website, on pamphlets, on ads in the papers trying to get the message out. The solid waste fee is reported here on what it was last year, it was the same as previous year and you will be looking at this item, right after me on the fee, but I would like to say one of the things I've been looking at are electronic waste. In 2009, we had a one-day electronic waste event up at the pavilion two, at the Coliseum. In one day we received over a million pounds of electronic waste. I'll never do that again. It was, the line went from 85th Street down I-135 to 53rd, and who knows how many people didn't stay in line and bring us material.

"What I would like to, since we had that event different companies have come forward saying they will take certain electronics, but right now the hardest thing for people to get rid of are television sets and computer components, especially monitors. Some places charge \$20 or \$25 to get rid of those. At one point they were free, they're not free disposal anymore. So, I would do a specific event like TV only and have an event for that, not one day, but put over a week or so, same with computer components.

"So, I am looking at that as a possibility for next year and working out the details for that, has to be inside a building to get it out of the weather. For the company that would get the low bid to take that material. They don't want it rained on so, that's one of the things on the horizon that we're looking at and I will remind people that there is like 20 states that have bans on throwing away electronic material, Kansas is not one of them. People can throw the material in the trash, but lot people want to do the right thing, they know there are some hazardous chemicals in those components and they don't throw them away, they want to see them recycled.

"I think another part of that is you spent so much money on a TV or a computer the idea of just throwing it in the trash bothers people. So, we'd like to provide them a good opportunity to get rid of this material in a safe way. With that I would be happy to stand for any questions."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you, Susan. Lot of information. Commissioners, are there any comment or questions about the solid waste plan? Commissioner Dennis."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Thank you. Susan, I'm glad you mentioned the e-waste because if you hadn't mentioned it I would have been asking you a question about it. I do think it's important that we hold an event again just from, it's been a long time since you held it last time and you saw that the response was overwhelming."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Very."

Commissioner Dennis said, "I think once we get a lot of these old CRT (Cathode Ray Tube) type monitors out of services, why it will probably the demand will go down

because everything is going to LED (Light Emitting Diode), LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) and so forth. But in the meantime, I think, sooner rather than later we need to have another event to get rid of some of that e-waste. With that I appreciate the feedback and I recommend that we approve the update and submit it to KDHE."

MOTION

Commissioner Dennis moved to approve the update for submission to Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, I'll second the motion. We have more comment, Commissioner Ranzau."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Thanks, Susan for the briefing and everything you do."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Thank you."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Outside of putting the stuff on a yearly basis, have we made any changes to this plan as far as our expectations or anything like that?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, "No we haven't."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you, Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple quick questions on this swap and shop..."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Howell said, "The items you give, the items that are there for the public is it for purchase or how does that work?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, "The items are there, we have limited it to 10 items per person per month, but it's free. The reason we limited it is that some people started coming in and whipping out an entire sections for carpentry, you know, the lacquers and thinners. So to be fair so everyone who is paying the solid waste fee has an opportunity to take advantage of this, we've decided to limit 10 per person per month and that has been working very well. We also mix paint there, we have white, tan and gray paint available, five gallons of latex paint for \$25."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. When we're not collecting the, I'm looking at the DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. If someone has some prescription drugs and especially these, you know, pain management-type drugs, how do they get rid of them, if this event doesn't happen in their community. How does someone get rid of that type of prescription?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Some pharmacies have started taking them back. I'd suggest they call their pharmacy and see if there one of those. Otherwise, the suggestions are to mix the drugs in kitty litter or old coffee grinds and bag them, that way who wants to take a drug once it's been in that? So that's the reasoning and that's what they recommend. We do not recommend flushing them down the toilet because that becomes another issue with water quality."

Commissioner Howell said, "But if they do mix them with the kitty litter or whatever then they can put them in the trash?"

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Howell said, "Do solid waste disposal that way, okay. I was going to ask about the flushing because that is what we see on TV a lot, you know, people flush their whatever, contraband or whatever it's going to be and I just think creates another problem for the water treatment facilities or the sewage treatment facilities. They have got to manage that as well."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Well and most wastewater disposal facilities cannot treat for the drugs and they've actually done some tests and found, just across the border in Colorado now male fish are carrying eggs from all the female hormones from the drugs have gone into the water."

Commissioner Howell said, "I would like to say, I agree with my colleague that the e-waste is something, I think, we ought to try to do. I appreciate the report on that as overwhelming as that was it just tells you there is probably a pretty good need for that. I would just like to reflect upon, we did an Oaklawn clean up a little more than a year ago. The things we saw the huge amounts of were sofas and couches, mattresses and a lot of e-waste. Lots and lots of TV's, those are the areas, those are the things I think that people trouble knowing what to do with those."

"One more, I guess, one more quick comment out of the 101,193 tires we collected this year, that was only out of 13,007 vehicles. If you divide that out that is only about 77 tires per vehicle. To me that's just shocks me, little bit. Other words, there may be some, I guess, people who are collecting these for some reasons. I don't know why they would have 77 tires, but ..."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "I've talked to some land owners who purchased land and they didn't realize how many tires were scattered about in the brush on the land until they started cleaning them up. They would have tires in the back of the truck and trailer load, full. More than one time they would have to come in to get rid of them."

Commissioner Howell said, "Wow."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "So that's just one example."

Commissioner Howell said, "Well, that is, I guess, that is just jaw dropping to me. I'm a little surprised at that number and makes me wonder, this is just more of a comment I suppose, but when we do these types of cleanups as much as I think it's the right thing to do to get this material out of our community it in some sense, if we don't do it the stuff ends up on county roads or in ditches or stored on people's property that causes all kinds of problems with critters and mosquitos. Who knows what all. So, I think it's great to get this stuff out of the community."

"Some of the areas like in Oaklawn they might store the stuff on a, you know, a city size property in the backyard, and not have the money to get rid of that. So that to me is a great thing for us to do. But on the other hand I hope we're not encouraging someone to wait for the next event, you know. Because I know when I buy tires they usually say it's a couple of bucks or whatever it is to dispose of these tires and I have to pay the fee. I suppose there's some people who might say not, they don't want to pay and they will simply store that until the next event."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "That is correct. We do not allow businesses who receive money

for tires to bring them to the event. But, if someone was going to store it up for years, one thing Kansas Department of Health and Environment has limitation on how many tires someone can have on their property. A business, for example, is limited. I think human nature you may always have people who will take advantage of whatever program we offer."

Commissioner Howell said, "Very good. I don't think I have any other questions. I think you have a motion and a second. Is that correct?"

Chairman Unruh said, "We do."

Commissioner Howell said, "I'm very supportive of the motion this morning and thank you for the report."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner O' Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just wanted to echo. Susan, I think it's really critical that we do another e-waste event. I talked people even with the event coming up this Saturday, people asked me if we would take old electronics. So, I think that should be a priority for you to help get a community wide event sometime this year. May be not just do it in one morning maybe you stretch it out over, over a period of time. Just so people can get rid of those old TV's and electronics, so. Thank you."

Ms. Erlenwein said, "I'll plan on it."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Is there any other comment. Seeing none, Madam Clerk, call the vote."

VOTE

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|---------------------------|-----|
| Commissioner Dennis | Aye |
| Commissioner Ranzau | Aye |
| Commissioner Howell | Aye |
| Commissioner O'Donnell II | Aye |
| Chairman Unruh | Aye |

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

Approved

I [17-509](#)

ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SOLID WASTE FEES FOR 2018.

Presented by: Lorien Showalter Arie, Budget Director.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Ms. Lorien Showalter Arie, Budget Analyst, Division of Finance, greeted the Commissioners and said, "What's being presented to you today for the 2018 solid waste fee is not what was included in the original agenda item and back up material as published. However, we have heard there is a concern about stormwater and how to handle it in conversations with Commissioners. So staff's recommendation today is

in the short-term to increase this fee for 2018 to allow for additional cleanup of stormwater debris and the long term we will still be looking for a way to address this issue with a long-term funding source.

"The resolution that is proposed for 2018 suggests a range of fees that are one dollar more per tier than the fees that were established for 2017. The residential fee is \$5.88, tier I is \$4.44 per parcel, tier II is \$5.58 per parcel, tier III is \$6.73 per parcel, tier IV is \$7.87 per parcel, and tier V, which is large multi-use properties such as the malls is \$5.58 times the number of business units within that parcel. For 2018, there is also language included in the resolution that will allow government owned land that is otherwise exempt from property tax for government use to be exempted from the solid waste fee.

"This one dollar increase would add additional \$226,000 in revenue for 2018, which would be built in the operating budget to allow that money to be used for additional storm debris cleanup or additional events in addition to what Susan described to you moments ago. If you have any questions, I would be happy to try and answer them and if you don't have any questions, then I recommend you adopt the resolution that is before you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Well, thank you, Lorien. The prices that you iterated there they're the proposed prices that you're asking us to approve? Not last year's prices that's the new prices."

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "That's correct, it's one dollar more per tier then was adopted last year."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. We have a comment from Commissioner Ranzau."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "So, this proposed increase. What exactly is it going to be used for?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "It would be available to be used for additional storm debris cleanup events or additional special events in addition to the ones Susan has planned for 2018."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "We don't have anything specific?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "No, not at this time."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Okay, so why are we, if we don't know what we're going to use it on, I mean, its, I'm a little confused originally I was briefed that we were going to keep it the same level."

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "Yes, that was, oh, excuse me."

Mr. David Spears, Director, Public Works, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Commissioner Ranzau could I assist?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "Yes, please."

Mr. Spears said, "Lorien, you did a great job by the way."

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "Thank you."

Mr. Spears said, "This would be for storm debris removal only. We've talked to legal

about it, like when you have a storm, ice storm, or a heavy rain storm, flooding, to get only the tree limbs, the debris out of the creeks. We could not use this money for like reshaping a bank or putting in riprap or other drainage items that might normally be used. It is only for solid waste, which would be tree limb debris removal and that's it."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "For stream maintenance?"

Mr. Spears said, "Yes."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "To expand that?"

Mr. Spears said, "Well, yes."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Now, do you do that? I know I've asked you this, do you do this year around?"

Mr. Spears said, "Yes."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "We have a new way of doing this, so we're not limited by weather."

Mr. Spears said, "Well, we have, we have four people, we're in the middle of budget talks now. We are looking at maybe adding some more, some more equipment next year that's another thing. We have 30, right now 31 projects on a to-do list that we're to go to. Yes, they are busy year-round even in, in fact the winter is one of the better times to work. So they're busy year-round."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Okay, well I guess I just ask. Some issues a few years ago, you know, we decreased this with staff's recommendation because they said we had adequate resources and we have some reserves. Now at the last second we're wanting to increase this for a use that, I hear what you're saying it seems interesting. But we're using this fee for that, but we do need to do stream maintenance. But at the same time we need to make, I think we have revenue sources available already, I mean, that's called our general fund and I'm concerned we got a list of what that crew is being used for, they're being used for other things than stream maintenance like putting in bridges and doing some other projects. A variety of things, I think, the first thing we want to do if we think it's important and a priority that we make sure they're doing stream maintenance all year around."

"At this late date without good plan and this seems to me to be rushed. I'm not going to vote to increase this tax basically. So, I think there are alternative ways to do it. I do think it's important that we do it, I'm not convinced we're doing it in the most efficient way possible."

"I think we also need to look at outsourcing some of that, contracting to see if we can at least find out if we need to get other people to do it. Before we consider increasing this, that's what I'm thinking..."

Mr. Spears said, "I understand what you're saying exactly, just want to clarify a little better. It would be used mainly like when there's an emergency like type situation of an ice storm or flooding that our stream maintenance could not possibly keep up with and you know, be over a large area that this would help. That's the purpose."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "I understand what you're saying."

Mr. Spears said, "Okay."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "I also know what the intent is, I've been, I know what's going on."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you, Commissioner. We have a comment from Commissioner O'Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. From what I understand this fee could be used for things like having an e-waste event, correct? To add more events throughout the year."

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "That is correct."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "In the community, first off. Second, we used to have a reserve account that was depleted after, was it after the 2012 tornado in Haysville? Because I know Haysville was the last area down in my district that received substantial amount of funding for disaster relief."

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "Yes, in 2013, the City of Haysville qualified under the reimbursement policy we had at that time and they received \$73,000 from that storm debris contingency."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "So, having this added fee would be available to the smaller communities if there were another ice storm, tornado, some type of event, act of God that would be, this would be available for the communities in Sedgwick County, correct?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "At this time we don't have that policy anymore. It was rescinded when the storm debris contingency was done away with in the 2016 budget. So, that would be something that would need to be discussed further."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Okay, but the money if we do change the policy we could put money toward that. Is that correct?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "You could, if you voted on that, yes."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Okay, thank you."

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

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was here when we voted to lower the fees. I would just like to know if you can, I think. I may have this dated that you presented to me, when you briefed me before today. But I didn't bring it with me, so could you please remind me just talk about the residential, what was the fee before we lowered that can you remind me, please?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "Yes, the fee was lowered in 2016, in 2015 it was \$6.48 for residential."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. The other tiers, did they also go down by an equivalent amount?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "They did, yes."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. Back when we voted on that I didn't, I did not know that there would be potentially other uses for this money. I am very concerned about the flooding that has been continuing to happen down in the south part of the

county. I think, whole county really has a problem, but I'm sensitive to what's going on in the Derby/Mulvane area. Just one case and point there are trees that are down from the ice storm we had. What was the year we had such a significant ice storm?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "I believe it's 2008."

