

Sedgwick County

525 North Main Street 3rd Floor
Wichita, KS 67203



*Sedgwick County...
working for you*

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

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 9:05 a.m. on February 7, 2018 in the County Commission Meeting Room in the Courthouse in Wichita, Kansas, by Chairman David T. Dennis, with the following present: Chair Pro-Tem Commissioner David M. Unruh; Commissioner Michael B. O'Donnell II; 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, Assistant County Manager of Public Works, Facilities Maintenance, Project Services and County Engineer; Mr. Rick Durham, Deputy Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Lindsay Poe Rousseau, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Joe Thomas, Director, Purchasing Department; Mr. Will Deer, Assistant County Counselor; Ms. Kate Flavin, Public Information Officer; Ms. Heddie Page, Deputy County Clerk.

GUESTS

*Ms. Robin Ulmer, 12528 East Cherry Creek Court, Wichita
Ms. Monica Marks, 3203 North Gouverneur, Augusta
Mr. Virgil Miller, Appointee
Ms. Jennifer Jantz-McCauley, Appointee
Mr. Ryan Gatewood, Appointee*

INVOCATION: Sister Joan Burger, Sisters of St. Joseph

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC AGENDA

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, we have a couple people signed up to speak today. We ask that they provide their name for the record and you will have three (3) minutes. First individual is Robin Ulmer."

Ms. Robin Ulmer, 12528 East Cherry Creek Court, Wichita greeted the Commissioners and said, "I was at a [Wichita] City Council meeting yesterday, and some of the speakers expressed concerns about the investigation into the Andrew Finch shooting. After that, then we went to the Wichita Police Department (WPD) Detective's office, and he talked to us a little bit about the investigation. He couldn't say much, but he did mention that some of the officers that were closer to Andrew Finch's porch were actually Sedgwick County Sheriff's Deputies.

"He didn't know whether or not they wore cameras, body cameras. So I wanted to see if I could find out anything else from Sedgwick County about what those officers might have seen. We're not getting a whole lot of transparency about this shooting, so just trying to find more ways of finding out to find out what was going on and why Andrew

Finch was shot and what perspective the county might have from their deputies and their body cameras.

"I thought maybe, since Chief [Gordon] Ramsey is not coming up with any body camera footage that maybe Sheriff [Jeff] Easter might be able to help with that. Last summer, the Sheriff's Office wanted to buy 100 more cameras. I don't know if that was funded. It was something they had requested last summer. So hopefully, those with were funded and these sheriff deputies were wearing body cameras. District Attorney [Marc] Bennett and Sheriff Easter both said in an article last summer that they appreciated the transparency and accountability that the body cameras bring. So I'm asking you, would you please insist on releasing the footage from the officers at the Andrew Finch shooting and give us some transparency and some accountability. Thank you."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Ms. Ulmer. I appreciate the comments. Next item is Monica Marks."

Ms. Monica Marks, 3203 North Gouverneur, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I was also at City Council yesterday. I would like to thank the county for being way more democratic with speakers, easier to walk in and sign up and speak. I realize you guys don't have any authority over the DA (District Attorney) and how long he's taking with this investigation, but there are local journalists, activists that have released the name of Officer Justin Wrath as the shooter, have said that he is back to work in an administrative capacity. I believe that's been confirmed. He has been seen working a side job at the south Wal-Mart wearing his uniform and carrying a gun.

"So where are we at with the investigation then? What is the outcome of the investigation? When is it going to be done? If you guys don't have any authority over this, maybe you should. I mean, maybe the public should know more about what's going on and when it's going to be completed. I agree that maybe we should see more body camera footage from the county. It feels like this is being put off so that maybe we'll forget about it before the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) tournament gets here. But I can assure you the public wants to know what's going on with this investigation.

"As far as I know, no police officer has ever been held accountable for a shooting like this. I also know of another shooting back from 2012 that is still not resolved, Troy Lanning Jr. Is that still open? What is going on with that? I feel like we can do better than this. We need to wrap this up. Andrew Finch died of a bullet wound to the head that was shot from across the street, so it shouldn't be that complicated. We shouldn't have to wait five years to figure out what's going on with this investigation, and we should be pressuring the DA to conclude this investigation for the Finch family and for the whole public, and we should definitely find out why this cop is back to work. Thank you."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Ms. Marks. That's the only two that were signed up. Does anyone else in the audience wish to speak on today's public agenda? Seeing none, Madam Clerk, next item."

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- A [18-083](#) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 3, 2018.
All Commissioners were present.

MOTION

Commissioner Dennis moved to approve the minutes from January 3rd, January 10th, and January 17, 2018.

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Approved

- B** [18-084](#) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2018.
All Commissioners were present.
Action for this item was taken with Item A.

- C** [18-087](#) REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2018.
All Commissioners were present.
Action for this item was taken with Item A.

APPOINTMENTS

- D** [18-107](#) RESOLUTION APPOINTING VIRGIL MILLER (COMMISSIONER
MICHAEL O'DONNELL'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK
COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED
TERM OF JAIME BROWN.
Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

Mr. Eric Yost, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We actually have a number of appointments today. Item D is a resolution appointing Virgil Miller to the Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging to fill the unexpired term of Jaime Brown, who resigned. Commissioner Michael O'Donnell is recommending that Mr. Miller be appointed and that he serve a term that will end April 11, 2021. He was expected to be present. You may want to inquire, but I would urge adoption of this resolution."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Mr. Yost. Commissioner O'Donnell."

MOTION

Commissioner O'Donnell moved to adopt the resolution appointing Virgil Miller to the Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging.

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Commissioner O'Donnell thanked the Chairman and said, "Mr. Miller is here today."

Chairman Dennis said, "Mr. Miller, if you would please approach the podium, we'd be happy to swear you in, and you may make some comments after that."

Ms. Karen Bailey, Chief Deputy Clerk, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Would you raise your right hand? I do solemnly swear that I support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Kansas and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sedgwick County Advisory Council on Aging, so help me God."
Mr. Virgil Miller said, "I do."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Congratulations and welcome."