Commissioner Howell said, "2008, so there is still a huge amount tree debris that has, that had fallen in 2008 during that ice storm. So much so that just one community the Deer Lake Estates, which is right to the east of Oaklawn, if I understand correctly, if we put our entire street maintenance on that that one project alone would take them an entire year. To just to take care of that one area where the tree branches have fallen. So this is a pretty significant area if I look the stream, if I look at the storm mitigations that have been identified for the spring creek watershed. We're looking at roughly a quarter billion dollars' worth of things that need to be done, which I consider to be infrastructure. The biggest problem with getting those things done is, of course, is revenue. Now all of this isn't going to fall into this camp, but removing storm debris that happened during that ice storm is something we could do with this money.

"So, I've identified this is a potential way to get some additional work done and I know when the budget was presented to in a hearing we talked about changing our stream maintenance crew from four back to six back in 2009, I believe it was, we lowered our crew from six to four for budget constraints. For some reason, I think, we felt like we didn't have a, maybe we were caught up, I don't know what. But asking our folks today, they say the list is as long as your arm and so we're not keeping up with it. We have deferred maintenance that needs to get done. We can in my opinion, contract this out, potentially get caught up if we had some revenue to do that with.

"I guess I would like to do something substantial. This is not a huge amount of money, but it is enough money that the people that have been impacted would like to see something done and so I would say, by the way, if you add in the other mitigations around the county that we're aware if we're approaching half billion dollars' worth of things that need to be done, in terms of stormwater management. So this is going to cost an average residence nine cents a month to do this fee increase, but it does provide a chance for us to get ahead on some of this stuff. Right now, we're not keeping up with it. So, with all that I've just said, I am supportive of this resolution the morning and I appreciate the presentation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

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

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Yeah, just to clarify I am supportive of e-waste event, stream maintenance, I think, we can do it with current resources we have. I am particularly concerned, just to clarify that particular program that Commissioner O' Donnell talked about that we cancelled, I think people need to remember that program was in existence I think for, I don't know, for 10 years. It was meant to fill a gap. It was never used except one time and that was in the City of Haysville. That particular instance I call a fraudulent claim because we essentially paid them for expenses they didn't incur.

"So, that is why that particular program was shut down and if we're going to raise fees to bring that back, I don't think that was a good, you know, I don't think that would've been appropriate. I think, eliminating that particular program was meant to free up that money to use for other stuff that's more beneficial like stream maintenance and all this other stuff. So I'd be concerned if that's the intent also as we move forward. So that is just some of the history and why I would not be supportive

of that particular, to use it for that particular program."

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

Commissioner Dennis said, "Thank you. We set this each year, right?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "That's correct."

Commissioner Dennis said, "So, next year if we find that we've got too much in the balance we can always reduce it again next year, correct?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "You could, yes."

Commissioner Dennis said, "It amounts to the average residence about eight and a half cents a month, the raise."

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "Yes, the raise. Yes, about 49 cents total."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Total, okay. We can use it for this e-waste that we've already discussed several times, correct?"

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "That is correct."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Okay. Well, I know down south they're having problem with stream maintenance. Out west, of course, I've got 450 square miles in my district and Cowskin [Creek] and Catskin [Creek] are two of the major areas that cause flooding out in west part of Sedgwick County and I'm concerned about it. When they briefed me on it initially and they did come and brief us with leaving it the same. I was one of the ones that said hey, can we use this for some these tasks that we just talked about. That I think it is probably why the change from the initial briefing, some of the questions that I and maybe some of the others Commissioners had. So, I am supportive of raising it this year. We can always adjust it next year, we want to obviously watch to make sure we are using it for the right thing. But I believe this is something that with an increase of eight and a half cents a month that the citizens can afford and that will pay big dividends in the long run. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Lorien, I don't remember if you said how much this will generate."

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "Yes, about \$226,000 additional revenue."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. That can be used then for a variety things, not to support the program in general, but specifically the e-waste event that's been discussed and stream maintenance that we all agree prevalent need across the entire county. So, I think it's reasonable, a reasonable amount of money to support that solid waste plan. So, I'm going to be supportive of this issue, but I don't know if there, I don't see any Commissioner asking to speak, is there someone from the community that would like to make a comment on this? Okay, I don't see anyone rising to speak. Madam Clerk, I'm not sure we have a motion yet."

Ms. Heddie Page, Deputy Clerk, greeted the Commissioners and said, "No sir, we do not."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, that being the case, what is the will of the board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Dennis moved to adopt the resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner O'Donnell seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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| <i>Commissioner Dennis</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Ranzau</i> | <i>No</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Howell</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner O'Donnell II</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Chairman Unruh</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

Chairman Unruh said, "Lorien, thank you."

Ms. Showalter Arie said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

Adopted

J [17-548](#)

**CONSIDERATION OF A 2017 COMMUNITY POLICING
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51,000
FOR TRAINING CLASS DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED TRAINING
SUPPLIES.**

Presented by: Colonel Richard Powell, Sheriff's Office.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the application for the grant, and if awarded authorize acceptance of the grant, the establishment of budget authority as provided in the Financial Considerations section of this Request.

Sheriff Jeff Easter, Sedgwick County Sheriff, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I appreciate you giving me an opportunity speak about this today. CISM stands for critical incident stress management training or critical incident stress management. What this means is that several years ago, law enforcement across the nation, and including public safety services, EMS, Fire, those type of things, recognized that when public safety officials go out to different type of scenes, murder scenes, car accidents, traumatic injury scenes, child death scenes, it causes stress to be induced within those public safety officials.

"We also found, at least in law enforcement, a lot of these factors were contributing to an uptick in suicides amongst law enforcement officers, alcohol issues, divorce issues, those type of things. So CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management) was developed. Basically what it is, it's a group of peers along with a psychiatrist.

"We use EMPAC here locally, a very good partner with us, to sit down with the individuals that are affected by the event, give them the opportunity to talk through it, voice their feelings on it. We then give them the opportunities for other type of treatment options, other type of coping mechanisms to help deal with this particular issue.

"Years ago, that was not done, basically. In those particular professions, it was seen as a weakness if you struggled with those type of issues. It was seen that you were weak and maybe shouldn't be in this profession. What we have found over the years, that's not true whatsoever. We're all human. We all experience feelings. There's certain things that will affect you. You know for me, it was child death stuff, because I had kids. Some of the other stuff never really affected me, but child death stuff did.

"So everybody has a trigger point, and what we had found was that through CISM, folks opened up and should have opened up. They have stronger family ties because they didn't want to expose their family to what they were seeing. They have a lot less stress that causes some of the divorce issues, the alcoholism issues, and unfortunately, the suicide issues.

"So we have a group of about 15 individuals within the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office that includes our civilian personnel, detention deputy and our commissioned personnel. We've been trained extensively on these issues. We activate the team any time that we've had a serious event, whether it's an officer involved shooting, a horrific accident. Sometimes we've had some really horrific suicides that involved children. So anything that rises to that level, or if the employee themselves says, hey, I'm really struggling with this, I'd like to have some CISM team members come talk to me. So it's really grown.

"The Sheriff's Office here in Sedgwick County has been one of the leaders within the state of really developing this program and pushing it forward, so much so that we get inundated by other entities within Sedgwick County and the surrounding areas, because some of the other counties don't have as large of offices or police departments. They don't have this mechanism in place. They know we do. So we'll come up and assist them in their horrific type of events that take place in their particular counties.

"One such event, that was the first time that I'm aware that we have been utilized, as you may know, here a couple weeks ago, we had a individual that works inside of our clinic, very good person, very well-liked by the clinic staff, which is a subcontractor of ours, that was murdered. We were asked to bring in the CISM team to talk to the other staff. There was 24 people in attendance. It was a two hour meeting, which is rather long, but it was very much appreciated by our clinic staff, and it's assisted us in helping move them forward and still doing the job they've got to do every day.

"So what this grant is, it's a COPS (Concerns of Police Survivors) grant that will provide \$51,000 in additional funding to be able to put on CISM training to train some more members of the Sheriff's Office, but for the most part, the reason we're asking for it is we want to be the hub to help train other departments, other public officials or public safety officials in this particular program. The COPS grant, I normally do not apply for anything through COPS, because there's always strings attached. There's always matching funds. There's always something that they want the county or the Sheriff's Office to put forward to get this grant.

"There is nothing that is required of us or of you to match any grant or any type of monies that the grant provides. This is the first COPS grant that we've applied for in about seven years, because of those issues. So what we're hoping to do is that we will receive this grant, we'll partner with the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC), which provides training throughout the state of Kansas. If you go west of Sedgwick County here, there's a lot of smaller agencies, smaller Sheriff's Offices, that first off don't have the personnel nor the funding to send folks to CISM training to

train-the-trainer programs.

So what we're hoping is, is that we can bring in the trainers, which costs money, we can bring in the materials, which costs money, to get a lot of these other agencies trained on CISM. It will also cut down the amount of time that that we're spending away from our normal duties to provide this type of expertise. So by partnering with KLETC, we can provide those classes statewide through KLETC. We've talked to KLETC about it. They are enthusiastic about helping with this because this is a item that is really not discussed too much and is not trained at the state level.

"So at this point, we felt, you know, we want to be a leader, not only here in Sedgwick County. We want to be a leader in law enforcement in the state of Kansas. We're the biggest Sheriff's Office in the state of Kansas. We felt this was an item that would assist all of law enforcement and fire, if they so choose to be in it, and EMS, in helping our employees cope with difficult issues that they can see almost on a daily basis. It's about our mental health of law enforcement, fire and EMS officials so that they provide the best service to the citizens that they serve every day. So with that, with no strings attached to this particular grant, I'm asking today that you give your permission for us to move forward on the grant."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Sheriff. Appreciate the presentation. Very clear, but Commissioners, are there any comments or questions?"

Commissioner Ranzau said, "(inaudible)"

MOTION

Commissioner Ranzau moved to approve the application for the grant.

Commissioner O' Donnell seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, "Commissioner O'Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "I just wanted to thank the Sheriff for taking time out today to come and address this. I know how passionate you are about these particular issues, and it really shows, just your time sitting in the audience through other county business to wait to speak to us is, it just shows your dedication. So, we really appreciate everything you do, Sheriff Easter, to make our community safer and better."

Sheriff Easter said, "Thank you, sir. I appreciate that."

Chairman Unruh said, "Are there any other comment or discussion on the motion? Seeing none, Madam Clerk, please call the vote."

VOTE

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| <i>Commissioner Dennis</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Ranzau</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Howell</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner O'Donnell II</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Chairman Unruh</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

Chairman Unruh said, "Sheriff, thank you."

Sheriff Easter said, "Thank you, Commissioners. I appreciate your support."

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item, please."

Approved

K [17-501](#)

CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT FOR EXISTING GRANT FROM THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (KDHE) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$920,295 TO PROVIDE OUTREACH, PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION SERVICES THROUGH THE HEALTHY BABIES PROGRAM IN THE DIVISION OF HEALTH AND THE HEALTHY FAMILIES AMERICAN PROGRAM AT THE KANSAS CHILDREN'S SERVICE LEAGUE (KCSL).

Presented by: Adrienne Byrne, Health Director, Sedgwick County Division of Health.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept the award; authorize the Chairman to sign the grant award amendment and to sign the agreement with the Kansas Children's Service League; and establish budget authority as provided in the financial considerations section of this request.

Ms. Adrienne Byrne, Health Director, Sedgwick County Department of Health, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I also have with me this morning, Michelle Williams, who is the Healthy Babies' program manager, and Candace Johnson, who is the Children and Family Health Director.

"This morning I'm asking for your consideration of a grant award in the amount of \$920,295 for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to provide services to at risk women, children, and families, through the Division of Health's, Healthy Babies program and the Healthy Families America Program at the Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL).

"We have received this funding for 15 years, and this agreement pays for a portion, or mostly all of ten positions. Also, rent and other supplies that we use monthly. Healthy Babies is an educational program for prenatal and parenting families. Education and family support is provided through home and in-office visits. Services are available to all city and county residents, regardless of income or insurance coverage.

"Program outcomes focus on decreasing number of preterm and low birth weight babies to Healthy Babies participants, as well as increasing the safe sleep practices, which is putting the baby on his or her back in the crib without the bumpers, and the stuffed animals, and the blankets, just having the baby in there, in a sleep sack.

"This year, or 2016, we did provide services to 901 women, 638 babies and five males. Those five males were the primary sole caretaker of the babies and enrolled after the baby was born. In 2016, we did enroll 126 more women in the program than we did in 2015. There are dollar for dollar matching funds required, but we do this through in-kind, non-monetary contributions of staff time and services.