Mr. Miller, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you. I actually had not prepared much of a speech today. When my wife's father was passing away at the age of 91, he would say getting old isn't for sissies and I heartily agree with him. I can afford these compression gloves that make my arthritis in my hands, keep my hands useable. I wonder how many old people in the county cannot. In the field of sport psychology, they recognize the phenomenon called the Matthew Effect. It is a reference to a passage in the book of Matthew that in essence says those who have will get more and those who have little will get less. While I understand the applicability to sports psychology, I wonder if that phenomenon has a place among the aging population, and that is a thing I would like to start exploring."

Chairman Dennis said, "Very good, thank you very much for being here today. Congratulations. I'm sorry, Commissioner O'Donnell."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you very much, Mr. Miller. I appreciate your willingness to serve and your dedication to this segment of the population, both the disabled and the aging, and it's great to have another person from District Two on the board, so I appreciate it."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Madam Clerk, next item."

Adopted

E [18-106](#)

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING KENYA COX (BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD IN AN AT-LARGE POSITION.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, item E is a resolution reappointing Kenya Cox to the at-large position on the Community Corrections Advisory Board. She has been serving on that board, and her new term would expire February 8th of 2020. She's expected to be present. I would urge adoption of the resolution."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. What's the will of the board?"

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the resolution appointing Kenya Cox to the Sedgwick County Community Corrections Advisory Board.

Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Dennis said, "Welcome. Congratulations to Kenya Cox and thank you for continuing to serve. Next item, Madam Clerk."

Adopted

F [18-089](#)

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ROGER LYON (BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION REAPPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN POSITION #9, PRIVATE RECYCLING.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, the next three items all pertain to the [Sedgwick County] Solid Waste Management Committee. Item F is a resolution reappointing Mr. Roger Lyon to that board in position number nine. He has been serving and his new term would expire December 31st of 2019. I'm not aware that he is in attendance today. Item G is a resolution appointing Jennifer Jantz-McCauley to position number 15 at the recommendation of Commissioner Jim Howell. Her term would expire December 31st of 2018. I'm told that she is expected to attend today."

"Item H is a resolution appointing Ryan Gatewood to position number eight on that board to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. Rob Wall. So this term would expire December 31st of 2019. I'm told that he is present, so I would urge adoption of resolutions F, G, and H and possibly swearing in two of the individuals who may be here."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Mr. Yost. Commissioner Howell."

MOTION

Commissioner Howell moved to adopt the resolutions appointing Roger Lyon, Jennifer Jantz-McCauley, and Ryan Gatewood to the Sedgwick County Solid Waste Management Committee.

Commissioner O'Donnell seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Dennis said, "If the individuals would please approach the podium, we'll be able to swear you in."

Ms. Bailey said, "Good morning. If you'll raise your right hand. I do solemnly swear that I'll support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Kansas and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sedgwick County Solid Waste Management Committee in position number 15 and number 8, so help me God."

Ms. Jennifer Jantz-McCauley said, "I do."

Mr. Ryan Gatewood said, "I do."

Chairman Dennis said, "Congratulations."

Ms. Jantz-McCauley, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Thank you very much for the opportunity. I'm really looking forward to working with this board."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you and welcome. Roger do you want to say anything?"

Mr. Gatewood greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'd just like to say thank you for today, and I look forward to working on this committee in Wichita here in Sedgwick County and filling Rob's vacated position and getting involved with the community and everything here in town. So thank you very much."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, we welcome both of you to our boards and thank you very much for serving our community." Madam Clerk, next item."

Adopted

- G** [18-090](#) RESOLUTION APPOINTING JENNIFER JANTZ-McCAULEY (COMMISSIONER JIM HOWELL'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN POSITION #15 FOR THE 5TH COMMISSION DISTRICT.
Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

Action for this item was taken with Item F.

- H** [18-091](#) RESOLUTION APPOINTING RYAN GATEWOOD (BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN POSITION #8, PRIVATE SOLID WASTE INDUSTRY.
Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

Action for this item was taken with Item F.

- I** [18-137](#) RESOLUTIONS APPOINTING COMMISSIONERS TO VARIOUS BOARDS/COMMITTEES.
Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolutions.

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, item I is actually four resolutions that appoint County Commissioners to various boards. The first one pertains to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). Commissioners Ranzau and Howell are being recommended for that. The second resolution is the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO), where Commissioners Dennis and Ranzau and Howell and County Clerk Kelly Arnold are being appointed to that. The third resolution is the Wichita Downtown Development Corporation (WDDC). Commissioner Unruh is being recommended for that. The fourth one is Sedgwick County Technical Education and Training Authority (SCTETA). Commissioner Michael O'Donnell is being recommended for that position. I would urge adoption of each of these items."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Mr. Yost. Commissioner Ranzau."

MOTION

Commissioner Ranzau moved to adopt the resolutions with the exception of the resolution appointing Commissioner O'Donnell to the Sedgwick County Technical Education and Training Authority (SCTETA).

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion.

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

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

Adopted As Amended

[18-157](#)

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O'DONNELL, II TO SEDGWICK COUNTY TECHNICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING AUTHORITY.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

Chairman Dennis said, "Commissioner Ranzau."

Commissioner Ranzau thanked the Chairman and said, "Yeah, I think we all know there's an ongoing FBI (Federal Bureau-Investigation) that hangs over this Commission like a dark cloud. I think until that's resolved and for a variety of other reasons that it would be in the best interest for this Commission not to appoint Commissioner O'Donnell to this board or any other board for that matter, so I'm not going to support this motion. I would encourage my colleagues to reconsider this appointment. Thank you."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you."

MOTION

Commissioner Dennis moved to adopt the resolution appointing Commissioner O'Donnell to the Sedgwick County Technical Education and Training Authority (SCTETA).

Commissioner Unruh seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Adopted

J [18-113](#)

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF RANDALL WELLS FROM THE EAGLE TOWNSHIP BOARD TRUSTEE POSITION.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept the Resignation.

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, this is a resolution accepting the resignation of Randall Wells from the Eagle Township Board trustee position. No replacement has yet been selected.

"A recommendation will eventually be made on that by Commissioner Dennis in whose district Eagle Township lies, and I would urge the BoCC (Board of County Commissioners) here this morning to accept this resignation."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Mr. Yost. I want to thank Randall Wells for his service on the Eagle Township Board of Trustees. I believe the next board meeting we will have a replacement to be named."

MOTION

Commissioner Dennis moved to accept the resignation of Randall Wells from the Eagle Township Board Trustee Position.

Commissioner O'Donnell seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

Chairman Dennis said, "Next item, please."

Approved

NEW BUSINESS

K [18-112](#)

PRESENTATION OF THE QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT.

Presented by: Rick Durham, Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file.

VISUAL PRESENTATION

Mr. Mike Scholes, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This is the fun part of the job. Before Rick's presentation, I wanted to take the opportunity to recognize Lindsay Poe Rousseau, as you know, our Chief Financial Officer (CFO), for making the Wichita Business Journal's 2018 CFO Award list. Where is she? So when they contacted me and asked if there was anybody we wanted to submit, obviously our CFO is well deserved.

"I jumped at the opportunity to recognize her for different reasons. Biggest is, Lindsay embodies, as you well know, the Sedgwick County values every day. A few of those

just to name a few, she's a good steward of the county resources, obviously. She's accountable and she is certainly dedicated. Within her first year of CFO, she has incorporated a number of changes within the department of finance, which has led to enhance morale within the workplace, greater security safeguards for the county finances and more consistent, operational policies, which certainly helps safeguard the county's employees and finances.

"She is a great team player, leader and coach within the organization. I am so proud of her and happy to work with her every day. I was more than happy to advance her name to the [Wichita] Business Journal to recognize her for achievements.

"So along with Lindsay's recognition, I would like to share that the Sedgwick County recently confirmed that our organization has maintained the highest credit ratings from Standard and Poor's (S and P), Moody's and Fitch [Group]. These ratings are updated on an annual basis from each entity with S and P being AAA, Moody's AAA and Fitch being AA Plus. The report summarizes reasons for the high ratings such as robust financial position with a strong economy and tax base, strong budget management during times of economic recovery and the use of conservative budgets, which utilize available revenue, raising tools and expenditure cutting mechanisms as needed.

"We are able to capitalize on these high ratings to secure prime interest rates when debt is issued, which saves local taxpayer dollars in the long-term. All of this has a large part to do with Lindsay and her leadership abilities and her team. It's really about the team. Lindsay just happens to be the coach of that team, but she has made, and the team has made a lot of the improvements over the last year, which I'm extremely proud of. But in this case, it was Lindsay who was recognized, and we are thankful to have her. With that, I would like to let Rick lead us in the briefing. He is not going to delegate that."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Rick before you start, on behalf of Sedgwick County [Board of County] Commission, I want to congratulate Lindsay for the award. Also thank them for our extremely high bond ratings and so forth. But just as the Manager said, Lindsay is the one getting the recognition today, but it's because of the folks that work for Lindsay that puts us in this position, and we want to make sure that we thank each and every one of them for what they have done today. With that Rick, I don't see anyone else wanting to speak. You have our attention."

Mr. Rick Durham, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I had a moment of excitement. I thought the Manager was going to give the quarterly financial report."

Mr. Scholes said, "It would go fast."

Mr. Durham said, "As always at the end of each quarter, the Division of Finance reports on the county's financial condition. The following quarterly financial report that I'm going to give you provides an analysis of the fiscal year ending December 31st, 2017. Just to let you know, here in about 30 or 45 days, you're going to get a lot of this briefed again, when I brief you the CAFR (Certificate of Achievement for excellence in Financial Report) at the end of our audit. So I'll run through this fairly quickly, because you're going to see these numbers again. So with that, the information contained in this report is pre-audit numbers, so they're unaudited financial statements and exclude any adjustments that may be necessary.

“So the first section of the report that you have received outlines the information on a budgetary basis for applicable fund types, and it includes comparisons of financial activities with previous fiscal year and adopted and revised budgets. The second part of the report is going to outline capital projects, and the final section consists of funds statements will provide a broad overview of the county’s finances in a manner similar to private sector business based on GAAP (General Accepted Accounting Principles) standards. Again, now this report has been delivered to you and it will be posted on the county’s website after I provide this report.

“Again, to reiterate all the comments that were made, I’m just the guy that gets to stand up here and give the report. All the hard work is done by the Budget Department and the Accounting Departments as they put this document together for you all. So I know that those teams are represented here today. So when we report on financial status, the county typically aggregates the information into one of several possible groups represented here. The general fund, property-tax-supported funds, other operating funds, or all operating funds or total operating funds represented here.

“So as we look at this chart, we begin the briefing really with how we end the year. So what this chart represents is how we ended the year based on fund balance. So if we start with the general fund, and that’s the counties primary operating fund, and it accounts for county services that don’t have a designated fund of their own. The general fund includes most general government, law enforcement functions, and it receives the broadest variety of revenues. Currently the operations of 42 divisions are funded from the general fund, and as we go down that first column with the title gen[eral] fund, you see that revenues are greater than expenditures which give us a net income for the year of [\$]29.1 million. There was net transfers out of the general fund of [\$]23 million, so the net change in fund balance in the general fund is \$5.8 million.

“That next line is the actual beginning fund balance at the beginning of 2017, which was [\$]62 and a half million, so we end 2017 with an ending fund balance of \$68.3 million. As we move right, the next column is the debt service fund. Expenditures were more than revenues in that, and then so it shows that net income of that negative \$3.6 million. There were net transfers of [\$]3.1 million into that.

“So that gives us a net change in fund balance in the debt service fund of that [\$]437,000, and again the ending fund balance is \$2.8 million. So move to the next column, other tax supported funds. The county has 31 budgeted other operating funds that are not supported, hold on I’m jumping ahead here. So that’s the other tax supported funds. So if we look at that, you see that expenditures were slightly higher than revenues, so that net income is that negative [\$]895,000. There were transfers out of that, so the net change in that fund balance is \$4.4 million. So that actual beginning fund balance was \$8 million, and we drew that down to \$3.6 million.