"United Way does provide [\$]170,000 of private funds to Kansas Children's Service League for their portion. I recommend that you accept the award, authorize Chairman to sign the grant amendment and authorize the Purchasing Director to provide written notice to Kansas Children's Service League of the county's intent to renew this grant for one year. I'd be happy to answer questions."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Adrienne. We have a question or comment from Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to, I should have looked this up before I came to the bench this morning, but I didn't find time to do that. But I believe it's in our county strategic plan, something related to infant mortality in Sedgwick County. Do you know what that is, or if you..."

Ms. Byrne said, "It is, it is reducing low birth weight babies..."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay."

Ms. Byrne said, "...in Sedgwick County."

Commissioner Howell said, "It's not specifically for infant mortality, but just about birth weight."

Ms. Byrne said, "No. Yes."

Commissioner Howell said, "I have made comments on this in the past. I will probably make a similar comment. I will make a motion before making any other comment."

MOTION

Commissioner Howell moved to accept the award; authorize the Chairman to sign grant award amendment and to sign the agreement with the Kansas Children's Service League and establish budget authority as provided in the Financial Considerations section of the request.

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Howell said, "Yes, yes. So first of all, I want to be clear that I'm very supportive of the mission of Healthy Babies, and I think that this is a tremendous thing for us to be sensitive to and try to find ways to solve. I have said this in the past, and I'll say this again today, and I think that, unfortunately, the data is not available for 2016, and certainly not for 2017, as we are in the middle of that year. But in 2016, the data is not available. I think we had, I think nine SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) deaths, so I think the first part of 2016, if I remember right."

Ms. Byrne said, "We had nine sleep-related deaths, yes."

Commissioner Howell said, "Sleep related, sleep related deaths. That was for babies between the ages of zero and one?"

Ms. Byrne said, "That's correct."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. I don't know what's happened since then. But that

was a tragic data point for us to have that happen in our community. If I understand correctly, not to get too technical here, but I think at least, I think one of those was in the program, and one of those was from educated parents that have bachelor's degrees, and one of these happened, unfortunately is not available for us to analyze because they don't want us to have that data. So I don't know anything more about that than what I just shared.

"But I would say the program, if you look at 638 babies over in this program this year, this last year, and that's from zero to age two, that means on an average, you have about 320 babies that are in this range of zero to one, and that is the age that we keep data on infant mortality, because once they hit age one, they are no longer classified as an infant in terms of that particular data collection.

"So 320 babies in this program, and I think, again, I don't know this for a fact. If someone has better data, please please let me know that. But my calculations are, I believe it is around 32,000 births in Sedgwick County per year. So, that means roughly one percent of the babies that are born in Sedgwick County are actually having some type of impact from Healthy Babies program, and for those in the program, I will agree with you, I think we are making a difference. I think the program is beneficial to those in the program.

"But there's 99 percent of the babies, and the moms are not having any interface with this program at all. To the extent that we have roughly 60 or so infant mortality deaths in Sedgwick County per year, we are not going to move that needle, and that's tragic to me. I think that we, the reason that is, partially is because the people who designed this program also decide the methods and all of that that we must follow to access these dollars. So I appreciate the efforts that's done. I appreciate the mission, but I don't believe we're going to move the needle in Sedgwick County with this program.

"To me that's unfortunate. If we had the freedom to use this money differently, we would probably, in my opinion, be more effective in reducing the data on infant mortality in Sedgwick County. But because of constraints of the program itself, we're not able to do the things that I, in my opinion, would help us become more effective. So, again, I make the motion this morning. I'm very supportive of this. I wish there was a way we could become more effective at reducing infant mortality.

"I'll just say this again, I think that Kansas has a higher rate than the rest of the nation, and Sedgwick County has historically had a higher rate in the state of Kansas. So we are an outlier. We do need to pay attention to this. This is not good for us to have this, these high numbers. I really wish there was a way for us to make an impact on these numbers. So I continue to think about that, and I want to challenge ourselves to be aware of that, those points I just made. I am supportive of the program, but I do hope there is a way that we as a board of health can find ways to impact these numbers in accordance with our mission statement and based on the things I've already mentioned this morning. So that's my comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner O'Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Adrienne, thank you. You had big successes last year, just the number-wise. Can you reiterate that so everyone understands that? You did take concerns that the majority last year really charged you and your office with getting more women involved in this program."

Ms. Byrne said, "Absolutely."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "You did that."

Ms. Byrne said, "Absolutely. We increased our moms by 126, between 2015 and 2016."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "What was that base number?"

Ms. Byrne said, "The original, the base number in '15, we had 775 moms, and in '16, we had 901. We're still pushing to add to our caseloads, and we reach even more moms."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "So Commissioner Howell was mentioning some of his concerns that he didn't think you were making a big enough dent. That was something that was, like I said, strongly charging your office with making an improvement. You did that. I would like to add to, you know, my support to that increased number, but also ask you guys to continue to find these innovative ways to get more moms involved in this program, because there obviously is great, you know, community need for Healthy Babies in the Wichita and Sedgwick County area."

"I know it's not easy, but I know that your office has the ability to do it. So that's why I will be supportive of this grant, because I know that you guys are going to continue to move that needle up, and hopefully next year, you'll crack at four digits. Hopefully get over a thousand moms involved in the program. Thank you, Adrienne."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Is there any other comment? Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I would like to just be clear. I do appreciate the increase in the number of women. Just a quick calculation, that's about a 16.2 percent increase of women within the program over the previous year?"

Ms. Byrne said, "That's correct."

Commissioner Howell said, "Again relevant to Sedgwick County, I don't want to calculate the number. I know it's a very small number, so my point is, I think that we have an opportunity county-wide to do more. I don't know how we'll ever get there, but I do appreciate the increase, the 16 percent increase, within the program over the previous year. That is tremendous. I want to be very clear that I'm appreciative, and I think that is a good movement. I appreciate that very much, but I do think there's plenty of work to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Are there any other comments? I think we have a motion and a second. So, Madam Clerk, please call the vote."
VOTE

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| <i>Commissioner Dennis</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Ranzau</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Howell</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner O'Donnell II</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Chairman Unruh</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

Ms. Byrne said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Adrienne. Next item, please."

Approved

L [17-559](#)

CONSIDERATION OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000 FOR COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE SERVICES BETWEEN SEDGWICK COUNTY EMS AND VIA CHRISTI HOSPITALS, WICHITA.

Presented by: Scott Hadley, Acting Assistant County Manager for Public Safety and Code Enforcement.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the application for the grant, and if awarded, authorize acceptance of the grant, the establishment of budget authority as provided in the Financial Considerations section of this Request, and implementation of the Staffing Table changes identified in the Personnel Consideration section of this request.

Chairman Unruh said, "Mr. Hadley, before you begin, I think we have a comment from Commissioner Ranzau."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just got this agreement today, this morning. In fact, I've not had time to review it. I'd like to postpone this till our next meeting if possible and have that discussion (inaudible) so I have adequate time to review the agreement."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay. Thank you, Commissioner. I would, I don't know if there's any time sensitive issue on this."

Mr. Scott Hadley, Acting Assistant County Manager, Public Safety and Code Enforcement greeted the Commissioners and said, "There is. There is a time sensitive issue. This grant is from Ascension Health, the parent company of Via Christi. It is only good until June 30th. The funding is available until June 30th of this year. So there is no further commission meetings this month. That's problematic, and we would risk losing this opportunity."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright, thank you. Well, we have, we considered this last year."

Mr. Hadley said, "Correct."

Chairman Unruh said, "So Commissioners that were here at that time have some familiarity with it from then. Then we've all been briefed on the specifics, although Commissioner Ranzau is correct, we haven't seen a copy of the document."

Mr. Hadley, said, "Correct. What has substantially changed is the funding. It went from [\$]160 [thousand] to \$80,000, so it was cut in half. Some time parameters of how the program will work are the only substantive changes within the document. So from last year, that is really the only change, besides the dates and the Chairman. So there's really not been any other changes, except we decrease the funding in half."

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay. Well then let us decide here whether or not. Commissioner Ranzau, was that a motion?"

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Well, it was just a suggestion. There was some discussion last year, but I don't recall ever getting to contract phase. But regardless, this is the first, this morning is the first time I have seen this contract. We are going to be asked to approve it today. It just puts me in a very difficult position. I have general

knowledge of what's going on, so if I can ask questions, but that being said, whatever the will of the Board is, but that's my concern."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you. Comment from Commissioner O'Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Scott, you and your team came and met with every Commissioner individually or in pairs on this issue. Correct?"

Mr. Hadley said, "That's correct."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "I did get the email this morning, briefly read over it. There's no changes whatsoever from what our conversation was in the information you provided to us."

Mr. Hadley, said, "That is correct."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Okay. And can we get legal just to verify that? I don't know if Mr. Yost or..."

Mr. Hadley said, "I think Misha Jacob-Warren is here who worked with the contract."

Mr. Yost said, "Misha Jacob-Warren assisted with the contract."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you."

Ms. Misha Jacob-Warren, Assistant County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Scott is correct. There are no changes from what you have been briefed on. I'm happy to walk you through each and every provision, legal provision of this contract, if you'd like, after Scott explains to you kind of the substantive provisions of that. I'm happy to do whatever I can to help. I do apologize for the late distribution of this agreement. We didn't reach a final agreement with Ascension and Via Christi until yesterday afternoon. So that, I will own that. That is on me."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "No, no, Misha, I believe you have full confidence of the Board of Commissioners, and your ability."

Ms. Jacob-Warren said "Thank you."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "We have great faith in you and your work, so thank you for that."

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright, thank you, Commissioner. I don't see any...Commissioner Dennis."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Thank you. Well, I understand Commissioner Ranzau's concern. It came to me by email. I just checked a minute ago, about 5:05 [P.M.] last night. Unfortunately I had an event at 6:00 [P.M.] and an event this morning, so I honestly have not read the agreement, so I think probably would be beneficial if we got a little bit of detail on the agreement. I have been briefed on the agreement. I

would imagine there are some folks in the audience who would like to speak on it, on the agreement today. So I wouldn't want to delay it for that reason. I also wouldn't want to see us delay it past the end of June and miss the opportunity. So, I think I'd like to hear it, but I'd like more details, because I hate to vote on it, even though I have been briefed, I have never read the contract."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Okay, so I would like to get a little bit of briefing on it. Thank you."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure."

Chairman Unruh said, "I think as I see the consensus, the will of the Board is that we would like to see your presentation, and Misha is here for contractual questions. So if you would make your presentation, we will go forward."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure. Very good, thank you, Commissioners. Before you is an opportunity. This opportunity, we were approached, as you know, a year ago to partner with Via Christi Transitions Clinic to address high recidivistic patients who utilize EMS (Emergency Medical Services) and are readmitted to the hospital on a frequent basis. At that particular time, since that time, over the past year, we have visited a couple of patients.

"I know Dr. Gallagher and Malachi Winters, Colonel Winters is here from the Office of The Medical Director today, provided you a presentation on a couple of patients, where we sent a community paramedic out, working with Via Christi Transition Clinic staff and substantially reduced the number of times they were calling 911 and being readmitted to the hospital. We saw a very positive trend.

"This opportunity is for a year. Via Christi is fully funding a position for Sedgwick County EMS in the amount of \$80,000, so we can focus and dedicate that person full-time to work with Via Christi and partner with them and augment what they are providing to the community. We know there is a gap, but a time some of these patients who are very, have very medical complexity in their disease processes, are going home, and then they are getting sicker and utilizing 911 and first responders. We go out and transport, and they're readmitted to the hospital.

"We believe there is an opportunity for us to break that cycle, to intervene with the community paramedic who has the skill set to go out and make a home visit, and augment what Via Christi does to reduce the number of times, their reliance on 911 and being readmitted.

"I think the silver lining in all of this, despite whether it may benefit the hospital more or EMS a little bit, it benefits the patient. We have healthier folks at home who are not sick being readmitted to the hospital. In this contract, and Misha can walk you through the specifics, but the county is under no obligation to continue this contract after the first year. No financial obligation whatsoever to continue the program.

"I know there's been some concerns addressed that the government or EMS would be expected to continue this program, and that's not the sense and the case that I get from Via Christi and visiting with them. So we are under no obligation. It specifically spells that out in the contract. We can terminate the contract, either party can terminate this contract, with 30 days written notice, and walk away and reimburse Via

Christi for the amount of money that we haven't spent.

"So there is an opportunity there, if it doesn't look like it's being advantageous and working for us. We believe it will be advantageous. We know there's other ways to administer this program. This program's modeled off other communities that we have looked at with success they've had in their programs. This is a pilot program to gather further information, and then to come back and say, is it beneficial to patients, is it beneficial to hospitals, is it beneficial to EMS.

"So, this here program will give us that time to gather that data, to bring back and say, yes, this is a good program, we need to continue, or we don't need to continue, or Via Christi needs to do that on their own. But they have been very good partners to us.