“So if we move onto the next column, the non-property tax supported funds, the county has 31 budgeted other operating funds which are not supported directly with property taxes. So if we look at that column, you see expenditures were about a million dollars higher than revenues. The net transfers of \$456,000 into those non property tax funds. So the net change in fund balance is a negative [\$]572,000. So the ending fund balance then is \$30.4 million.

“Continuing to move to the right, we go to the [Sedgwick County] Fire District [No. 1]. The Fire District, as you know, is a distinct government entity that’s operated as a part

of the county government and it levies property taxes, but it is reported separately. So as we look at the Fire District, revenues are more than expenditures by [\$]1.5 million. There were no transfers in or out of the Fire District, so that gives us a net change in fund balance in the Fire District of \$1.5 million, so that fund balance ends at \$5.5 million.

“Our next column is our enterprise and internal service funds, and as we look at those revenues and expenditures are essentially the same. There are small net transfers, so the net change in fund balance in those funds is [\$]214,000. So the ending fund balance in 2017 of those is \$32.8 million. So as we go to the very far right and we wrap those up, the references to operating funds, and that means property tax supported funds plus all other operating funds listed here. That’s how we reference total operating funds. So the total operating funds for the county at the end of 2017 had revenues of [\$]366 million, expenditures at [\$]341 million, so the net income there was [\$]25 million. So the net transfers then to other funds to transfers out were [\$]23 million, so the net change in fund balance was that positive \$2.1 million, which gives us an ending fund balance of \$143.6 million, nearly [\$]143.7 [million].

“So to get into some of the details this focuses on the county property tax supported funds. In fiscal year 2017, net revenues were \$242.9 million. This is an increase over 2016 of set \$8.78 million. Main increases that we realize were in property tax of [\$]1.83 million, and as you’ll see later, licenses and permits of \$7.2 million, which is as a result of the county becoming the managing partner of MABCD (Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department). So that’s a lot, the bulk of that increase is that in that revenue.

“Staying with county property tax supported funds, these are the net expenditures through the fourth quarter, and you can see those net expenditures are at [\$]241.9 million, an increase in expenditures over 2016 of \$7 million. Now \$5 million of that can be directly attributed to personnel costs, just an increase in personnel costs. So the bulk of that was personnel costs, and I’ll get into that later, also, as I go into the details of this. This chart shows the quarter change year over year so we had a three percent increase in revenue from 2016 to 2017, and a 3.7 percent increase in expenditures from ‘16 to ‘17. This show the fourth quarter income on a budgetary basis, so you see that we have a net income of a million dollars from ‘16 to ‘17. So I will get into a little more detail here, or a lot more detail as we go in, staying with county property tax supported funds. These are the top 10 revenues.

“So obviously Ad Valorem taxes are the greatest source of revenue that we have, and that increased by 2.4 percent. Sales and use taxes are down 2.2 percent, motor vehicle taxes up a percent and a half. There’s that line, that 975 percent for that miscellaneous non-business licenses and permits. That’s the MABCD revenue. The reason that percentage is obviously so high isn’t we didn’t do that in 2016, so that’s the new revenue.

“As we move down, I would like to draw your attention to the next to last line, not all revenues, but the officer fee line. So there is a 27 percent increase in officer fees. Now these are tied directly to the mortgage registration fees, which you will notice it is not on this chart. That would be the number 11 revenue. I bring that to your attention because while there is a \$680,000 increase in officer fees, or 27 percent, there is a mortgage registration fees decreased [\$]1.3 million, or 30 percent reduction from ‘16 to

'17. As you know, these revenues are going to be phased out in 2019. So as you draw down, you can see all revenues for the county under that \$242.9 million or 3.7 percent increase, tying back to the charts you saw earlier.

"This chart shows key personnel expenditures for the county property tax supported funds. Again, personnel are the largest single category of expense that the county incurs. So salaries and wages had an increase of 4.6 percent, our insurance premiums are up 4.4 percent, the pension contributions down slightly at 3.2 percent, due to actions of KPERs (Kansas Public Employees Retirement System). Obviously the FICA (Federal Insurance Contributions Act) would be up similar because it is tied to salaries. Overtime costs down 6.6 percent. So as you see all personnel expenditures are up \$5 million or 4 percent increase.

"Here are key non-personnel expenditures and accounting property tax supported funds. So the grant award increase that you see these at the top line is due to a contractual change in [Department of] Aging and COMCARE, and there is also a 5.5 percent increase in Fleet Management charges shown there. That's due to a first quarter purchase of some Sheriff vehicles. That has been there throughout the year, you've seen that over and over. So all non-personnel costs are up 1.8 percent, so very small increase in non-personnel expenditures.

"So now we move out of the tax-supported funds into non-tax special revenue funds. So as I stated at the beginning, the county has 31 operating funds, which are not supported directly with property taxes. So for fiscal year (FY) 2017, the end of 2017, you see those revenues are at \$67.4 million. That's a fairly significant decrease. So we stay with the non-tax special revenue funds, we look at the net expenditures. So we see that those expenditures are down slightly. I would like to go back for a second and look at these revenues as we go down real quick. That's a fairly significant decrease you can see there, and what I would like to say is the bulk of that lost revenue is due to the Affordable Airfares Program no longer being funded, so that represents about \$5 million of that. I thought maybe I should clarify that. Maybe I could alleviate a question at the end. This is a percentage changes in those, year-over-year from 2016, there is a 7.4 percent decrease in revenue, and a 2.6 percent reduction in expenditures from 2016.

"Again, we go into the top ten revenue if you will, for the non-tax special revenue funds. You can see there is a lot of red on this chart, obviously. The Affordable Airfares number is not listed on here, but if you notice a lot of that red are due to state programs or federal programs being reduced. I would like to draw your attention to the third line there that state revenue KDADS (Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services) has a large percentage increase of 216 percent. That dollar amount, that 3.2 percent, right above that, state revenue DCF (Department of Children and Families), that decrease of 2.2 [percent], those numbers are actually related. That reduction in DCF is now being reported in KDADS, so that large percentage is obviously because there wasn't much in that, and that large increase shows that. So those offset one another. So it is a way that we are receiving those funds. So as you can see, the top ten revenues, or all revenues for non-tax special revenue funds show a decrease of 7.4 percent.

"Key expenditures in the non-tax special revenue funds, as you can see, salaries and wages are still our largest expenditure. We have insurance premiums, increase of 6.9 percent. Then there are other fairly large percentage changes, but the dollar amounts

are relatively small, so all expenditures in the non-tax special revenue funds showed a decrease of 2.6 percent. So now we move away from the budgetary statements that I talked about that are showing you the finances on a budgetary basis, and we move into showing you the finances on a GAAP basis. This information is found behind the fund, the tab in your quarterly report called fund statements.

“What this chart shows you is the total fund balance at the end of 2017 of the general fund, the general fund only on a GAAP basis, and what this shows, and you can clearly see, there is a pattern here as we go through the tax collection cycle through the first and second quarters, our revenues are up, and then we spend that down through the fiscal year, to end our, so 2017, ending fund balance is \$67 million. That’s annotated in red numbers. You can see the quarterly comparisons in the red numbers as we go back over the six fiscal years.

“This chart essentially is the same data, but it is shown, and it is showing something different. While the previous slides showed the fund balance, the dollar amount number, this shows the unrestricted general fund balance as a percentage of budgeted expenditures. Let me remind you the county has a fund balance policy that states unrestricted general fund balance would be at least 20 percent of budgeted expenditures. So again, you can see the clear pattern as we go back through the fiscal years, and ending unrestricted balance at the end of 2017 is 33 percent, which is well above our 20 percent benchmark.

“So we move now, and we will look at the investment portfolio. The investment portfolio itself is represented by the brown bars on this chart, which shows the amount of dollars available for investment. You can see in December, each December going back to 2012, there is a spike there. Again, that ties to the tax collection cycle. So that’s the value of the investments that we have as of December ‘17. The blue line there is the yield that we are currently drawing, which is 1.01 percent.

“Compared to our benchmark, which is the one-year Treasury Bill (T-Bill), which is at 1.75 percent, so we are lagging behind that. That’s as a result of what the Fed [Federal Reserve System] has done, because we have our investments tied up in longer term. I know each of you has received a quarterly investment report in an email, I think you received it yesterday perhaps, and as you go through this report, if you will pay attention to page five of this report, there is a chart on there, and it is a table that depicts the maturity dates of the portfolio. It kind of explains why we are lagging the way we are. So as the Fed increases rates, which is good for our investments as we invest going forward, 28 of our 55 investments are held in instruments with maturity dates that are 2 to 4 years out because of the way we locked those in.

“So of the 55 instruments we have, 37 of those, there is a top part of this chart, and I would highlight this to you if you want me to, nine of those are less than one year maturity dates, twenty of those are more than one, but less than two year maturity dates, and then eight of those are more than two years but less than four years out for maturity dates. So as you see, as we start to roll those over into new investments, that gap should change or should narrow. So but that information is detailed very expertly in this quarterly investment report that’s prepared by Brandi Baily, so she does a good job.

“This next slide just lists a couple of significant capital projects. If you want more

details of the entire Capital Improvement Projects, (CIP) that also is behind a tab in your book entitled capital projects, so it gives you all the details of all active and open capital projects. As we go down this list, update master control and adult detention, that project was completed in October of '17. The Murdock Tag Office remodel, construction bids are going to come in early this month. The Aviation Pathway from Derby to Wichita, construction will begin this summer and will be completed before the end of 2018. The bike/pedestrian bridge repairs over the Wichita Valley Center Flood Control, this is repairs on the traffic bridge, and those were completed in the fall of '17. Then the last one, the Wichita Valley Center Flood Control system major maintenance repairs, that's the City of Wichita uses funds to reconstruct levee toe drains to protect the levee from washout.

"I don't know what that means, I just read what I get from Public Works. So I will show you a quick slide, this information shows the leading economic indicators from the Center for Economic Development and Business Research (CEDBR) in Wichita State University (WSU). So in the statement that they have on their website says the leading index continues to indicate an improvement in economic activity into the new year. After slowing declines through the late summer, this can be attributed to a significant improvement in the Kansas leading index, there were also improvements in aircraft production index and the national industrial production index. This would put the level of economic activity slightly above the 2017 levels through the beginning of 2018.

"Now they don't have those numbers out there yet, so there is a projection, because this is only through December of '17. But they actually show there's a predicted change in the level of economic activity of the next six months from this current level that shows an increase of nearly one percent. So the outlook for the leading indicators is actually positive for the coming year.

"So as I wrap up the report here, some of the things that we see as threats to the fiscal health of the county is, obviously the continuing resolutions that the Federal Government continues to do, and then changing priorities that we have from them. The state government, the budget there, how is school funding going to be addressed, what effect is that going to have on the county's finances and unfunded mandates as they come down from the state. Then the challenge in the local economy is, in the past I've always talked about the slowing, this slow growth of the local economy, but I think the challenge that we have now is growing and developing the skilled labor pool as we move forward, and that's a challenge for this community.

"So the key points I want you to take away is that the county is currently in sound financial condition as we showed surpluses in 2017 general fund. Non-tax supported fund revenues are down 7.4 percent from year over year from 2016, as we see decreasing revenues from both federal and state sources. The county's focus is continued emphasis on core services, reduce funding to government services that can be provided about you the public sector. So the last thing is that our performance in 2017 was consistent with what we projected. Our fundamentals continue to reflect strong financial position, and our county focus is still to use a strategic plan as a road map for success. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions."

Chairman Dennis said, "Rick, thank you for the detailed analysis. I appreciate that, and I've also read through your quarterly report and so forth. We saw the email that we got yesterday that details that. Do I have any questions at all from any of the Commissioners on any of the reports that we just saw? Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh thanked the Chairman and said, "Rick, thanks for the report. It is

as usual understandable even at my level, so I just wanted to ask a question, though, that the unrestricted balance as a percentage of budget expenditures, we have a benchmark or policy for us of 20 percent."

Mr. Durham said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Is that pretty much consistent with what might be called peer counties. We have a higher standard or lower, I mean how do we compare on that particular..."