"I know Robin Chadwick and Charity Clark, I don't believe they are here today, they weren't able to attend, but those folks have put a lot of work into this and are very passionate about it and have been very good partners. As you know, Via Christi has been very good partners to EMS. They provided us a station to operate out of over 20 years at their St. Francis campus. They still continue to provide us a place at the St. Joseph campus, and the old Riverside Hospital campus, which is now Via Christi Home. So, they have been very gracious partners to us. We would like to continue this. We think it would be advantageous to our service and to our community to enter into this agreement. I recommend that you approve the agreement as it is before you today."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright, thank you, Scott. We have begun this program sort of on our own, so we have some indication of its potential success."

Mr. Hadley said, "Correct. Colonel Winters is here, if you need specifics. He can certainly provide them to you. He gathered some data and presented that at the staff meeting a few weeks ago to you."

Chairman Unruh said, "The benefits of this, I mean, of the contract, is we use those financial resources to help reimburse us for our costs?"

Mr. Hadley said, "That is correct."

Chairman Unruh said, "Then the further benefit of the program is that it saves money for our EMS system, and that it potentially reduces calls and also saves money for Via Christi, in that it offloads some of their emergency room activity?"

Mr. Hadley said, "And readmission rates. That's correct."

Chairman Unruh said, "Correct. Alright. Alright, thank you, and Commissioner Ranzau has a comment."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Well I have several questions. So we are going to get \$80,000 for one year..."

Mr. Hadley said, "Correct."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "...for this position. Then where is the funding source for years after that?"

Mr. Hadley said, "There is no funding source for years after that. It says that in

section four in the last paragraph of the contract."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Why would we do something for one year without a funding source subsequent to that?"

Mr. Hadley said, "To gather data to see if this is truly beneficial, like we think it would. We want to run the pilot. We can't answer some of those questions today. We need to gather the data, and this is an opportunity to do that."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Okay. Now, previously, when I was briefed last year, and I think you confirmed this again this year, this is specifically to target congestive heart failure patients that are being released from Via Christi, is that correct?"

Mr. Hadley said, "That is the bulk of what we'll do. They will do other work, but the bulk of the target of the program is for those patients with congestive heart failure that are frequently readmitted to the hospital."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "So we're going to, in fact, we have Appendix B here. I'm trying to read through this hastily."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "The CHF (Congestive Heart Failure) program, it talks about..."

Mr. Hadley said, "Right."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "I was briefed on that the intent last year, first of all, the primary benefactor of this will be the hospital, because they will avoid readmissions. We will benefit also. That's absolutely true. But it's been described to me as intensive case management for congestive heart failure patients being released by Via Christi. Now, they already have a transition clinic where they kind of help patients as they phase out."

Mr. Hadley said, "Yes, correct."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "I would argue that's good. I guess my biggest contention at this point, beyond the fact I haven't been able to read the contract in its entirety, is that they are already doing this function. I also would support it, working together, but I'm not, I don't really understand why the employee in this particular program, and I think you confirmed that it doesn't have to be, but I mean it could be an employee of Via Christi..."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "You could still partner with them and do the same thing?"

Mr. Hadley said, "It could."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "That is what I would recommend. I am not so sure we want to expand county government into intensive case management of congestive heart failure patients for Via Christi, when they have the resources available already doing something similar. I think that's the most appropriate way to do it. I thought I saw some of the initial assessments, some of the things that we're doing here, I'm seeing under intervention, I mean, they don't require EMS. They can be done by a

nurse. I know they're doing it in other areas. So that's my concern, that's my concern that we are going to have mission creep on something that really should be done by the hospitals. But I do want to partner with them to work on. I think, I don't like how the model is being constructed here I guess is what I..."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Particularly with Via Christi, I mean, they've got plenty of money, okay? Ascension does. I am sure you are aware of that. They could fund this, and this deadline, I don't know, I don't know why all of a sudden they couldn't fund it after July 30th or June 30th. I am not sure that's accurate. Nevertheless, I just have some concerns that we're going to create an expectation that we may or may not be able to meet. I think the model could be done better and still have a great partnership. So, those are some of my concerns based on what I have read so far..."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "I mean, really, I mean I just have a hard time. I think the ultimate goal of Via Christi, and maybe some other hospitals, would be for us to take over this. That's my concern, to be honest. I can see why they would want it to be our employee to begin with and fund it initially, and then create that expectation. I think we can get where we need to go without doing it this way. I am disappointed that we haven't asked them to reconsider to do that. Like I say, I mean, it talks about, I mean, we are going to have the program. It's initiated by the hospital. We are going to use electronic medical records. It is going to go into their electronic medical record system. I mean, just seems a lot simpler too, to have their own employees do that, than coordinate and facilitate with us. Those are my concerns and I'll (inaudible) if I have other questions."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright. Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner O'Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you. So Scott, based on our conversations, if Via Christi or Ascension next year comes and says we don't have this money anymore..."

Mr. Hadley said, "Correct."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Your intention isn't to have the County Commission find the money to fulfill that..."

Mr. Hadley said, "That's right."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "...position. You would then just move that individual into your normal operations, just through normal attrition."

Mr. Hadley said, "Correct."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "You'll have a spot for this individual you are hiring?"

Mr. Hadley said, "Typically, yes."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "So whoever gets this job will know this is a one-year trial run."

Mr. Hadley said, "Correct."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "They are not necessarily guaranteed a second year"

in this particular area, but you could move them into other EMS functions?"

Mr. Hadley said, "That is correct."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Alright. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner O'Howell. I meant Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's fine. I got it. I mumble too. I just want to make, I understand I guess the rest of this. This salary and benefits together, what is that cost to the county for this individual? I understand [\$] 80,000 is going to cover our cost, but what is the cost for their salary and benefits?"

Mr. Hadley said, "It is in the packet. I am sorry. I don't have the sheet in front of me for full-time paramedic, salaries, wages, benefits, retirement. It is less than \$80,000."
Commissioner Howell said, "Alright, okay."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sixty-some-thousand dollars, I believe."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. Then there's also a vehicle that we are going to need to provide as well."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure, yes."

Commissioner Howell said, "We already have the vehicle, but there's going to be some wear and tear."

Mr. Hadley said, "Yes, sure."

Commissioner Howell said, "If the program continues, eventually we'll have to replace that. This money could be used for vehicle maintenance."

Mr. Hadley said, "There is a contractual line item in there for contractual charges for fleet maintenance and vehicle."

Commissioner Howell said, "Those benefits do include their retirement like KPERS (Kansas Public Employees Retirement System) funds and all that stuff?"

Mr. Hadley said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Howell said, "That's all my questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. Well, my opinion, or my persuasion on this is that we have the cooperation of a very good partner in Ascension, and they're ministry partners here in our community. We have kind of started this program on our own, and it's proven in our estimation pretty successful. This allows us to recoup some of our costs. I think that the folks at Ascension Via Christi are probably willing to invest in those programs that save them money, and we are eager to partner up when it saves us money. So I am optimistic about the future of this, and about the future of the partnership."

"I don't know how to respond to any of the medical questions my colleague Commissioner Ranzau asked. He knows answers to questions that I don't know how to ask in terms of medicine, but in terms of admissions and saving money, and what

seems to be a good program for the individuals that are involved, it seems like this has already demonstrated its value. So, I will be supportive of this request. So, I think now would be a good time if Commissioners have specific questions about the contract, now would be a good time, perhaps, to verbalize those. I don't want to rush anybody, but I want to make sure everyone..."

Mr. Hadley said, "Sure."

Chairman Unruh said, "...has an opportunity to ask a question. Commissioner Howell?"

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am just curious. What were the items that were discussed yesterday that caused this to be agreed to in such a late hour? What were the items in the contract that were of disagreement, perhaps?"

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "Good morning again. There weren't any contentious items in this contract. It was just a little bit of back and forth, people in the office, out of the office, away. There was no contentious item. It was just kind of delayed back and forth on the part of staff."

Commissioner Howell said, "I'll just say I received this at 6:04 P.M., and it is 17 pages long. I did read the first 6 pages where the substance of the resolution are there, but then the print gets kind of small. It gets kind of legal. I didn't read the last 10 pages where I don't really understand your language. It is a different language that you use."

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "Sure."

Commissioner Howell said, "So, it does look like it's very generic and very standard language. I've read some of your other contracts. It seemed like it was very typical."

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "So it is. So, I can start from the back for you. The appendix A are the Sedgwick County mandatory terms and conditions, we put this on every single contract that the county has, whether it's a vendor initiated contract, whether it's a Sedgwick County initiated contract. These are the boilerplate things, venue, jurisdiction, disclaimer of liability, taxes, all of that kind of thing. You have seen this multiple times before. There's absolutely nothing new about that."

"What kind of takes up a little bit of the bulk, I will skip Appendix B because that's kind of the substantive part of this contract...is the Appendix C, which is the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) business associate agreement. So, because this would be sharing protected health information back and forth, we always include a business associate addendum. Again, this is standard boilerplate for the county. You have seen this language multiple times before."

"This language is set forth and governed by statutes that we are required to have, so you've seen this before, and this is just our version thereof, because there'll be that exchange of protected health information. So, that takes up pages 12 through 17. So, both of those things you have seen before. I am happy to walk through the details of the agreement itself, if that would be helpful, or if not, I won't take up your time."

Commissioner Howell said, "I just want to say, again, I reviewed those last 10 pages. I didn't see anything that stuck out to me as being anything other than standard boilerplate type language. I think I would agree. We've seen this type of language"

before, so I don't have any concerns about those 10 pages. It is very technical and legal language, but the first six pages, and there is a signature page on page seven. I did read through that very carefully, and I don't have any questions on that so I will say, I've had time to do, to read through the contract to my satisfaction. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

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

Commissioner Dennis said, "Thank you. I just pulled up your email a few minutes ago and tried to start scanning through it to see what you explained to us just now, I guess between you and Mr. Yost. It is \$80,000."

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "Correct."

Commissioner Dennis said, "It's one year."

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "Correct."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Could be renewable, but the only reason that it would be renewable is if Via Christi continues to fund it. Sedgwick County has no funding obligation beyond year one."

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "That's correct. And we specifically put that in the contract."

Commissioner Dennis said, "We've got all of the security requirements for patients covered in this agreement?"

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "Yes."

Commissioner Dennis said, "We have liability requirements, I noticed, listed in this agreement?"

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "Yes."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Do you or Mr. Yost see any reason that legally that this would cause any concern to Sedgwick County or this Board, or the citizens of Sedgwick County?"

Ms. Jacob-Warren said, "From my legal opinion, no, but I will of course defer to my boss as well."

Mr. Yost said, "I don't think there's any liability potential for Sedgwick County."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Again, I don't usually vote on something that I just scanned. I do trust both Ms. Jacob-Warren and Mr. Yost, and I did scan this. So, I've been briefed on it several times, so it's not new information by any means. It is just the contract is something that I haven't spent any detailed time making sure, but I do trust you all. That's why we have hired you as our counselor, to advise us. So, thank you very much."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner."

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the application for the grant.

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, "We have a motion and a second. Is there discussion on the motion? Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say I appreciate the comments of my colleague, Commissioner Ranzau. I have some of the same concerns, but based on your testimony this morning, Director Hadley, and knowing that it is our intent that this will not continue should the funding not be there in any following years. I have no doubt that I'll remember this conversation. So, should that happen, I don't think there's going to be much of a good argument for us to continue this, when the greatest benefit is to Via Christi, but I do see we have some benefit to Sedgwick County EMS. That is what's compelling me to vote in support for the resolution this morning, but I do appreciate the comments of my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. I see no one else asking to speak, so we will call for the vote, Madam Clerk."

VOTE

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Commissioner Dennis</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Ranzau</i> | <i>No</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Howell</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner O'Donnell II</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Chairman Unruh</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Scott."

Mr. Hadley said, "Thank you Commissioners."

Chairman Unruh said, "I think if it pleases the Board, I think I would like to take a five minute break, and we would recess 'til 11:15, and we'll be back promptly at that time to commence the meeting."

The Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners recessed at 11:10 and returned at 11:15.

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay, it is 11:15, so we would like to call the meeting back to order if we could do that. It's always a risk when you take a break. It's hard to get back to rhythm so, but at this point, I will call back to order the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, and I believe Madam Clerk, we are ready for the next item."

M [17-567](#)

**RESOLUTION ADJUSTING THE CONVENIENCE FEE CHARGED
FOR PAYMENTS MADE WITH CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS.**

Presented by: Rick Durham, Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

Recommended Action: Adopt the resolution.

Mr. Rick Durham, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This morning we have a resolution before you that is to establish a user fee or a convenience fee for credit and debit card payments. So, I have some slides to go through. What I would like to do is begin with some definitions of the program as a

whole, so there's a level of understanding that everyone knows what terms I'm using as I move forward.

"So, the first one is a merchant service fee. When I talk about a merchant service fee, that's a fee that's charged to a merchant, in this case Sedgwick County is the merchant, for accepting debit or credit cards as a means of payment. That rate is established by the bank, and at the current resolution was at two percent, and the bank increased that fee to four percent, effective November 16th. Now, that increase is by contract, and the contract that we currently use is, we are piggybacking off the state of Kansas contract, and the language in that contract says that they can increase that fee in February and November of every year if they so choose. November of '16 was the first time that we have seen an increase in that fee."