Mr. Durham said, "I think the 20 percent actually, if we look at peers, if you will, or best practices that comes from GFOA, or Government Finance Officers Association, but I will reach out to some of the other counties and find out what their fund balance policy states on that and report that back to you all. I don't have specific details on that or how that compares."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay. Well, thank you. I mean, it leaves us in a very comfortable, secure position with that balance, but I have had some constituents who said most people don't worry about our fund balances."

"But I have had some constituents who said, you know, that's pretty generous for lack of a better term, and why would you keep that much balance when you should put that money to work, or have an impact on, you know, our property tax revenues, if we didn't have to have that high balance. I am comfortable with it, but I just want to know the comparison so that I could respond to some of my constituents."

Mr. Durham said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Then another question, you said that the mortgage registration fee income was down about, did you say a million?"

Mr. Durham said, "A million four."

Commissioner Unruh said, "The total amount when it's fully phased in, we're going to have about a hit of, what, about [\$]3 million? Is that what you said before?"

Mr. Durham said, "Yes, sir. As it phases out in 2019, yeah the total impact will be a loss of revenue of about \$3 million."

Commissioner Unruh said, "The legislature imposed that on us with the thought that they were going to stimulate business or banking business on real estate loans. I mean, that was one of the rationale I heard, that, you know, we are losing real estate loans because of the mortgage registration fee and it is going to the Federal Land Bank (FLB) rather than our local banks. I just want wonder how is that playing out? I mean, it is a significant hit to us, and it seems like only the bankers were complaining. I mean, normal people getting a mortgage for their home, I mean, I bought two or three homes in my lifetime, and I paid the mortgage registration fee, and it was initially imposed on us, I think back in the '40s so it would be a reduction in property tax costs."

"So that's a lot of verbiage to say, is that achieving the results that they purposed this for, taking away that fee."

Ms. Lindsay Poe Rousseau, Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and

said, "Commissioner, we have seen an uptick, of course, in the number of mortgages filed. We will work with Tanya Buckingham to get the details, if we can tell which type of lender is filing those documents to be able to say whether it is our private lenders, if they are getting an uptick in business that they were expecting to see. But we can maybe follow up with you at the retreat on that as a part of the forecast presentation, then if that is okay?"

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay, well just some sort of indication whether or not it's working. I was pretty grumpy about it when they did it, as was our former Register of Deeds, Bill Meek. He fought hard against that. It does impact our revenues, so just want to know if it's working or not working."

Ms. Poe Rousseau said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Alright, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that's all I have."

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

Commissioner Howell thanked the Chairman and said, "I just have two questions. On slide number 2, you show a transfer of \$23 million. Is that fairly typical in term of, I don't see any history of that number, so I am just curious, is that fairly normal?"

Mr. Durham said, "I would say it is fairly normal. What I will do is I will get you a historical numbers on what we typically do as far as transfers."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay, I'd like to maybe..."

Mr. Durham said, "That would give you maybe two or three years of history."

Commissioner Howell said, "That would be very helpful. I would like to see just a little bit of a breakdown of that number. I think it would be interesting to see a little more detail there. Second thing I would like to ask, is I do have the quarterly financial report if front of me. I'm still looking for the data. Maybe I am just missing it here. Can we get an update on our debt situation? What's our current debt, and how did we end the fiscal year 2017 in terms of our total debt load for the county? Do we have like a beginning and ending number for 2017?"

Mr. Durham said, "I don't have those in front of me, but I can get those to you."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay, that would be very helpful as well. Then, just as a general comment, normally we have some analysis on fiscal health for the county. There is usually a few charts that shows up, down or level. Those charts were missing. Is that something that's not in..."

Mr. Durham said, "That was on purpose, no. Because I'm updating those with more current numbers, then I'm going to include those in the CAFR briefing and that's why I mentioned the CAFR presentation to you in the beginning."

Commissioner Howell said, "Oh, okay."

Mr. Durham said, "You are going to see those because I want to do some more comparisons with other counties or benchmark counties."

Commissioner Howell said, "Very good. Thank you for the answer."

Mr. Durham said, "Yes, sir."

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

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Any further questions? I would entertain a motion to receive and file."

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to receive and file.

Commissioner O'Donnell seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

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

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

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Next item, please."

Received and Filed

L [18-141](#)

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 1, 2018.

Presented by: Joe Thomas, Director, Purchasing.

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

Chairman Dennis said, "Good morning, Joe."

Mr. Joe Thomas, Director of Purchasing Department, greeted the Commissioners and said, "The meeting that was conducted on February 1st by the Board of Bids and Contracts discussed and recommends five items for your consideration this morning."

1. FUEL – FLEET MANAGEMENT
FUNDING – FLEET MANAGEMENT

"This recommendation is to accept the overall low bid from MJ Murphy, LLC at the fees listed and establish contract pricing for one (1) year with four (4) one (1) year options to renew.

2. CONSERVATION TREATMENT FOR THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS CIVIL WAR MONUMENT – FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

FUNDING – FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

“This recommendation is to accept the low proposal from Russell-Marti Conservation Services, Inc. for a total five (5) year cost of \$78,240 and to establish contract pricing for any additional work at \$125 per hour.

3. PUMPER TRUCK - SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1
FUNDING – SEDGWICK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1

“This recommendation is to accept the low proposal from Danko Emergency Equipment in the amount of \$623,105.

4. SEDGWICK COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY ORGANIZATION (SCDDO) INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY PROGRAM (NON-HCBS) – SEDGWICK COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY ORGANIZATION (SCDDO)
FUNDING – STATE AID

“This recommendation is to accept three (3) of the four (4) proposal options and approve funding to Rainbows United, Inc. in the amount of \$437,256.

5. AUMENTUM MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SUPPORT SERVICES (ITSS)
FUNDING – TAX SYSTEM

“This recommendation is to accept the quote from Thomson Reuters in the amount \$348,721.29.”

Mr. Thomas said, “I’ll be happy to answer any questions you may have, and I recommend approval of these items.”

Chairman Dennis said, “Thank you, Mr. Thomas. Do we have any questions? Seeing none, I await a motion.”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts regular meeting on February 1, 2018.

Commissioner O’Donnell seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner O’Donnell II	Aye
Commissioner Ranzau	Aye
Commissioner Howell	Aye
Commissioner Unruh	Aye
Chairman Dennis	Aye

Mr. Thomas said, “Thank you, Commissioners.”

Chairman Dennis said, “Thank you, sir. Next item, please.”

Approved

CONSENT

Mr. Scholes said, "Commissioners, I recommend you approve consent agenda items Mike (M) through Alpha Charlie (AC)."

MOTION

Commissioner Ranzau moved to approve consent agenda items Mike (M) through Alpha Charlie (AC).

Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion.

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

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

Chairman Dennis said, "Next item, please."

- M** [18-103](#) One (1) Right of Way Easement for Sedgwick County Bridge Project 636-33-1150; Bridge on 71st St. South between Webb Road & Greenwich Road. District 5.
Approved on the Consent Agenda

- N** [18-086](#) Dedication of a Utility Easement to the City of Wichita at Intrust Bank Arena.
Approved on the Consent Agenda

- O** [18-098](#) Funding Agreement with the Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County, Inc.
Approved on the Consent Agenda

- P** [18-105](#) Funding Agreement with Nonprofit Chamber of Service of Sedgwick County.
Approved on the Consent Agenda

- Q** [18-096](#) Short-Term Respite Care and Professional Resource Services Agreement with DCCCA, Inc.
Approved on the Consent Agenda

- R** [18-066](#) Information Technology Use Policy 2018.
Approved on the Consent Agenda

- S** [18-075](#) Prosecuting Attorney Trust Fund, 18014-259.

Approved on the Consent Agenda

- T [18-076](#) Federal Asset Forfeiture Fund, 18024-259.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- U [18-077](#) Establish Additional Budget Authority in the Prosecuting Attorney
Training Fund, 18002-216.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- V [18-061](#) Year-end Transfer from the Auto License Fund to the General Fund.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- W [18-094](#) Signature authority to sign applications, reports, plans and other
documents for submission to the Kansas Department for Aging and
Disability Services (KDADS).
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- X [18-074](#) Plat.
Approved by Public Works. The County Treasurer has certified that taxes
in 2017 and all prior years have been paid for the following plat:

Eck Acres.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- Y [18-081](#) Order dated 1/16/2018 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- Z [18-043](#) General Bill Check Register for January 17, 2018 - January 23, 2018.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- AA [18-119](#) General Bill Check Register for January 24, 2018 - January 30, 2018.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- AB [18-120](#) General Bill Check Register for January 31, 2018 - February 6, 2018.
Approved on the Consent Agenda
- AC [18-121](#) Payroll Check Register for the January 20, 2018 payroll certification.
Approved on the Consent Agenda

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Mr. Deer."

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman."

Chairman Dennis said, "Mr. Yost."

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Deer is going to give you a lot more elaborate description. I just bring to the Commissioner's attention that yesterday there was a hearing in Topeka on the legislation pertaining to Election Commissioner, and we do have the testimony of the Election Commissioner from Sedgwick County on that, and there's also a legislation that the Sheriff has brought to our attention, he's concerned about relating to assessing fees for the use of state databases. So I wanted to, I think what I would like to do is ask if the Commission is interested in taking a position on that, setting that latter item after Mr. Deer has explained a little bit to you."

Chairman Dennis said, "Why don't we start with the second item. Were you going to give a brief overview of what the Sheriff is asking before we talk about it?"

Mr. Will Deer, Assistant County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yeah. This was a bill that was just introduced last week, there's actually two bills. There's a bill in the Senate and a bill in the House basically implementing a statewide cybersecurity system.

"There is a provision towards the end of the bill that would allow them to bill up to \$700 per employee of any governmental or non-governmental entity that accesses the state databases. So this would be a significant financial hit for the Sheriff's Office. You know, these bills are brand new, they were just introduced. I'm trying to run some traps on, you know, who is behind it, and you know, what the prognosis is on whether it will even pass. But obviously that would be a significant hit. I think our Treasurer's Office also would have a lot of employees that are accessing state databases."

Chairman Dennis said, "What I understand is it's about \$385,000 worth of funds from the Sheriff's Office alone, and then probably that from the rest of Sedgwick County with Corrections and so forth, which is a significant hit. We are talking \$700,000 to a million dollars that aren't in our budget to fund something that we weren't aware of that's mandated by state statute that we have to be able to link to these different computer networks, and now suddenly they want to bill us \$700 a person to link to those. So I am rather distressed, as our Sheriff is in this latest turn of events. Do we know who introduced this bill?"

Mr. Deer said, "They are listed as committee bills, so it's pretty standard in the Kansas Legislature, it doesn't actually have a named sponsor on either piece of legislation."

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, I think we can probably find out who requested that the committee introduce those bills. One concern I had, and I spoke with the Sheriff yesterday, is that the one bill in the Senate especially was introduced on a Tuesday, and they had the hearing on a Thursday. We really weren't aware of, if the bill's existence, certainly not the ramifications of it.

"I think we need to, what I am going to ask you to do, if you wish to take a position, is to have a vote on that so we can convey to the legislators through our lobbyists that you've voted on this and you're asking that they do one thing or another on the bill. So I would ask that you take a position on it, if that's your desire."

Chairman Dennis said, "Absolutely. Thank you, Mr. Yost. I appreciate that additional information. I know our Sheriff is very distressed. I think that it will harm Sedgwick County along with the other counties. I have absolutely no problem with taking a

position on this in support of our Sheriff. I look forward to seeing if any of the other Commissioners have any alternative views. If not, why I would also entertain a motion that we support our Sheriff in opposition.”

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved that Sedgwick County is opposed to House Bill 2560 and Senate Bill 342. Both bills would impose new and costly fees on various County agencies, including the Sheriff..

Commissioner O'Donnell seconded the motion.

Chairman Dennis said, “We have a motion and a second. Do we have any further discussion on it? I think we are all united on this. We will take a vote on it in just a moment. But it is distressing that it looks like they are trying to balance some of their fiscal woes over the different counties. I want to make sure they understand that. If there is no further discussion, Madam Clerk, call the roll.”

VOTE

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

Chairman Dennis said, “Thank you. Next item, Will.”