Chairman Unruh said, "Excuse me, Rick. We do have a comment from Commissioner Ranzau."

Mr. Durham said, "Sure."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Is there a limit to the amount they can increase it at each of those times?"

Mr. Durham said, "You know, I don't, I do not know if there is a limit per contract, but I will find that out, and I will get that back. So, the next one I want to define is a convenience fee. This is a fee added for the convenience of using a card for payment. Okay? Now, that rate is established by the county. So, the merchant service fee is a charge to the county from the card company. The convenience fee is revenue that we collect from a constituent, from someone using a card for payment."

"Credit card transactions. So, just not necessarily a definition, but let's talk about the transactions themselves. Every time someone uses a credit card, whether it's at the county, or whether it's to retail or downtown, merchant service fee is charged as a percentage of the total transaction amount. That percentage that's charged can vary widely based on the type of card that's used, whether it's a Visa card, whether it's a MasterCard, whether it's an American Express card, which we don't accept here at the county, by the way. Then if the card presented is a rewards card, that is, if you get airline miles on that, points, cash rewards that go to your alma mater, any of those things, all of those things factor into the percentage that is charged to the merchant in the form of a merchant service fee."

"So, we also have debit card transactions. I want to explain two types of debit card transactions that can take place. The first is the signature debit. The merchant service fee charged to the county for a signature debit is the same as a credit card transaction. So, as you see here there's an example. So, if it's four percent, and someone is paying \$1,000, then at four percent, then that charge on that would be \$40. Okay? That's a signature debit."

"The second type of debit card transaction is a pin debit. What that is is when you put your card, you slide your card, or insert it if you have chip-enabled technology at a retailer, and you put in your four-digit pin, the fee charged for that, a merchant service fee that we are charged as a county from Bank of America is a 20 cent fee. So that's the difference."

"I want to really stress the difference between a pin debit and a signature debit. The reason I want to stress that because if you use your debit card to pay for anything online, via the internet, it doesn't ask you for a pin number, it asks you for your card number, the expiration date and the three-digit code on the back. So that would be processed as a signature debit transaction. And we would be charged the merchant service fee, the percentage of that total amount. Okay?"

"Now, I have a note at the bottom of this slide that I want to draw to your attention, is that all payment card transactions accepted by Sedgwick County, currently are processed as credit transactions. What I mean by that is we don't have the machines enabled to accept pin debit. That's the current situation we are in. So, let me give some background about where we have come through this for the credit card fees. So in 2001, Sedgwick County began accepting credit card or debit cards to be used for property tax payments.

"From 2001 to 2012, the county paid the merchant service fees as a cost of doing business. In 2012, Sedgwick County began charging a convenience fee of two percent on payments made with credit card, and \$3.95 on payments made with a debit card. Remember, we were charging \$3.95, but we weren't being charged ourselves that way, because we didn't have the pin-enabled debit. In 2013, the Tag Offices transitioned to the state payment system. As a result of that transition, the number of payment card transactions that the county accepted and got a merchant service fee, reduced by more than 400 percent, and those merchant service fees that were charged to us reduced by \$660,000. Those differences are from the year '12 to 2013. So that's a one-year change.

"Again, the current resolution that was approved in 2012 collects a convenience fee on property tax payments made with a payment card, credit or debit, and that's a two percent fee on credit card transactions, and a \$3.95 charge on debit card transactions. The impact of that current resolution the way it's written right now, in 2016, the county had [\$]241,000 in merchant service fees. We collected, as revenue, \$188,447 in convenience fees, so you can see there's a deficit there of \$52,600.

"Through April of 2017, we've been charged merchant service fees of \$165,700 through the first through the four months of the year. We've collected convenience fees of [\$]27,800. So, we already have a deficit of \$137,000 through four months of the year. What is different? Why is the deficit increasing? Hopefully I anticipated a question. Well, the data shown here is through, in 2016, is through April of 2016, compared to through April of 2017. So, you can see the number of transactions have increased 5,300 transactions, or 70 percent increase in the number of transactions.

"The total dollar amount or sales, is what we call it, that we have received, went from \$2.5 to \$4.1 million, and that's a \$1.6 million increase, or 64 percent increase, 63.8 [percent]. On the bottom part of that chart, you see what that is, where that impact is. It's the, I'll call it the MABCD (Metropolitan Area of Building and Construction Department) impact. The number of transactions through the first four months of '16 were zero, because we weren't the managing partner for MABCD until October. Through the first four months, we received 4,400 transactions, nearly 4,500 transactions from MABCD alone. That dollar amount is [\$]1.626 million, which really accounts for the total difference in the first four months.

"So I want to address the MABCD as I go through for the proposed resolution. So today, the resolution that you have before you is to increase the convenience fee for property tax payments from two to four percent, because of the bank change, the bank fee change. To eliminate the \$3.95 convenience fee for debit card transactions. So additionally, not part of the resolution, but it's important, we are going to take

MABCD, and we are going to remove them from that formula, and we are going to let MABCD merchant fees will be charged to their fund center. We are going to enable the pin debit feature on all terminals throughout the county. Now the exception obviously will be online payments, okay? We'll charge no convenience fee on pin debit transactions. Questions?"

Chairman Unruh said, "We have a couple. Commissioner Ranzau?"

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Well, Rick, I don't have any question. I want to say thanks to you and Tom for all the work you put into this. I know it can be kind of confusing to people listening. I guess the bad part is we have to increase the percentage from two to four, but that's because that's what the bank is doing.

Mr. Durham said, "Yes sir."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "The good part is we're going to allow debit, credit, which would decrease the cost to the consumer as well, and maybe increase convenience to some of them. Now, just to clarify, though, if someone wants to do it online and avoid a fee, how can they pay their property taxes online without a fee? Can they do it through like a direct, I don't know what you call it, but..."

Mr. Durham said, "It's called a direct debit..."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Right."

Mr. Durham said, "...or an ACH (Automated Clearing House) transaction..."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Okay."

Mr. Durham said, "...which is it's a bank draft that will pull directly from their bank that there's no charge for."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "So, and I know, I get questions about this occasionally, so if you want to pay your taxes and avoid a fee, you can send in a check, you can do it online through this direct transfer, you can do it here at the county and use a pin debit?"

Mr. Durham said, "That's correct."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "All those ways that they have to pay their property taxes and avoid any sort of extra fee."

Mr. Durham said, "That is correct."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Okay, thank you."

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

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just, I would like to echo the compliments from my colleague. I greatly appreciate the extra work that's gone into this. We did consider an earlier resolution that had some different terms in it. There was some discussion about raising the fees for pin debit, actually let me verify. There wasn't a pin debit discussion, there was only discussion about debit, which was signature debit, while credit card, and regardless it was going to be an increase to four percent. So what we challenged you with, and I think others in the county, is to enable pin debit, and we've discovered that an actual pin debit is only a 20 cent

transaction rather than a \$4, or \$3.95 transaction.

"They used to run a debit card as a signature debit. We were getting charged four percent and only charging the customer \$3.95. Therein lies where the extra cost to the other taxpayers came from. So, this is much better, I think, passing on the credit card fees is reasonable, but enabling pin debit, so there's virtually a zero cost to us, or the consumer, or the taxpayer, to me, is the smartest way to do this. I appreciate that is what we are looking at today. On slide 11, I am going to be using your own words here, slide 11. Let me change the way these bullets are awarded here.

"You say increase the convenience fee for property tax payments from two to four percent. Let me change that a little bit. What we really intend to do is increase the merchant service fees for tax payments from two to four percent for credit card and signature debit card transactions. Let me say it again. Increase the merchant service fees for tax payments from two percent to four percent for credit card and signature debit transactions. Is that correct?

Mr. Durham said, "No. Let me correct you."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay."

Mr. Durham said, "We are increasing the convenience fee. That's the fee that we charge. The merchant service fee is what we are charged from the bank."

Commissioner Howell said, "Alright. So, okay, so the convenience fee is what we charge the customer. So, I am going to increase the convenience fee for property tax payments from two percent to four percent for credit card and debit, I'm sorry, signature debit transactions."

Mr. Durham said, "That's correct."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. Then we're going to eliminate the \$3.95 convenience fee for pin debit card transactions. Eliminate that?"

Mr. Durham said, "Thanks correct."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. So that's actually a fee reduction. Used to be nearly \$4, now it's basically zero."

Mr. Durham said, "It is zero."

Commissioner Howell said, "It's 20 cents to the county, but it's zero to the consumer. So we're actually essentially, in a sense, encouraging, potentially, if I understand that, it would be, they might feel encouraged to use pin debit. On the other side of this, if they use a credit card or signature debit, it is about a two-day window before that money is drafted from that bank and comes to the county. But as a pin debit, we get credited for those dollars instantly. Is that correct?"

Mr. Durham said, "Essentially, yes, that's the way the banking system works, yes."

Commissioner Howell said, "So for me personally, I have not written a check, I probably maybe write like one check a year, maybe. Maybe not even that. I use my debit card for, you know, in place of a check. So to me, I am totally happy using my debit card that way. The county gets credited immediately. If someone does write a check, we still accept checks, that doesn't cost them money, but we do have the issue of trying to collect on bad checks, and that's a whole other topic. So if someone wants to pay their tax bill, they could use a credit card and pay four percent. They

could use pin debit, and pay nothing, or they could use, write a check and pay nothing. They can go online and pay nothing if they use ACH or direct debit transaction there. They can also use a credit card online if they want to but they'd still be charged four percent. Correct?"

Mr. Durham said, "That is correct."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. To me this is exciting because we are lowering the fees for probably the majority of people who are going to be making these payments. Someone who doesn't have the money and they want to make payments on a credit card, that's an option. If somebody wants to get miles or rebates, or whatever, they can pay the four percent and certainly get that as well. But that's not going to be paid for by the taxpayers, and so to me, this is a great combination, and a great balance, methods of payment by the consumers. We do provide probably one that's most popular would be the pin debit transaction, in my opinion will be the most used, or the ACH online, which in either case is no cost to the consumer. To me that's a fantastic new way to do business. So I appreciate you bringing that to us. I am very supportive."

MOTION

Commissioner Howell moved to adopt the resolution.

Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, we have a motion and a second now. Now is an opportunity for further discussion. Just one quick clarification. If a constituent wanted to use a pin debit, they need to come here to the courthouse in person where they have the pin pad machine?"

Mr. Durham said, "That's correct."

Chairman Unruh said, "Then I'll have another question. Commissioner O'Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just wanted to publically thank Commissioner Howell for working on the debit side of this proposal. We definitely would still have that [\$]3.95 service fee had it not been for his persistence in trying to nail down the actual cost of it. "I think there's just a whole lot of confusion in the debit card world when people use their debit card, unless they type in their number, it gets ran as credit, and having a little visa symbol is what makes those debit cards double as credit transactions. So, it's been a learning experience for me, as well. So, Commissioner Howell deserves a lot of credit for that because that's going to save a lot of people money and extremely limited cost to the county at the end of the year, at 20 cents each. So thank you, Rick, for you and your office as well."

Chairman Unruh said "Thank you, Commissioner. There hasn't been too much, we've talked about property tax payments, and charges to MABCD and the new schedule of costs, but what about someone coming down here and, or paying for their tag renewal or their tag, their automotive taxes?"

Mr. Durham said, "Well, tag renewal is not a county cost. That's run through the state payment system. So, that, any fee that would be imposed there is to the state of Kansas".

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay. Well, I just wanted you to say that, because I have had a constituent say, well, how come I am going to be paying this on all my automotive

fees when I renew taxes. So, that system is not under our authority or control."

Mr. Durham said, "That is correct."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright, thank you. Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That caused me to remember another discussion I had. I want to make sure I clarify this. We can't, we can't increase someone's taxes to cover this fee, so we have to really charge the fee in order to not absorb that by other taxpayers, other revenue sources that we might have. So, I think in the case of the tax payment, you know, charging the taxpayer that fee, in my opinion, makes a lot of sense."

"But other areas of the county, the other places, other pay stations around the county that we might use credit cards or debit cards or whatever, we are talking about potentially allowing those agencies or organizations to adjust their costs to cover these fees through their normal fee schedule, charged for whatever services they provide. So we are not charging the four percent on credit cards and signature debit cards at other pay stations. Is that correct?"

Mr. Durham said, "That's correct."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. What makes the tax payments different is because we can't really adjust our tax collection, we can't absorb that. There's just no way to do that. Okay. To me it is a point to note. Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. I don't see anyone else asking to speak. We have a motion and a second. Madam Clerk, call the vote."

VOTE

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Commissioner Dennis | Aye |
| Commissioner Ranzau | Aye |
| Commissioner Howell | Aye |
| Commissioner O'Donnell II | Aye |
| Chairman Unruh | Aye |

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item, please."

Adopted

N [17-556](#)

**PRESENTATION OF THE 2016 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL
FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR).**

Presented by: Rick Durham, Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

VISUAL PRESENTATION

Mr. Durham, "The department of finance has delivered to you the county's CAFR or Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. It's a very thick book of financials, and it provides a complete and accurate disclosure of the results of the county's financial activity for 2016 fiscal year, and that fiscal year ended December 31st. Sedgwick County is required by state law, as well as by various bond covenants to produce annual financial statements within six months of the end of the fiscal year."

"We are required as well to have those financial statements audited by an independent CPA (Certified Public Accountant) firm. That action has been taken by the firm of BKD. The financial audit is complete, and BKD has issued the county an unmodified opinion, stated otherwise, that's a clean opinion, which is the highest grade, if you will, that we can achieve in that regard. The financial report, and more importantly, the day-to-day financial accounting activity that was required in order to produce the CAFR, is done by the accounting staff.

"I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the individuals who were primarily responsible for putting the CAFR together, and they are in the room. Brandi Baily, Mandy Estes, Marty Hughes, Ammi Hayes, and I'm not leaving you out. That's our new accounting director, Hope, and she actually has just been on board for three weeks now. So, the county, and any government, accounts for its financial activity in different ways.

"We are required to primarily answer questions about near-term financing capabilities. What's that mean? Well in the private sector, the primary interest of an entity is to know whether or not they made a profit. That's a long-term view of finances. But in the public sector, we are not here to make a profit, we are here to deliver services that can't be delivered by private entities to our community, and in order to provide those services, we have the ability to fund those services, so what we are interested in when we look at our financials, is near term financing capability of the government, and for that we use a basis of accounting that's called modified accrual, and that produces traditional fund statements.

"Now, what that means is, instead of consolidating all of our accounts and records together of the different divisions, like a corporation would do to produce their financial, we made a separate set of books for the various separate dedicated funding streams, so that we have various separate specific activities that we need to keep segregated. Those fund statements produce information that I am going to share with you, and we also produce information used what is termed full accrual basis of accounting, which is the way a business reports their financial information. For the statements that are done in that fashion, we provide what are called entity-wide statements.

"So, here again, the primary goal of a private sector is profit motive, where ours is to provide service. So I am going to talk about each of these different methods, and I'm going to begin with the traditional fund statements, and we begin with the fund balance. As I run through these slides, you will notice at the top of that slide, or these slides, it will say, for example, on this one, it says pages A18 and 19. That reference is to the page number in the CAFR where you can find the chart, the actual data that has made this chart. So this chart shows five years of history. So you can get a sense of where changes have occurred over the last five years, and what kind of changes have transpired.

"It shows the different color representing the different fund or fund type for all of the county's governmental activities. The green at the bottom is the county's general fund, which is far and away the largest single area of our financial system, and where most government activities take place. The general fund ended 2016 with a fund balance of \$63 million. That's [\$]2 million less than the year previously. But as you can see looking back across that time period, our fund balance consistently is between \$63 and \$68 million, so it's a relatively flat general fund fund balance.

"The blue segment immediately above the green is federal and state assistance funds, or grant funds. The five-year term represented here shows a relatively

constant fund balance across time. The gray segment above that represents all other funds than the ones that I'm going to enumerate for you here. It's the fund balance of the highway fund, EMS fund, COMCARE tax fund and so on. So you see the funds for all those other funds was \$46.2 million.

"Directly above that there is a thin blue line that represents debt service funds, and that fund balance was \$3.3 million. The yellow segment immediately above that represents debt proceed funds. These are the funds that account for bond proceeds from the sale of debt. The proceeds haven't yet been used either to pay for the project or to refund the debt for which the bonds were sold. The fund balance for that set of accounts, [\$] 36.8 million. Finally at the top of the chart we see the Public Building Commission, or the PBC fund, which had an ending fund balance of [\$]9.7 million, and that's primarily money that was collected by PBC to pay for a building on the Innovation Campus at Wichita State [University].

"Now we look at just the general fund. So you see this chart identifies each of those five years of the general fund fund balances, and it identifies the classification of fund balance within each year. The red at the bottom represents non-spendable fund balance. Non-spendable fund balance, or net assets, are attributable to inventories and other things that can't readily be spent. The gray bar represents assigned fund balance. Every year when the budget is adopted, we anticipate and budget for a large amount of contingencies in case there is a major storm, or any other kind of event or crisis.

"So provide legal spending authority that we don't ever expect to spend. We don't expect the storm to hit or have the crisis, but we don't want to raise property taxes every year to fund those type of contingencies, so we fund them with fund balance. When we do that, we are assigning that fund balance. We are designating a use for it in a subsequent year. So you can see the designated fund balance for the assigned fund balance was \$12.3 million. The green segment at the top of this chart is the unassigned fund balance, and that's the amount of general fund balance for which there's no designated use.

"So the sum of the unassigned fund balance, [\$]41.8 million, and the [\$]12.3 million at the end of 2016 equals, in accounting terms, is the unrestricted fund balance. Our fund balance policy that says unrestricted general fund fund balance, should never be less than 20 percent of budgeted expenditures and transfers in the general fund. What you see represented on this chart is a demonstration of our compliance with that policy. We end the year with [\$]54 million of unrestricted fund balance, budget expenditures of [\$]204, and the 20 percent threshold of \$40.8 million. Our unrestricted fund balance at the end of the year stood at 26.4 percent and exceeded the minimum threshold by \$13.2 million.

"I'm going to move, and I'm going to spend a little time talking about indicators of financial condition. One of the key questions that we want to be able to answer has to do with the budgetary solvency of our governmental funds. That's budgetary solvency.

"So the first question is are the county's annual revenues sufficient to pay for the budget? So what you see on this chart shows 10 years of history. It identifies a percentage that revenues made of expenditures. What we want to see ideally is those data points to be right at or slightly above 100 percent line.

"In 2016, our governmental fund revenues amounted to about 89 percent of government fund expenditures. In fact, we have been below 100 percent threshold every year since 2009. Now, that measures government expenditure activity which includes some capital projects, debt-funded projects and the activity of the PBC

(Public Building Commission). To get a more reasonable picture of whether or not we are able to pay for our own operations, we use this indicator, which takes the same revenue base and compares it to governmental fund expenditures, excluding PBC, excluding debt service and debt proceeds.

"So, here we have an operating solvency measure as opposed to the budgetary solvency measure you saw in the previous slide. So what this, again, you want to see this line at or above 100 percent, and in 2016 we end the year with revenues at 100.6 percent of expenditures, so we are above the line for the first time since 2009. Another question we want to answer has to do with the flexibility of our finances. To what extent do we have full control over the use of our resources? In order to answer that question we look at the total debt service, that's the total principal and interest obligations the county has incurred as a percentage of all expenditures.

"So the extent that we have those expenditures, they are going to consume available resources we have at the end of the year. At the end of the year 2016, our debt service expenditures amounted to 6.1 percent of all governmental fund expenditures. You see on this chart we've consistently been around the six percent line, except in years '11 through '14, and we were engaging in a series of refunding, so we were paying off bonds prematurely. That's why you see that spike. The final question we want to ask is whether or not the county has any difficulty paying its short-term obligations, and for this we use a liquidity measure.

"We are looking at total cash and investments that the county has on hand at the year, at the end of the year, as a percentage of liabilities that the county had at the end of the year. What this shows, at the end of 2016, our cash on hand amounted to \$8.60 for every \$1.00 of liability. That's a pretty good liquidity situation. You see our liquidity was much better at the beginning of the 10-year period when we were in the process of building the arena, so that's why you see it start up there at 2007, 2008, when we had the special taxes in '05, collected them through 2007. So we were sitting on that cash.

"Then we began spending it to build the Intrust Bank Arena, and that's where you see the draw down. So that would explain that chart. So the final measure, how much are we relying on other governments to fund our activity? What is total intergovernmental revenue as a percentage of total revenue? What we have seen over the past ten years is that intergovernmental revenue has consistently been between 14 [percent] and 16 percent. That's of all revenue within governmental funds.

"There appears to be a spike in 2015, a small one. That was that we received a \$5 million grant for one particular road project. I would call that an anomaly, but that it shows that we are not heavily reliant on intergovernmental revenue to pay for our operation. It shows further the extent of our reliance has been relatively constant over the past 10 years.

"Now, in my opening remarks I talked about the entity-wide statements. That's where we roll all of the different funds of the county up into a single set of financial statements, that entity-wide financial statements. So as we move forward, those again, like I said, they wrap it up into a single set of statements on a full accrual basis of accounting, what private business would do. So I look, we begin with the county's net position, in effect the county's net worth.

"The county had a net position at the end of 2016 of \$504.9 million. That's identified by the bars on the left side of this chart. Each bar represents a separate year, so you can see that in 2016 that [\$]504 million was a little less than, or a good bit less than where we were in '12, '13 and '14, when our net position was [\$]85.2, well, I guess our net position was [\$] 623 million. I'm going to explain the [\$]85.2 in a minute. So

the [\$ 85.2 that I reference is our unrestricted net position. And in 25 and 2016 our unrestricted net position is now [\$]29.6 million. That's a swing of about \$115 million.

"What that is caused by is a new accounting rule that took place in 2015 that requires the county to reflect on our financial statement, our share of the unfunded liability of the state's pension system, or KPERS. So in the case of Sedgwick County, that unfunded liability represents about \$122 million, and so it's reflected on our financial statements for the first time as you see in 2015, and then again in 2016. So within each bar, you can see the composition of our net position.

"The green segment identifies capital assets, net of any debt that's outstanding that was used to pay for those assets. It has slowly risen over the five-year period to a total of [\$]477.4 million. The blue segment represents restricted net position. You see the nature of those restrictions in the pie chart out to the right. Restricted net position is restricted primarily because of some dedication of funding streams. So you see we have funds that are restricted for capital improvements, debt service, grant funds, federal and state assistance funds, and so forth.

"So finally, that light blue segment, that again, I identified, represents an unrestricted net position, and that's, again, where that change that I just talked about in the accounting rule, that we have to account for the KPERS unfunded liability. So the questions we want to ask here going forward is, did our financial condition improve in 2016, or did it deteriorate in 2016? What this chart shows is that our position actually deteriorated by about 4/10 of one percent. Our beginning position was \$507 million on the bar on the far left. Our ending position was [\$]504.92 million, the bar on the far right. In between that, you see the revenues, [\$]317.27 [million] taken in by the county, and the expenses, \$319.4 million. So that 4/10 of a percent, you have to say that our position did not improve during 2016, but I would say 4/10 of a percent is relatively flat.

"One of the things that we are concerned with is the extent to which the activities of the county are able to support themselves with their own self-generated revenue. Again, we are not in the profit-making business, so we don't expect them to be fully self-supporting, but to the extent they can generate their own revenue, it means that we don't have to provide tax support. So what this chart represents is the various activities of the government, represented by their bar, and within that bar is a total amount of expense that was incurred for the year.

"The green is the amount of program, or self-generated revenue that an activity produced to pay its bills, and the blue is the amount of general revenue, or tax support that was necessary. So what this chart shows is far and away the largest single activity of Sedgwick County in terms of expense, is public safety. During 2016, we spent over [\$]140 million on public safety activities.

"Public Safety was able to produce about [\$]40 million of program revenue through municipal jail fees and various grants to cover those bills. But the balance, the [\$]100 million, was required to be provided by taxes levied on Sedgwick County residents. So 74 percent of public safety activities are funded by taxes. You can see that for each of the functions of government, the extent to which they were self-supporting.

"Health and Welfare, which is the second largest activity of Sedgwick County, in 2016, those activities, COMCARE, Health Department, CDDO (Sedgwick County Developmental Disability Organization), Aging Services, cumulatively incurred about \$53 million of expenses, and of that [\$]53 million, [\$]41 million was paid for with program income generated by those activities. So the amount of tax support necessary to deliver human service activities, or health and welfare activities, was about \$12 million, or 22.5 percent of the total amount spent on those activities.

"Again, there are different measures that could be looked at to determine the adequacy of financial position, and these are for the entity-wide statements. Again, that's all of the funds of the county rolled up into a single financial statement. So my focus here is on a solvency measure. It looks at the county's ability to pay off its long-term debt with its assets. So what we are doing here is taking long-term liabilities as a percentage of assets, and what we see in 2016, we ended the year of long-term liabilities, equal to about 35 percent of assets. In other words, 35 cents of every liability was covered by \$1.00 of assets. So we are in a condition to pay our long-term debts.

"So there is a spike that you see there in the last two years. The 2014 increase from what traditionally had been about 20 percent threshold, the increase to about 25 percent, was attributable to some debt refinancing that we were undertaking. The spike in 2015 up to above the 35 percent threshold is that KPERS liability that I talked about, that new accounting rule that requires us to put that on our financial statement. But even with that, it still shows that we have ample ability to repay our debts.

"In your CAFR, there is a section called statistical section, and it's full of a lot of good information for anybody who might be interested in evaluating the Sedgwick County finances. I am going to spend a little time showing some of the indicators and trends that you can identify by looking at that statistical section.

"First, we will look at a ten-year history of government revenues and expenses. On this chart, the green represents revenue, blue expenses. You can see, and you would want to see that obviously you want your revenue higher than your expenses. You can see to the extent which revenues and expenses have grown over the 10 year, and it shows that since 2010, neither have grown very much. We end the year with [\$]316.7 million in revenue and [\$]314 million of expense. We also can look in that chart, we can determine where the county has been placing its emphasis over the past ten years. So we can look at the change of expenses over that 10-year period by function.