Mr. Deer said, “Next item was the hearings on the Election Commissioner Bill, where yesterday there was a Senate bill and a House bill. I arrived a little bit late, so I was there for the House bill. It is fairly contentious. There are representatives from I believe all four Election Commissioner Offices in the four larger counties, as well as the Secretary of State opposing the bill that would bring the budget authority under the Board of County Commissioners. Primarily it was the four Election Commissioners, but there was also representatives from the Secretary of State's Office there as well, that was opposing that legislation. I could give more feedback on it if you would like, but it was pretty obvious that the Election Commissioners are opposed to that legislation.”

Chairman Dennis said, “Well thank you, Will. I think each one of our Commissioners have the testimony from our Election Commissioner here in Sedgwick County. I've read though it three or four times, kind of with amazement actually as I read through it. We just funded the Election Office something like \$7 million to buy new equipment. We did have a discussion earlier this year, I can't go into some of the discussions from previous years because I wasn't on the Commission, but earlier this year, our Election Commissioner did want to send out some mailings that was going to cost our taxpayers a lot of money that weren't required by any statute, any requirement, any law, anything, and the Sedgwick County Commission trying to be good stewards of the funds for our citizens voted not to allow her to do that.

“The problem that we have right now is that we've got an Election Commissioner that is appointed by Kris Kobach. As a matter of fact, not too long ago, I suddenly got a little

note in my email that in a few minutes, why Kris Kobach was going to be in town to swear in our Election Commissioner to a new term. That was the first we even knew she was up for a new term or anyone even thought to invite us, the Commissioners, so it appears that there is a strong disdain. On top of that, we have put together a legislative agenda, we've been working on our legislative agenda for some time. Very public, and not at one point did our Election Commissioner come over. She is appointed, not elected, has only authority that is given to her by Kris Kobach.

"If you read her entire testimony, she blames the [Board of] Sedgwick County Commission for everything but the famine, from what I can understand. At the end of this she says that if she doesn't have all the funding that she wants because she can set her own budget, that she can't go out and help all the other communities in smaller counties throughout the State of Kansas. I guess she feels that it's her responsibility to use taxpayer funding to take care of all the other counties in the State of Kansas.

"It distresses me greatly that we have someone that's appointed by Kris Kobach that doesn't even come over and talk to Sedgwick County Commission before she goes up and makes testimony, and she makes some significant testimony, that's in opposition, direct opposition to Sedgwick County. We did not include in our legislative agenda, some of the other counties did, that we appoint this individual. We left that as it was, still appointed by Kris Kobach.

"But unfortunately, I am on the fence on that item at this point. I think we need some control. We set the budget, we go out and task Sedgwick County taxpayers to be able to fund our Election Office. We have no desire whatsoever to influence the elections. What we want to do is make sure that we are good stewards of the funding that is provided to us through the Election Office. So to say that I am distressed is mildly statement that our Election Commissioner would go this far to go up and testify in opposition to our legislative agenda without even consulting us before she went. So I am not happy right now. Chairman Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Why, I just wanted to make sure that I understand and express my perspective on this, but the fundamental issue is that we have an appointed person who has autonomous authority over our expenditures and doesn't have to conform to the budget restrictions and the analysis that we subject ourselves to. Am I correct in that summation of what the issue is?"

Mr. Deer said, "Yeah I mean, at the end of the day, that is the issue. The representative, whose name was Brian Caskey from the Secretary of State's Office. He claims that all four Election Commissioners do go up and have their budgets, you know, sort of quasi approved or looked over by the Secretary of State's Office, but, you know, under statute, they are not required to do that, so it's a..."

Commissioner Unruh said, "So we are in a situation where of the 105 counties in the State of Kansas, 101 of them are not too concerned about this because their County Clerk handles their election process. That is an elected person on the one hand, and one who, I don't know anybody whether in any sort of civil war about their budget process, or what they can spend, but the bottom line is, the County Clerk is an elected person. For urban counties in the State of Kansas where the large population is, the Secretary of State appoints that person, and that person comes in to us and can make

demands, requests, however you want to say it, that impact our budget without any authority or without any recourse, I guess. We don't have any recourse against that person.

"I think, so we can, on the one hand, there is only four counties that want this, but it's the four largest counties in the state. We are dealing with a person who is not elected, who handles significant amounts of public funds without any elected oversight. So I think that's the fundamental issue, but one of the things that upsets me a little bit, as our Chairman is upset, is that our Election Commissioner made statements in her testimony that if this was changed, the current County Commission would make decisions that would restrict voter access and voter turnout. I take that kind of personally. So I'm also vested in this on a logical basis and on a, you know, on a personal dignity basis, because I'm not going to do things that restrict voter turnout or inhibit our citizens from being able to vote in a convenient and orderly fashion. So I guess I can stop there, or I will just start repeating what the Chairman's already said. But I think this is important to all our citizens, and it is a serious issue, it needs to be corrected. That's all I have, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Commissioner Unruh. Any further discussion on this? Well, we've still got our legislative agenda out there. I don't think that we are changing our mind on the legislative agenda. I want to make sure as we go up to Topeka that we express our strong support for what we believe is right for the citizens here in Sedgwick County. Do you have anything else?"

Mr. Deer said, "I don't at this time."

Chairman Dennis said, "Very good, thank you. 'Other', do we have anything? I see nothing. Madam Chair, next item. Madam Clerk, next item. You just got promoted."
Approved

OTHER

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved that the Board of County Commissioners recess into executive session for thirty (30) minutes, until 10:47 a.m. to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of an identifiable individual and that the Board of County Commissioners return to this room from executive session no sooner than 10:47 a.m.

Commissioner O'Donnell seconded the motion.

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

VOTE

Commissioner O'Donnell II Aye
Commissioner Ranzau Aye

Commissioner Howell *Aye*
Commissioner Unruh *Aye*
Chairman Dennis *Aye*

The Board of County Commissioners recessed into executive session at 10:15 a.m. and returned at 10:55 a.m.

Chairman Dennis said, "Pursuant to state law, no binding action was taken during executive session. Anything else need to come before the Commission today?"

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.