"What this chart shows is the amount of expenses, the amount of increase in expenses in 2016, versus 2007. So the greatest source of increase for county expenses over that 10-year period has been in public safety. That increase is \$22.04 million. So what it says, is that we are placing a lot of emphasis on public safety, and that's where we are targeting resources.

"Public Works expenditures increased [\$]13.2 million over that 10 year range. You can see culture and recreation expenses increased [\$]2.2 million over the 10-year period. General government activities actually increased a very small amount over that period. The Health and Welfare activity shows a significant reduction over that 10-year period. This is because of Health and Welfare activity incurred 6.7 percent budget cut during this time period. There also have been reductions in staffing at COMCARE, Aging, and CDDO. There's been a change in reduction of the amount of state support for some of the activities, and those cumulatively amount to this decrease in total spending for Health and Welfare.

"Looking at revenues, I spoke before about the expectation that activities generate program revenue as much as possible to pay their own way, so we don't have to levy general taxes on citizenry, and what this chart shows is 10 years of history. Property tax was about [\$]17 million lower at [\$]145.28 million versus [\$]162.9 [million] in '16. You can see over the 10-year period, program revenue increased initially about the

same as property tax. But then starting in 2010 through '13, there were decreases in program revenue pretty consistently. During that period of time, property taxes took a slight dip, the state essentially constant over that 10-year period.

"As a result, at the end of the 10-year period, 2016 property taxes are now substantially higher than program revenue, and what the chart shows is the past 10 years, the county has become increasingly reliant on property taxes as its principal funding stream to pay for county services. Because we are so reliant on property taxes, we pay a lot of attention to the collection rate. How effective are we at collecting property taxes that are levied?

"What this chart shows is 10 years of history for collection rates. The most important thing is the county's collection rate, which is controlled principally by the activities of the County Treasurer, has never been bad. As you can see, in the past 10 years, we've never been below 95.5 percent. That's the worst performance year in the 10-year period. So you see the collection rate at 2016, or excuse me, I get confused on this slide, it's 2015. It's the 2015 tax year that funded our 2016, okay, I'm getting a little ahead now. Sorry, thank you for...

"So you end up with a collection rate of 97.66 percent, and that's the highest collection rate that we've had on record, so it suggests that the Treasurer has been doing a very effective job of collecting property tax, which is very important for us because that's our primary source of funding for the government.

"Finally, I want to talk about long term debt, and what you see on this chart is 10 years of history for the county's outstanding debt. Within each year, there are different colors that represent different kinds of debt. So in 2016, the county had [\$]54.5 million of general obligation debt. The green, that's the green at the bottom. [\$]2.2 million of special assessment debt, the blue line immediately above the green, and the [\$]133 million of PBC debt. Then at the very top, represented by that black line, there's a slight amount of lease debt, and that's for leasing fire apparatuses.

"What it shows is the general obligation debt of the county has decreased steadily since its peak in 2009 at [\$]85.4 million down to now [\$]54.5 million. The PBC debt also started decreasing in '12 and '13, but it spiked in '14 caused by refundings that year. Also, in the statistics section, there's some charts that show 10 years of data about county performance. This really could be what the citizens are interested in, and it shows what are they getting for their money. So, I want to talk about, during the conclusion of this, about wrapping it here, is just that. What did the county do with all that money we just talked about?

"So we begin with Public Safety. In 2016, there was a little more than 49,000 calls per month in the 911 center. A four percent increase over a year ago, and a 30 percent increase over the 10 year, 10 years ago. The EMS responded to almost 5,200 calls per month. That's three percent less than they did a year previously, but at 28 percent more than 10 years ago.

"In the Juvenile Detention Facility, the average daily population was 55. That's about 14 percent less than a year ago and 54 percent less than 10 years ago. That's a representation of the policies that you and your predecessors adopted over the past 10 years, to intentionally try and reduce the need to house juveniles in detention facilities. Its shows that you've been successful.

"Similarly, in the Adult Detention Facility, the jail had 1,373 people in custody,

average day last year. That's a two percent reduction and 10 percent less than 10 years ago. Once again, you elected to adopt a series of what we'll term alternative jail programs, diversion programs that are intended to provide different ways of handling people who have committed crimes, rather than housing them in the jail. What this shows is that those programs have been very successful. They reduce the average daily population in the jail 10 percent over the last 10 years. We provide those public safety services with 1,404 employees at the end of 2016, a 6/10 of a percent reduction and a 4 percent reduction over 10 years ago. So what it shows is that the county is providing more service with fewer employees.

"We also see that's a pretty common theme as we move forward and we go to the Fire District. They had a, the Fire District reported they responded to 214 residential structural fires per 100,000 households. That's a 28 percent increase over a year ago, and a 3 percent increase over 10 years. The other side of that is that their increasing need to provide first responder medical services. They responded to an average of 423 medical calls per month, an eight percent increase over the previous year and a 77 percent increase from 10 years ago. The Fire District provided those services to the county from nine fire stations, no change from a year ago, but a 13 percent increase from 10 years ago.

"In Health and Welfare services, remember I said that was the second largest expense activity of the county. COMCARE saw 13,476 mental health clients in 2016. That's an increase of 4 percent over a year ago, and 1 percent over 10 years ago. CDDO, 2,592 citizens of Sedgwick County were eligible to receive those services. It's a 1 percent increase over a year ago, and a 24 percent increase from 10 years ago. They provided Health and Welfare services with 476 employees. That's a decrease of 2 percent from a year ago, and 15 percent fewer than 10 years ago.

"In Public Health, the Health Department had appointments with 147,358 clients in 2016. That's a 14 percent decrease over one year, and an 11 percent decrease over 10 years. We provided 21,700 immunizations, a 63 percent increase from the previous year, but a 20 percent decrease from 10 years ago. The number of tuberculosis encounters were 3,050, a 20 percent decrease over one year, and a 51 percent decrease over a 10-year period.

"Culture and Recreation services, the zoo, had an attendance of almost, over 710,000 people in 2016, a 22 percent increase over a year, and a 20 percent increase over 10 years. Sedgwick County Park had an annual attendance of over a million people. That's a 6 percent increase from a year ago, and a 7 percent increase from 10 years ago. Culture and Recreation provided those services with 99 employees, 3 percent less than a year ago, and 21 percent decrease over 10 years ago.

"Here are the results at Intrust Bank Arena for 2016, so we don't have, we only have a one year change because the building isn't 10 years old yet. So you can see the number of events were slightly down. Annual attendance obviously will be down as well since the number of events are down.

"The Pollstar ticket sales ranking for US Arena is number 35, and that's 52 percent increase. The profit return to the county since opening is over \$2 million, and that's 23 percent.

"In Public Works, the number of road miles improved was 122 miles of roads, and that's a 34 percent decrease over one year, but a 39 percent increase over the 10-year period. The number of road miles maintained was 603, no change from a year ago, and a slight decrease from 10 years ago. Number of household hazardous waste tons disposed, 571 tons. Five percent decrease from a year ago, but a 25

percent increase from 10 years ago. They do that work with 129 Public Works employees, slightly less from a year ago at 8/10 of a percent, and a 2 percent reduction from 10 years ago.

"Finally, in General Government Service in 2016, we served 294,138 voters. That's a 7 percent increase from a year ago, and a 24 percent from 10 years ago. The number of real estate taxable parcels was 212,851, that's a less than 1 percent change, and a 3 percent increase over 10 years ago. The number of documents filed with the Register of Deeds, 77,642, a 1 percent increase from a year ago, and an 18 percent reduction from 10 years ago. See the number of real estate records processed at 56,600.

"All of these were done and the number of General Government employees was 404 employees, that's 4 percent more than a year ago, but 8 percent from 10 years ago. That concludes my presentation. With that I'd be happy to try and answer any questions you might have about this information that I've given you. If you don't have any questions, I would ask that you would receive and file the CAFR report."

Chairman Unruh said, "Alright, thank you. Appreciate the information. I don't see anyone asking to speak right now, but this is a lot of information, and I know as you have indicated earlier that you have a great staff that helped you put this together. We appreciate it. It's important that we do our books well. We keep track of it, and we're able to share it with our constituents, so we appreciate the hard work that you all put in. Thank you very much. Comment from Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On that county rule that changed in 2015, was it? Is the state still showing that as unfunded liability or did they just take that off their books now and it's only on the county. Do we know? I don't know how that..."

Mr. Durham said, "I'm certain that that accounting rule changed did affect them, so they would also have to have that on their books as well, but for the state employees."

Commissioner Howell said, "I see."

Mr. Durham said, "Am I stating that right as far as the GASB 53 (Government Accounting Standards Board), is that right, is that what that is? Am I saying that right? I don't know for sure, but we'll find out how they account for it as well, and I'll get back to you on that."

Commissioner Howell said, "That was about, to this date, that was about, at least when I was there, it was about \$8 billion, remember correctly, \$8 billion unfunded liability. Maybe I'm wrong on that number. I think it was between [\$]8 [billion] and [\$]10 [billion]. It seems like it changed pretty quickly, but the state's done a number of things trying to make that look better, and so again, that unfunded liability, on our books, was transferred over to us. What was that number again? The unfunded liability was transferred to the county was how much?"

Mr. Durham said, "[\$]122 million."

Commissioner Howell said, "122, okay. Well let me just say I really appreciate the report today. You did a tremendous job. Staff, fantastic job. These are all the things I'm always curious about. I've got a lot of things to think about now. I'm sure I'll have more questions at some point, but I just wanted to say thank you. Great job, and my take-away right at the moment is, you made a very compelling argument. We're doing a lot more with less. Almost all the slides toward the end there, just really am

impressed at the leanness of our county.

"We're continuing to provide more and more services with less people and finding more efficient and effective ways to do that. The only one I think I want to comment on, which I think is really interesting, I don't understand this number, that is the immunizations. We've made a number of changes to our immunizations program, I think in 2015 and started in 2016. A 63 percent increase in immunizations in one year, can someone please follow up and find, that seems like an unbelievable change to me. If there's any background information on that, I'd like to know how that was calculated or what's going on behind there. That just really is quite surprising.

"But my take away is this, is that we're just doing, we are much more efficient perhaps I think in the last 10 years, and certainly in the last year. It seems like almost every number is heading in the right direction, so very encouraging report. I want say thank you so much presenting that, and good job to all the staff that helped put this together. And that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion we'd receive and file the report."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. We have a motion and a second. Is there any further comment from Commissioners? Seeing none, Madam Clerk, call the vote."

MOTION

Commissioner Howell moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Commissioner Dennis</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Ranzau</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Howell</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner O'Donnell II</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Chairman Unruh</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

Chairman Unruh said, "Rick, thank you."

Mr. Durham said, "Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Next item."

Received and Filed

O [17-565](#)

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING ON JUNE 8, 2017.

Presented by: Joe Thomas, Director, Purchasing.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Mr. Joe Thomas, Director of Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "At the meeting of the Board of Bids and Contracts on June 8th we discussed four items and have the following recommendations for you:

1. 2017 BOND TEKK (R175-J)—PUBLIC WORKS
FUNDING—R175 PREVENTIVEMX-16+

"This recommendation is to accept the low bid from Shilling Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$786,339.45.

2. EMPLOYEE DENTAL BENEFITS – DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES
FUNDING—DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

"This recommendation is to accept the proposal from Delta Dental of Kansas, Inc. (Delta Dental) and establish a three (3) year contract with two (2) one (1) year options to renew.

3. FIRE SMOKE DAMPER REPAIR FOR ADULT DETENTION FACILITY –
OPERATION SUPPORT
FUNDING – DENTENTION MAINTENANCE

"This recommendation is to accept the low bid from Blue Star Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$79,917 and establish contract pricing at the rates listed for three (3) years with two (2) one (1) year options to renew.

4. FLOOR CARE FOR ADULT RESIDENTIAL FACILITY – DIVISION OF
CORRECTIONS
FUNDING – DIVISION OF CORRECTIONS

"This recommendation is to accept the low bid from Source One Management Services, Inc. at the rates listed and establish contract pricing for one (1) year with three (3) one (1) year options to renew.

"I'll be happy to try to answer any questions you may have, and I recommend approval of the four items."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Joe. Commissioners, are there any comments or questions? Seeing none, what's the will of the Board?"

MOTION

Commissioner O' Donnell moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.

Commissioner Howell seconded the motion.

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. We have a motion and a couple of seconds, and so, Madam Clerk, could you call the vote?"

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

VOTE

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|---------------------------|-----|
| Commissioner Dennis | Aye |
| Commissioner Ranzau | Aye |
| Commissioner Howell | Aye |
| Commissioner O'Donnell II | Aye |
| Chairman Unruh | Aye |

Mr. Durham said, "Thank you, Commissioners."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thanks, Joe. Next item."

CONSENT

Mr. Mike Scholes, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I recommend you approve consent agenda items Papa (P) through Zulu (Z)."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you. A motion and a second. Seeing no discussion, Madam Clerk, call the vote."

MOTION

Commissioner Ranzau moved to approve consent agenda items Papa (P) through Zulu (Z).

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Commissioner Dennis</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Ranzau</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner Howell</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Commissioner O'Donnell II</i> | <i>Aye</i> |
| <i>Chairman Unruh</i> | <i>Aye</i> |

Adopt the Consent Agenda

- | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|---|
| P | <u>17-503</u> | Agreement with the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) and the City of Clearwater to receive limited animal control services through the Sedgwick County Animal Control (SCAC) program. Approved on the Consent Agenda |
| Q | <u>17-561</u> | A Resolution regarding Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioner meetings; day and time; provisions for special meetings. Approved on the Consent Agenda |
| R | <u>17-522</u> | A resolution to authorize destruction of Finance accounting records for the period 1981-2013 (DISP 2017-271 Finance). Approved on the Consent Agenda |
| S | <u>17-523</u> | A resolution to authorize destruction of Division of Corrections records 1983-2014 (DISP 2017-272 Corrections). Approved on the Consent Agenda |
| T | <u>17-524</u> | A resolution to authorize destruction of Clerk records (DISP 2017-274). |

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- U [17-525](#) A resolution to authorize destruction of Health Division records 1986-2013 (DISP 2017-278 HS-Health)
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- V [17-526](#) A resolution to authorize destruction of Emergency Communications records 1987-2010 (DISP 2017-280).
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- W [17-527](#) A resolution to authorize destruction of Sheriff Records 1994-2015 (DISP 2017-283 Sheriff).
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- X [17-528](#) A resolution to authorize destruction of Appraiser Office appraisal process records 1985 - 2011 (DISP 2017-286).
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- Y [17-568](#) Waiver of policy to hire a Worker's Compensation Specialist with 40 hours vacation accrued.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- Z [17-535](#) General Bill Check Register for June 7, 2017 - June 13, 2017.
Approved on the Consent Agenda

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Chairman Unruh said, "I don't think we have anything to report on that at this time of the year, so, Commissioner Dennis."

OTHER

Commissioner Dennis said, "Under other, normally I don't ever say anything under that, but today I did want to make a couple comments. I missed the beginning of the meeting, so I don't if you recognized today was Flag Day or not. Someone that wore the uniform, all of those folks that have worn the uniform ahead of us that perished for our country. That represents our country and it's very important. I fly it in front of my house every single day, and I just wanted to recognize that today was Flag Day."

"In addition, if you didn't read the news today, it's the 80th anniversary of the Wichita flag also. This is what the Wichita flag looks like. There is a nice article in the newspaper that describes what that Wichita flag symbolizes, so I just wanted to recognize that today is Flag Day and the importance of that."

"The other point that I'd like to make is, this morning I missed the first part of the meeting because I was able to go along with Commissioner Howell to recognize Wichita as receiving the Abilene Trophy. It is a traveling trophy. Evidently, the City of Abilene, Texas won it a number of times so they decided that rather than them just keep it, they would start allowing other communities to get that trophy."

"The submission from the Friends of McConnell was over 200 pages long detailing everything that the City of Wichita and its surrounding communities and Sedgwick County does in support of the McConnell's mission and the troops that are out there. I was very pleased to represent our Commission this morning along with Commissioner Howell in recognizing the Chamber of Commerce, recognizing the Friends of McConnell, and especially recognizing McConnell Air Force Base in what they do to support our community and what we do to support them. I apologize for missing the first part of the meeting today, but I thought that was important to be there.

"The third point that I'd like to make today, and I'm sorry that at noon we lost KPTS (Kansas Public Telecommunications Service), so it is going to be taped, so if anyone wants to know what we have to say, why, it will be on there, but yesterday some of you may have seen the interaction between the county and the city on the ambulance issue. I truly believe that that's going to be worked out before the end of the month. So, I'm not saying anything whatsoever other than the fact that we have a very, very, very professional EMS operation in Sedgwick County. Just inside the city of Wichita, we've got over a \$30 million investment in equipment, and trucks and supplies and so forth, and all of the buildings and such.

"Our annual budget, just inside of the city of Wichita, is over \$16 million to support the citizens inside of Sedgwick County. We're one of only two in the entire state of Kansas that are accredited. "We're only one of 180, I think it is, out of 16,000 in the nation that are accredited. We have one of the most outstanding EMS or ambulance services that you can imagine. In addition, every single one of the paramedics or EMTs (Emergency Medical Technician) that we have on those ambulances, are certified. And they're certified to a standard that's set forth by the Medical Society of Sedgwick County and overseen by our Office of Medical Director.

"I don't see how any civilian ambulance company could ever match anything that we do. In addition, our current rate of going to see, pick up, someone in a non-emergency mode, our current is right almost 98 percent of the time, we're there in less than an hour. Again, I don't see how any civilian operation could ever come close to what we're providing to the citizens of Sedgwick County.

"So I just want to go on record saying that I am very, very, very proud of our entire ambulance service. Again, I am certain that the leaders in the city of Wichita, as good partners, and we are working harder and harder every day to be good partners. They're going to recognize the same thing that I recognize, and that each of us I think on this table recognizes that we are providing probably the most superior ambulance service they could ever get. I cannot imagine how that they could ever think that a civilian contractor could ever do the things that we're doing. Thank you."

Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you, Commissioner. I think we all would second all of your comments. As you were talking about the military and Flag Day and those sort of things, the manager has made it known to me at least, that this is the 242nd birthday of the Army. Is that correct, sir?"

Mr. Scholes said, "Absolutely. It's Flag Day, 242nd."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "Hooah!"

Mr. Scholes said, "Hooah!"

Chairman Unruh said, "Okay."

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman?"

Chairman Unruh said, "Yes, sir."

Mr. Yost said, "Sorry to interrupt you. The other section is usually reserved for Commissioners. I do want to point out that this is probably our last regularly scheduled meeting for the month of June. We may have a special meeting, we may not, but I did want to bring to your attention that this is probably the last regular meeting for Misha Jacob-Warren. You know, I needed her in the room for me to say a couple of things, and so I, she's not easily tricked, Mr. Chairman. So, I told her that Commissioner Ranzau was going to raise Cain about some agreement, and she found that entirely plausible, so here she is.

"Misha is leaving us to go to Wichita State University (WSU), her alma mater, and something that's near and dear to her heart. I don't want to interrupt that. I think that's great, if that's what she would like to do, but we're going to miss her. I want to publically express my appreciation to her for a job very well done. When I first became County Counselor, I consolidated all of the contract writing in the hands of one person, and Misha was that person. She's just done a superb job. She's had all of the agreements with the Law Enforcement Training Center that she has worked on, and of course, many other, literally thousands of agreements that we have that she's just done a great job. She's a very capable person, very professional. She has a tremendous work ethic, and she's just a great person, so I wanted to bring this to your attention Mr. Chairman, and I know that we'll all miss her great work here at the county.

Chairman Unruh said, "Well thank you, Mr. Counselor, for bringing that up. I know that Misha, I hope, understands that what you said is that, is the honest opinion of Commissioners, and I think all the staff and the people that you support, so, we will miss you. But we're happy for you to take another position that you think is good for you. We want the best for you. Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's going to be hard to follow. Since you brought that up, I'd like to just take my, take the opportunity to just say that I have the greatest respect for Misha. She is one of the very best writers of legal language I've ever seen.

"I don't understand most of the things she writes because she's good at it, I think, but, she's a tremendous person, an outstanding individual, and I think she's going to be sorely missed by us, and I congratulate her on a step that I'm sure she's wanting to take, but we're going to miss her, and she'll probably nearly impossible to replace, so good luck, Mr. Counselor.

"I would like to just echo the, some of the comments that my previous colleague, Commissioner Dennis. I would say he did a good job yesterday representing the county, at least my viewpoint, I'll say, he represented me in terms of his comments to the city. I appreciate Director Hadley and our EMS system. I think we have an outstanding system of care. You know, some people talk about the glass is half full or the glass is half empty. You want to extend that out to EMS. The glass is 98 percent full. It's hard to focus on what's wrong with EMS because there's just not much wrong.

"We've been, in my opinion, unfairly criticized about some of our response times when you can, no one's perfect, there's no such thing as a perfect system. Because of the way we do provide care, you're going to find someone in the community that

had to wait more than 60 minutes. There's going to be a few out there, but it's understandable as to why that is, and these are people who are receiving care. They're not, they're not accident victims. These are people who are, these are planned transportation, planned transports, and so we do our best to make our commitments, but every once in a while, because of emergencies, those planned transports are impacted slightly, and so I don't want anybody to wait any longer than they have to, but I would say that we're focused on providing the very best care for every Sedgwick County citizen and doing it at the least cost.

"Should there be any changes to EMS, I'm concerned about how that might impact our ability to provide these services. Whether we'll have to reduce our services or increase fees to basically backfill what we're currently doing should that delicate balance be upset. So, I agree with my colleague. I hope that the contract that was presented ultimately is acceptable to our colleagues across the street. Almost, I'd say probably 90 percent of our calls are inside the city of Wichita, so the greatest impact is to Wichita citizens. I hope that we can continue the many-decades-long relationship we've had with them and continue this good service and find ways to become better and more efficient and effective. But to focus on what's wrong is really actually hard to do. I think that you guys do a tremendous job, and almost everything is really good. So, I just want to say that publically.

"I was going to mention Flag Day, thank you Commissioner Dennis for bringing that up. I want to congratulate Wichita for their flag, which by the way, I think 10 years ago you wouldn't even know what the flag was probably. But lately, it's on, I saw a tattoo on someone's arm I think in the paper this morning. I saw three cars ahead of me, I think, in the last day or two. Three cars, side by side all had the Wichita flag plastered on their bumpers. It is iconic. It has taken off. It's cultural, and I appreciate the fact that we are now excited about being associated with Wichita, how much the, I think the especially our younger generation has identified with that Wichita flag. I say congratulations to all of us and especially our friends across the street for creating something we can identify with. It's exactly 80 years old as of today, so that's fantastic.

"I also got to attend the Abilene Trophy award this morning. I had to, unfortunately, I had to leave to come to this meeting. I'm glad to be here, but I hate to miss, hate to miss what was being presented. Have to walk out while Colonel Miller was speaking, but we got some tremendous friends at McConnell Air Force Base, and that's in my district, and I love them. I am a veteran. I know, we have Commissioner Ranzau, Commissioner Dennis are both veterans as well. We love the military. I appreciate them so much.

"This community is unlike any I've ever seen before. Being in the military, I've been to places that I didn't think really appreciated the veterans like we do in this community. I think that's exactly why this trophy was awarded to this community. Friends of McConnell as well as Derby, and the citizens of Wichita and Sedgwick County. I think have really demonstrated through a three inch submission of letter after letter after letter that was submitted to the judges of this award that were overwhelmed, I think, with the community support and were very impressed, which is why we got this award this year. I think that just speaks very, very well of Sedgwick County and Wichita.

"It's not just about the Air Force Base, but it's about this community and how, in fact, I think Commissioner Dennis made the point that Congressman Pompeo, when they were talking about the KC-46 and where that would go. They were asked two questions, you know, can your community, can the base handle this? And second of all, what's the community support? Again, overwhelmingly, we support the military and the veterans, and so I'm just so appreciative of that, and I hope we continue that.

"Then, last but not least, I'd like to just take a point of personal privilege, just 10 seconds, just simply say, I love my wife. We're celebrating our 27th anniversary this Friday, and I am blessed. To me, it's been a tremendously happy time of my life. I hope she's been happy. I don't know if she is or not, but I am just celebrating right now. Celebrating 27 years of bliss and wonderful marriage, and I want to say thank you to my wife for loving me and putting up with me. With that Mr. Chairman, that's my comments. Thank you."

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

Commissioner Dennis said, "Thank you. Thinking of anniversaries, I don't know if we honored our Chairman, but they just celebrated their 55th last weekend. Congratulations to our Chairman."

Chairman Unruh said, I know if my wife likes me, so."

Commissioner Dennis said, "Anyway I did want to..."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "You think you know."

Commissioner Dennis said, "I did want to say a couple words of thanks to Misha for all of her support. I've only worked with her for six months now. Worked very closely together on the EMS contract, and I appreciate all of the support there. I sent her an email the other day and asked if we could clone her, and we haven't figured out how to do that yet. But we're working on it right now. But I just wanted to extend my sincere thank you for the support that you gave and all the advice. This morning, I don't easily vote for something that I haven't read in great detail, and the fact that you and Eric Yost assured me that everything that I was concerned about was in there. I, that allowed me to place a vote, and I want to thank you very much for your service."

Chairman Unruh said, "Well said, okay. Anything else? I don't see anything from the Manager, Counselor, and nothing from Commissioners, so we will be adjourned."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

*BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS*

*DAVID M. UNRUH, Chairman
First District*

*MICHAEL B. O'DONNELL II, Chair Pro Tem
Second District*

*DAVID T. DENNIS, Commissioner
Third District*

*RICHARD RANZAU, Commissioner
Fourth District*

*JAMES M. HOWELL, Commissioner
Fifth District*

ATTEST:

Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk

APPROVED: