

# Sedgwick County

525 North Main Street 3rd Floor  
Wichita, KS 67203



*Sedgwick County...  
working for you*

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 14, 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](mailto: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 9:13 a.m. on March 14, 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. Jim Weber, Deputy Director, Public Works; Mr. Kelly Arnold, County Clerk; Ms. Lindsay Poe Rousseau, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Diana Mansouri, Interim Risk Manager, Division of Finance; Mr. Michael Borchard, County Appraiser; Ms. Adrienne Byrne, Director of Division of Health; 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. Alta Segovia, Appointee  
Ms. Treatha Brown-Foster, Appointee  
Ms. Simone Ward, Appointee*

### INVOCATION: Father Zachary Pinaire, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church.

### FLAG SALUTE

### ROLL CALL

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

### PUBLIC AGENDA

*Chairman Dennis said, "I do not have anything this morning on the public agenda. We'll have a check real quick. Doesn't look like we have anything. Madam Clerk, next item."*

### CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- A**     [18-167](#)             REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 7, 2018.  
All Commissioners were present.

#### MOTION

*Commissioner Howell moved to approve the minutes of February 7, 2018, February 14, 2018, February 21, 2018 and special meeting minutes of February 27, 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

Chairman Dennis said, "Next item, please. We're keeping you busy today."  
**Approved**

- B**     [18-180](#)            REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2018.  
All Commissioners were present.  
*Action for this item was taken with item A.*
- C**     [18-186](#)            REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2018.  
All Commissioners were present.  
*Action for this item was taken with item A.*
- D**     [18-191](#)            SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2018.  
Commissioner Howell was absent.  
*Action for this item was taken with item A.*

**APPOINTMENTS**

- E**     [18-193](#)            RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALTA SEGOVIA (COMMISSIONER  
RICHARD RANZAU'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY  
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD.  
Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

*Mr. Eric Yost, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Items E and F could probably be taken together. Item E is a resolution appointing Alta Segovia to the Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board. Dr. Jon Rosell had been serving in that position, but Commissioner Richard Ranzau is recommending that Alta Segovia be appointed to that position for a term which would expire March 13th of 2022. Miss Segovia, I am told, is present to take the oath.*

*"Item F would be a resolution appointing Treatha Brown-Foster to that same advisory board, and Commissioner Ranzau is recommending that she be appointed to the term that would go to March 13th of 2022 also, and I'm told that she may be present to be sworn in. I would urge adoption of both of these resolutions."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Commissioner Ranzau."*

MOTION

*Commissioner Ranzau moved to adopt the resolutions appointing Alta Segovia and*

*Treatha Brown-Foster to the Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board.*

*Commissioner Unruh 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."*

*Mr. Kelly Arnold, County Clerk, thanked the Commissioners and said, "Go [Kansas State] Wildcats! Alright, please raise your right hand. I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge my duties of the office of Sedgwick County Mental Health Advisory Board, so help me God."*

*Ms. Alta Sagovia, appointee, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I do."*

*Ms. Treatha Brown-Foster, appointee, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I do."*

*Mr. Arnold said, "Good job. Would you like to say anything? Go ahead."*

*Ms. Sagovia said, "Well I certainly appreciate the opportunity to serve the county in this capacity, and I'm looking forward to just building a stronger mental health program and seeing that all of the needs are met.*

*"I know the President [Donald Trump] has a lot of things coming down the pipe that are going to affect mental health, and I just look forward to carrying those through into our county. Thank you. Thank you, Commissioner Ranzau."*

*Ms. Brown-Foster said, "You know I have to say a little bit bumping my gums. I would like to thank Commissioner Ranzau for appointing me to this advisory board. I would like to thank Chairman Dennis and the rest of the Commissioners for voting and accepting my appointment to this board. But I want you all to know that I have given this appointment much thought and prayer, and I feel that this appointment to this mental health board is very, very important, and I take this appointment very seriously. When I sit on the board, I just don't go just to be sitting there, I go to make a difference. The mental health, I want to state to you the mental health issue that society is faced with today has changed tremendously. Approximately 22 Americans suffer from some type of mental illness. The percentages probably have risen based on the homeless population, veterans coming back from Afghanistan and from Iraq, prisoners that are in jail that suffer from mental illness, not to mention the recent school shootings and the one that have been shooting in the past.*

*"That means a lot of people are suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD, a type of anxiety disorder which happens after a traumatic experience. Even if you weren't directly involved, the shock that it takes upon a person is very hard. It makes them feel very hard, very different, and the outcome of their living in their life is going to*

*have a great effect on it. We know that by what's going on now in some of the students that will be walking out of class today. So I want to thank you for having the confidence in me to serve on this board. I will try not to disappoint you. I've tried to make a difference in the citizens in Sedgwick County suffering from mental illness. The other thing that I want to say, go [Kansas University] Jayhawks. All three of the schools here, all three of the schools here is just great, and this is very exciting day. I can hardly get downtown today for everybody coming in. So this is a very exciting day for Wichita and Sedgwick County. Thank you."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you very much, both of you for serving. We appreciate it very much. It's a very important board, and we appreciate the time you'll spend on it. Madam Clerk, next item."*

**Adopted**

**F**     [18-194](#)

RESOLUTION APPOINTING TREATHA BROWN-FOSTER  
(COMMISSIONER RICHARD RANZAU'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE  
SEDGWICK COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

*Action for this item was taken with item E.*

**G**     [18-205](#)

RESOLUTION APPOINTING SIMONE WARD (COMMISSIONER JIM  
HOWELL'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ANIMAL  
CARE ADVISORY BOARD.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

*Mr. Yost said, "This is a resolution appointing Simone Ward to the Sedgwick County Animal Care Advisory Board. This position had been held by Mr. Vernon Yoho who resigned in December of 2017.*

*"Commissioner Jim Howell is recommending that Miss Ward be appointed to this board to fill the unexpired term. By the way, Miss Ward is an employee of the County Counselor's Office and is here to be sworn in. Her term would run through June 9th of 2019, and I would urge adoption of this resolution."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Commissioner Howell."*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Howell moved to adopt the resolution.*

*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, "Mr. Arnold."

Mr. Arnold said, "Okay. Please raise your right hand. I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Kansas and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Sedgwick County Animal Care Advisory Board, so help me God."

Ms. Simon Ward, appointee, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I do."

Mr. Arnold said, "Congratulations."

Ms. Ward said, "Thank you. I just want to tell the Commissioners, thank you, in particular Commissioner Howell. I have rescue animals, I have rescue dogs. Well, we just rescued a horse this last weekend. I'm very much looking forward to this and it being a learning experience, and also being able to put in some input. I also want to say that what I'm wearing here, my colors do not at all reflect my team choice. So I just wanted to point that out. Thank you, Commissioners."

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

**Adopted**

H     [18-211](#)

RESOLUTION RE-NOMINATING ROB BENTON (COMMISSIONER RICHARD RANZAU'S NOMINATION) FOR RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE WICHITA CITY COUNCIL, AS A MEMBER OF THE WICHITA AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

Mr. Yost said, "This is a resolution re-nominating Rob Benton for reappointment by the Wichita City Council to serve as a member of the Wichita Airport Advisory Board. Mr. Benton has been serving on that board, and Commissioner Ranzau is recommending that he be re-nominated for another term. That term would expire on March 31st of 2019, and I would urge adoption of the resolution."

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

MOTION

Commissioner Ranzau moved to adopt the resolution.

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."*

**Adopted**

**I**     [18-206](#)

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF CAROL NEUGENT  
(COMMISSIONER DAVID DENNIS' APPOINTMENT) FROM THE  
SEDGWICK COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.  
Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept the Resignation.

*Mr. Yost said, "Item I is an acceptance of a resignation of Carol Neugent from the Solid Waste Management Committee. We do not have a replacement for her at this time. Eventually this will be a recommendation of Chairman Dennis, but we don't have that yet, so I would urge acceptance of this resignation."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Mr. Yost. I do appreciate the fact that Carol Neugent did serve on the Solid Waste Management Board for us for a period of time."*

MOTION

*Commissioner Dennis moved to accept the resignation.*

*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

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. New business, next item, please."*

**Adopted**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**J**     [18-179](#)

PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT CERTIFICATE TO DIANA  
MANSOURI.  
Presented by: Lindsay Poe-Rousseau, Chief Financial Officer.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Present Retirement Certificate.

*Ms. Lindsay Poe Rousseau, Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "It is truly a bittersweet privilege that I have this morning to present Diana Mansouri, our Interim Risk Manager and Safety Training Coordinator her retirement*

*certificate to her today. Diana, I guess if you'll bear with me for a moment, I would like to share a few things with you before I call Diana up to accept her certificate. So Diana started with the county on July 27th 1987, when Ronald Reagan was the President, a gallon of gas was 87 cents, and for the first time, the first year, the County Commission was made up of five Commissioners instead of three.*

*"She started as an administrative clerk, then reporting to Assistant County Manager Jerry Harrison. She worked over on the sixth floor of the [Sedgwick County] Historic Courthouse. She was hired to replace a retiring clerk. As part of her many duties she handled worker's compensation for the county. Not too long after she started, the county created a Risk Manager position, which was filled by Phil Rippe, and Diana actually was assigned to what formally became Risk Management for the county as an administrative assistant. One of her proudest accomplishments actually is proposing the Safety Training Coordinator position to Mr. Rippe, which the county, of course, then created, and she has served in that position with enthusiasm under Mr. Rippe, and then under Mr. Mick McBride.*

*"Safety has truly been a passion for Diana. She has been an excellent advocate for safety committees throughout the organization, and she is especially proud of the Facilities committee which is pretty active, and she said since it has been created, there have been significant reductions in the frequency and severity of incidents. I can even speak to her passion directly. When we met over this last weekend at a coffee shop to talk through the activities for today, we ordered our drinks, we went to sit, I was looking for a table, and what did Diana see immediately but a cracked faceplate on an electrical outlet, and that came up. So it truly is a matter of passion for her. Truly no one is immune. Hypothetically speaking, if Diana were to see maybe a County Commissioner or a County Manager driving around not wearing a seat belt, she'd very kindly but sternly would remind them about safety.*

*"She also is responsible for the county's safety slogan program, her favorite is the one from 2004, and that is 'know safety, no accidents' K-N-O-W safety, know it, then N-O accidents. Diana also has built a tremendous relationship with her contacts with the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL), which has served us well. She cares so much about maintaining a safe working environment for her co-workers and colleagues, but also for citizens who come to the building. She wants to make sure they have an extremely safe experience when they are in our facilities. She has set up a comprehensive property list. She has set up a truly impressive boiler program, boiler inspection program throughout the organization, and as you well know, she recently was the key driving force behind the county receiving insurance recovery for a good portion of the fraudulent loss that we experienced in 2016.*

*"Diana has many stories in her more than 30 years with Sedgwick County. Some are funny and some are sad. But her favorite is one that she tells from her early days at Sedgwick County. When she was the lone staff member working up on the sixth floor of the Historic Courthouse, and a person, a man, you could tell was trying to look tough, came in, and asked her for a work comp [ensation] file. She was nervous, she was shaking. She made the copy, she came back, but before she provided it to him, a county I.D. (identification) alone wasn't enough. She demanded to see his Kansas Driver's License before she would provide the information. Alone and nervous, she still did this, and that is Diana to a T. She's unflappable, but she will provide excellent customer service and be a consummate professional throughout it all. As anyone who*



*has worked with Diana knows, her dedication and commitment to this organization are truly unrivalled.*

*“We are so grateful to her husband, Saide who’s here with us today, and her children, Arianna and Eric, who have graciously shared her with us over the years. Diana is unfailingly kind, unfailingly positive and unfailingly supportive. I have worked with Diana since I started at the county in 2010, and I can tell you that she embodies so many of our county values, ethical behavior, accountability, stewardship, communication, knowledge and competency and most importantly, integrity. She is the epitome of professionalism, and we should be so proud as an organization that she has been counted among our ranks for all of this time. So I will truly miss my friend and my colleague, but I wish her nothing but the very best on this next chapter. So with that, I’ll invite Diana to come and accept her certificate, and share maybe a few comments with you.”*

*Ms. Diana Mansouri, Interim Risk Manager, Risk Management, greeted the Commissioners and said, “Work comp, insurance and safety, oh my. I’ve loved every minute of it, and I am going to miss it very much. It’s been a great honor working for this organization the past 30 years, and I do thank you very much for the opportunity. Thank you.”*

*Chairman Dennis said, “Commissioner Unruh.”*

*Commissioner Unruh thanked the Chairman and said, “Diana, I just want to make a comment that clearly you’ve made an impression, not only on our governmental organization, but also upon your colleagues that you’ve worked with. It’s clear that you are highly respected and loved by the folks that you worked with these last 30 years. That’s not something that comes accidentally, that’s something that’s earned. So we really appreciate your service to the organization and also to the citizens of Sedgwick County. You’ve made us better, and we just hope that as you go towards retirement, whatever you decide to do, that it will be profitable and rewarding to you, but thankful that you gave us 30 years. Thank you very much.”*

*Ms. Mansouri said, “Thank you very much, Commissioner.”*

*Chairman Dennis said, “Thank you, and on behalf of the entire County Commission, I want to thank you very much for 30 years of service. Lindsay has been in my office already twice trying to figure out how to replace you and she hasn’t done it yet. So you are definitely going to be missed, and we thank you very much again for serving all the folks here in Sedgwick County.”*

*Ms. Mansouri said, “Thank you so very much. I’ll miss you, too.”*

*Chairman Dennis said, “Thank you. At this time I’d like to ask for an off agenda item to discuss the recent assessments that were sent out by our Assessor’s Office. So I’d like a motion. Commissioner Howell.”*

[18-222](#)

2018 PROPERTY VALUES REPORT.

Presented by: Mike Borchard, Appraiser.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and File

MOTION

*Commissioner Howell moved to take up an off agenda item regarding the Appraiser's Office to better understand the home valuations and issues pertaining to them.*

*Commissioner Dennis 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, Mr. Borchard."*

VISUAL PRESENTATION

*Mr. Michael Borchard, County Appraiser, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Good morning."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "I know you talked with us yesterday about this at some great length. We asked you to come back today so that we can make sure that the information gets out to the public a little better because we are televised today. With that in mind, I will let you go ahead and provide your briefing."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "Okay, thank you very much."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Do we have one more copy of this?"*

*Commissioner O'Donnell thanked the Chairman and said, "Somebody was holding out."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Commissioner Howell had all five copies. We're ready now."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "Okay. Just to quickly cover the role of the Appraiser. The Appraiser is responsible for managing the property assessment system. It's the Appraiser's sworn duty to see that appraised values in the jurisdiction meet the requirements of the law and administrative rules. The primary duties are to re-inspect each property within the county once every six years, discover, list and value all property that had significant changes and update appraisals each year to ensure that all properties are valued at fair market value. The process is called mass appraisal. The definition is the process of valuing a group of properties as of a given date using standard methods, employing common data and allowing for statistical testing. Values are to be at fair market value. So why do values change? Most values change are the result of market forces, new construction, property characteristic changes and market equalization.*

*"In 2016 and 2017, market forces caused many of the 2018 values to increase. A lower than normal supply of homes for sale and a strong demand caused sale prices to rise. This is just an illustration of median sale price over time.*

*"You can see it continues to rise. An analysis of properties that sold twice indicated*

right around a four percent increase per year. The Wichita State [University] (WSU) Center for Real Estate (CRE) publishes an annual forecast, and their analysis showed similar results, strong home price appreciation over the last few years. The volume of sales remains steady the last few years. Statistical compliance, Kansas law requires the [Kansas] Department of Revenue's (KDOR) Property Valuation Division to perform an annual ratio study to test the county's appraised values. A ratio study compares appraised values to the sale price of properties after the valuation date. The study tests the level and uniformity of our appraised values. The standard per level of appraised values is a median ratio between 90 and 110 percent. This chart shows the history of the state's ratio study for residential property in Sedgwick County. In 2016 and again in 2017, residential ratios are trending near the low limit of compliance. To correct the ratios, a revaluation was necessary.

"Comparing median ratios before revaluation, a beginning ratio around 89 percent of sale price, after revaluation, the ratios were right around 95 percent of sale price, and since revaluation, ratios appear to be decreasing, indicating continued home price appreciation occurring in 2018. So the results of the reappraisal, 59 percent of residential properties saw an increase in value, typical change rate was five percent. Commercial, 28 percent increase at four percent and agricultural 65 percent increased at a rate of around five percent. The Property Valuation Division sets the Ag (agriculture) land values for each county in the state. There's some maps and information available on our website that the property owner can refer to to see how and why. As you know, it's an eight-year average of landlord share of net income for both grassland and cultivated land, divided by a capitalization rate to come up with an appraised value. The actual range in the eight years being used for 2018 valuation is 2009 to 2016.

"The mass appraisal process is a very good process, but it is not perfect. We do want our appraisals to be right. There is an appeals process. If property owners do not think their values reflect fair market value or would like an explanation of how the value was determined, they can fill out the back of their value notice and return it to Sedgwick County Appraiser's Office within 30 days of the date indicated on the front of the notice. We will begin those appeal meetings around March 20th. When preparing for an appeal, property owners should return the property record card, at least review the property record card and check for discrepancies, review any recent sales in their neighborhood, and bring photos, especially interior where damage exists, or a recent appraisal. Information on our website, this snapshot is available, this shows information available on the website. You can get your value notice or your property record card from this location. So we have folks at the call center and our front desk are ready to assist property owners in preparing for an appeal. The website, like I said, is a very good source, or the phone number here, give us a call and we will be happy to help folks prepare for an appeal."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you Mr. Borchard for that brief summary. I did go to the website after our staff meeting yesterday and was able to navigate through that very easily.

"I am one of the ones of the 59 percent of homeowners that did receive a love note from you that told me that we are going to have higher possible tax. I noticed that the homeowner's average was four, five percent. Mine was eight percent..."

Mr. Borchard said, "North of that, yeah."

Chairman Dennis said, "...contributing to Sedgwick County. Anyway, a couple

questions for you. One of the questions, and I know all of the Commissioners have been getting questions. Did you receive any direction at all from the Board of County Commissioners to raise the property values so that we could receive more tax income?"

Mr. Borchard said, "No sir, I did not. Not at all."

Chairman Dennis said, "That's not the way it works. You are completely independent of all of the County Commissioners."

Mr. Borchard said, "We are independent of the political system. We are tracking market all the time, and our appraisals are based on what's happening in the market."

Chairman Dennis said, "The fact that our Commission decided to have a flat mill levy rate for this coming year and the future years, did that have any bearing at all on any of the appraisals whatsoever?"

Mr. Borchard said, "No, our target is fair market value. You can see our ratios were getting close to out of compliance, so we had to do a revaluation."

Chairman Dennis said, "Good. The main thing is that the appeal process is not that difficult. That's one of the things that we want to make sure that we get the word out to everyone, is that you just have to fill out the back of that letter that you received from our Appraiser's Office, and submit it to them, and they will be happy to talk about your property and what went into the appraisal, and why it was rated at what they said it was rated at. One more question, and I think it is probably more for our CFO (Chief Financial Officer). Does this automatically mean that we are going to see a tax increase for those of us that did receive an increase in what the appraisal value was?"

Ms. Poe Rousseau said, "Not necessarily. If your property value increases and the mill levy stays flat, then yes your property taxes would go up from one year to the next year based on that value, but the levy itself is set through the budget process for each taxing entity in the county, and so when it comes time for budgeted option, that's when tax increases and such will be planned for within a budget. But then the final mill levy rate actually won't be set until November, and that's what folks will really be taxed on."

Chairman Dennis said, "Okay, so just the fact that they received an increase in their valuation it doesn't necessarily mean that they are going to be an increase in what they have to pay for taxes for next year."

Ms. Poe Rousseau said, "No, sir."

Chairman Dennis said, "Very good. Commissioner Ranzau."

Commissioner Ranzau thanked the Chairman and said, "Yesterday we talked about the tax lid that was passed a few years ago. I just want to kind of talk about that, put that out there for the public. Depending on how much it goes up exactly, under that law we can only increase our revenues a certain amount, so we may reach a point that we would either have to reduce the mill levy or go to the vote of the people to maintain that mill levy. So we've asked staff to look into that and show us a calculations and how we are applying that law and taking a look at that, so we'll have further discussions with that."

*“Then another thing I have been thinking about, I’ve been wanting to bring it up anyway is I know we have scheduled a mill levy reduction, I think, in the 2023 fiscal year. In general I have been wondering if we should look at phasing that in over time. But I think with this year with this increase in appraisals, maybe we need to look at it again that for the 2019, or at least consider begin phasing that in 2019 to help soften that blow. Particularly since, if what I’m understanding from the Appraiser that we’re already back down, so we may see another year of increased appraisals following this year, is that correct? So we may want to take a look at that in the next couple years of implementing that over time to help soften that blow. Just some things to think about as we move forward. Thank you, Commissioner.”*

*Chairman Dennis said, “Thank you. Commissioner Howell.”*

*Commissioner Howell thanked the Chairman and said, “I just wanted to ask a couple of quick questions. The consumer price index (CPI) factor of the tax lid formula, how broad is that area that we look at for the inflation factor of the tax calculation?”*

*Ms. Poe Rousseau said, “For the county side of the budget, the state budget law says that it’s a five-year average of CPI, so for example, when we adopt the 2019 budget in August, we’ll use essentially 2013 through 2017 as the five-year average, whatever that CPI rate was in those five years.”*

*Commissioner Howell said, “Have we looked at that number yet to find out?”*

*Ms. Poe Rousseau said, “We actually, as far as I know, don’t have yet the 2017 final CPI figure. The State Department of Administration Municipal Services posts kind of the state’s official figure for us out on their website when it’s available, so we’ve been checking that. In fact I just checked yesterday, and it’s not posted just yet.”*

*Commissioner Howell said, “But again, is that a statewide number or is that like a more regional number?”*

*Ms. Poe Rousseau said, “The CPI that they use is actually the national CPI metric, it’s not targeted to the Midwest or Mountain Plains or anything like that.”*

*Commissioner Howell said, “Is it, I’m not sure which one of you would be better to answer the question, but is it safe to say that property values are probably a little bit more dynamic than the five-year rolling average or CPI? I mean it seems like the CPI is probably going to move much slower than perhaps some of the changes we’ve seen in property values.”*

*Mr. Borchard said, “At least locally, for sure. The limited supply of homes is causing prices to increase quickly.”*

*Commissioner Howell said, “Okay, and I would like to agree with Commissioner Ranzau, you know, we did support the tax lid legislation. I think we may be the only municipality in the entire State of Kansas that did. But what that does is basically put a little bit of a restriction on our ability to capture all of the increases that may be allowed under the, I should say used to be the valuations would go up maybe, you know, say five percent, but we would have the authority to capture the five percent increase in our budget. So this actually puts a little bit of a cap on us, it doesn’t allow*

*us to change that rapidly. But again, should that be seen in the CPI eventually, then we would be able to capture it down the road. But at least initially I think that slows us down from increasing our budgets. I would like to say, you know, Mr. Borchard, you send out valuation notices, you didn't send out, some people say you're increasing my taxes, but there is a separation between valuation notices and tax levels. Those are two totally separate issues. Could you comment on that?"*

*Mr. Borchard said, "The appraisal process is the first step in the process. Budgets are set, levies are set after that."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Okay, good. Just to clarify, I think the Chairman may have said this already, but I just want it make it very clear, you don't actually work for us, we do pay your salary and that type of thing, but you're not, you actually I think, report directly to the State's Property Valuation Division, which is a division under the Kansas Department of Revenue, if I understand correctly. Is that correct?"*

*Mr. Borchard said, "That's correct."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Okay."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "The Property Valuation Division is our oversight."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Very good. How often do you do the ratio, the property ratio analysis study? How often is that done?"*

*Mr. Borchard said, "The state does that annually."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Okay."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "We do it all the time. The state publishes an official ratio study annually."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "I have never appealed my taxes, but I think at least with my own property, you guys have actually given me a value which I think is within that 90 to 110 percent range, and so I don't have a real reason to appeal my taxes probably personally. But if someone wanted it do that, can you please talk about, is it like an informal, go to a small room, there's just another person there? It is not like a judge or something? I mean, you walk in, it is a very informal process, they have a conversation, I assume..."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "Right."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "...they can see how their taxes were key derived and they can have a conversation."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "So once we receive the property owner's value notice in the mail to our office, we'll schedule a meeting, we'll send them a mailing that lets them know the time and date. Once they show up at our office, we'll have an appraiser greet them, take them back to a small room. They'll have lots of access to our technology and information and we'll review all that with the property owner. Very, very informal meeting."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Very good. Then generally speaking, I know these notices all kind of went out about the same time, towards the first part of this month. So*

*generally speaking is there an approximate date that we would say is a deadline for someone to initiate an appeals process? Is it the end of March, I assume?"*

*Mr. Borchard said, "Yes, March 31st."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Okay, March 31st. If they don't act by then I guess then they kind of miss their chance this year."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "They missed their first chance."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Okay."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "The other option is when they pay their taxes in November, they can pay them under protest. That will also schedule a meeting with our office."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Very good. Well I appreciate your second presentation on this. Looking at the mass appraisal system just a little bit more closely, I think your presentation yesterday was good. I like the statistical analysis and what you're doing. I think it gives me, I guess, a higher level of confidence that what you are doing actually is tied more closely to fair market values. I think that the public may not understand the process. I don't think I understand the process very well, but I see that you have a number of ways of checking the overall process."*

*"So statistically your numbers are where they should be, it looks like to me, so I appreciate that. I would just say generally speaking, since property taxes are somewhat of a subjective process, that is, I think where a lot of the frustration lies, we assume, a lot of people assume that by just increasing the value, we're increasing taxes, and it's a subjective process, and therefore it's a little bit frustrating. But I do think that having those formulas in place and having those cross checks in place actually helps us do this as objectively as possible overall. Of course, there's going to be some outliers, which is why the appeals process is in place. So I do appreciate your explanation, and thank you for helping us today with this."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "You're welcome."*

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

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Thank you, Mr. Borchard. Two questions for you. First would be in regards to the valuations for agriculture, you don't handle those in your office, right? That comes from the State? We went over this yesterday in the meeting."*

*Mr. Borchard said, "Right."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Okay. The second thing I wanted to ask you was, how do our increases, since it is such a large number, almost 60 percent, how does that line up with other major urban counties in the State of Kansas?"*

*Mr. Borchard said, "I haven't checked that, but I've talked to the Johnson County Appraiser, and I think they raised more property values this year than they ever have as well, and the amount of their increases was higher than five percent."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "It was?"*

Mr. Borchard said, "Yes."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "I think that would be valuable for us as well, knowing what are other counties looking at when it comes to increases. Is it such a dramatic increase when you have a very large majority of homeowners seeing that, and just six percent seeing a decrease? Because I think that's what's hard for us to justify to our constituents when they are asking us that, you know, we pounded now 59 percent of you, and then I think quite a few people I was talking to back two years ago, they had a big increase, and maybe two years before that, so it seems like every other year they are getting hit, and as you know, property taxes are very, very unpopular."

Mr. Borchard said, "Yes."

Commissioner O'Donnell said, "So anyway, well thank you very much, Mr. Borchard, Mr. Chair."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Well Mr. Borchard, a couple of final things. You said that they could come to your office. Your office has moved, so we want to make sure everybody knows that you are now in the [Ronald] Reagan Building, correct?"

Mr. Borchard said, "That's correct. We're at 271 West 3rd. Information assistance area is on the 5th floor."

Chairman Dennis said, "Okay. So I want to make sure everybody knows where to go if they do decide to appeal in person, but they can also say that they want to do an appeal by phone, too, can't they?"

Mr. Borchard said, "That's correct. On the back of the value notice, one option is to have a telephone hearing."

Chairman Dennis said, "Super. Well that gets the word out of how that they can appeal, where they can go and whether they have to come in person or not. We appreciate your time today, Mr. Borchard. With that, I'd like a motion to receive and file."

**MOTION**

Commissioner Howell 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

Chairman Dennis said, "Next item, please."

**Received and Filed**



THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT  
(KDHE) FOR SERVICES PROVIDED AT THE SEDGWICK COUNTY  
DIVISION OF HEALTH.

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

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the application of the grant and authorize the Chairman to sign all necessary documents; including the grant award agreement; and approve the establishment of budget authority as provided in the financial considerations section of this request at the time the grant documents are executed.

*Chairman Dennis said, "Good morning, Adrienne."*

*Ms. Adrienne Byrne, Health Director, Sedgwick County Division of Health, greeted the Commissioners and said, "This morning I am seeking approval for the annual Aid to Local Grant funding from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). We have received this funding for well over 35 years, and it is the main way that state health departments funnel federal and state money to local health departments to help support the work that we do. This year we are requesting \$1,834,774. This application funds portions of several programs, along with portions of 31 of our staff positions. This funding helps support public health infrastructure, our maternal and child health programs, family planning, our immunization mobile nurse, and public health emergency preparedness, as well as our STI (sexually transmitted infection) control program.*

*"Without this funding, many of our programs would be drastically cut, or we wouldn't be able to provide the services at all. We are requesting an overall decrease of around \$2,800 below our previous award received in 2017. This contribution from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment is a foundational piece for many of our public health programs. It allows us to continue the work towards improving the health status of our residents by assuring that our children are immunized and some of our most vulnerable women receive annual checkups and support and education on staying healthy during and between pregnancies. These programs help to strengthen the health of our community, and I recommend that you authorize the Chair to approve this application and sign all related documents. I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you very much. Do we have any questions from anyone? Commissioner Howell."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't actually have any questions, but I just think for the listeners, they might like to know, again, I don't know how that you break this down, Adrienne, but I understand on our website we show we have 77 active grants. Is this one grant, or is this like seven grants?"*

*Ms. Byrne said, "No, this is one of the grants that we receive called Aid to Local [Grant]."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "So okay, so out of the 77 grants, this is just one of those. This has been reoccurring for a long time, I assume."*

*Ms. Byrne said, "Over 35 years."*

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay, well I wanted the folks to know we have 77 active grants right now on our website, totaling \$37.7 million. I think this is a very important, one of the very important grants that we consider each year, and I appreciate the presentation and the assistance from the state and the federal government on these types of things."

MOTION

Commissioner Howell moved to approve the application for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) for services provided at the Sedgwick County Division of Health.

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

Ms. Byrne said, "Thank you, Commissioners."

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

**Approved**

L [18-200](#)

REORGANIZATION OF THE PROGRAMS WITHIN THE FINANCE DIVISION.

Presented by: Lindsay Poe Rousseau, Chief Financial Officer.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorize the changes to the staffing table as requested.

Ms. Poe Rousseau said, "Hello again, Commissioners."

Chairman Dennis said, "Hello again."

Ms. Poe Rousseau said, "I feel like I'm coming up here about every other minute. The item before you this morning you have been briefed on quite a bit, but we wanted to take this opportunity to formally have this discussion and try and make sure that the organization is aware of where we're planning to move with our Risk Management function. So as you saw Diana Mansouri retired, and our prior Risk Manager, Mick McBride, also retired earlier this year. So with that, a significant amount of experience in our Risk Management Department walked out of the door in a very short time period. So we felt like if we were going to hire someone to come in and take over that position, they would need to have a tremendous amount of experience to be able to help us go forward.

"Unfortunately, we've posted the position, there have been some candidates, but unfortunately, no one with that right mix of experience. So we have kind of gone to the

*drawing board to figure out an alternative way to continue to provide quality service and protect the organization through the reorganization that we're proposing to you today. So what the restructure essentially would look like would be to abolish, eliminate the Risk Manager position and the Safety Training Coordinator position as they exist on the Finance staffing table today. That would leave two remaining positions that technically had been part of the Risk Management section. We would essentially get rid of what is now called the Risk Management section and have other parts of Finance pick up that area. Still provide the same level of work, but do it in a little different way.*

*"We also are leaning heavily on Legal to assist us. So we'll talk through all of that and you'll have a policy revision actually later today as well. So in addition to eliminating those two positions, we would take the two existing positions, or the two remaining positions, a worker's compensation adjuster and move that into Payroll which we think is a good fit given the type of work that that section does. We would take the administrative assistant position that currently belongs to Risk [Management] and reassign that to a new section under the CFO, called Administration. That position, in addition to being a liaison to Legal to manage our general liability of vehicle claims, would also provide some administrative support to the Division of Finance, which we lost through budget reductions back in 2012. So we would eliminate those two positions.*

*"We would propose to add a new position of Finance Administrative Manager, that that administrative assistant position would report to. That position would be responsible for standing up a contract compliance, a centralized contract compliance entity within the organization. Right now lots of different departments and divisions touch contracts. This would be one central way to make sure we have a repository that everyone's contracts are monitored and departments are engaged when it's time to go out and make sure that those things are getting renewed. It also would provide some additional administrative support for the Division of Finance. We do, of course, need some safety functions to continue, and in fact we hope to make them even more robust than what we've had. So for that, we've worked with the County Manager's office, actually to split what is currently the Internal Performance Auditor.*

*"The person in that position actually has some really great experience with safety, and so we're asking to reassign a fair portion of that position, actually, to Finance, to get a safety program up and running and to be a liaison with a third-party that actually will be on your Bid Board for discussion today to help us kind of fill in those gaps maybe where we need to and get the training component done. So that would be essentially what we propose as the restructure.*

*"There would be overall a net reduction of one FTE (full time equivalent) to the organization. Just based on personnel alone as your agenda item tells you, we're anticipating about \$135,000 of savings, even based on the costs that we've already incurred this year. We would want to use some of those savings to support the proposal that's coming before you at Bid Board, but we still believe that there would be at least ongoing savings of approximately \$80,000 per year. So certainly it is a different way of doing business. We'll make sure to monitor it and come back to you if anything's not working to make sure that we're still able to provide the same level of service to staff and to our customers that we need to. So with that, Commissioners, I urge you to approve the staffing table recommendations."*

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

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Lindsay, as you indicated,*

*you've had several briefings with Commissioners to make sure we understand the changes and why thereof. I appreciate the efforts of you and the folks who worked hard on trying to come up with a solution that would provide quality public services to our citizens and keep us organized in a way that we feel comfortable as far as Risk Management and safety and those things. So very pleased with your effort, and I think that this is a workable solution.*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Unruh moved to authorize the changes to the staffing table as corrected.*

*Commissioner Ranzau seconded the motion.*

*Chairman Dennis said, "I'd like to reiterate what Commissioner Unruh said. You have been in our office two times that I know of for sure to discuss this. I know you are very concerned about the loss of a couple of your folks that were key to making this work over a number of years, and they will be very difficult to replace. But I think you've got a great plan. If there needs to be any tweaks to it as it goes forward, we are completely capable of listening to you and following your lead to make sure that we make the tweaks that are required. The safety of our staff and all of our employees is very important to us, and I think what we've got is a plan and a proposal that is very workable. I would be happy to vote in favor of that. I don't see any other folks that want to speak today, so Madam Clerk, please 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>

*Ms. Poe Rousseau said, "Thank you."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Next item, please."*

**Approved**

**M**     [18-210](#)

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BIDS AND CONTRACTS' REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 8, 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 of the Board of Bids and Contracts of March 8th, we have six recommendations for your approval this morning."*

**1. MID-SIZE TRACKED EXCAVATOR WITH WOOD SHREDDER OPTION**

FLEET MANAGEMENT  
FUNDING --STREAM MAINT (DEFERRED)

*"We are asking to defer this item. Some new information has come to our attention that would require that we take this item back to Bid Board. So we'll bring this item back to you at a future date. So we are deferring this item with your approval.*

2. FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER MECHANICAL RETROFIT – PROJECT SERVICES  
FUNDING -- RFTOP HVAC REPL-RFSC

*"This recommendation is to accept the low bid including Option 2 from Central Consolidated, Inc. in the amount of \$321,850."*

3. ONBASE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT -- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SUPPORT SERVICES (ITSS)  
FUNDING -- DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

*"This recommendation is to accept the quote from Konica Minolta Business Solutions USA, Inc., and this is in the amount of \$147,833."*

4. 2018 CRACK SEAL (R175-H) -- PUBLIC WORKS  
FUNDING -- (R175-H) PREVENTIVE MX-16+

*"This recommendation is to accept the low bid from Pavement Pro's LLC in the amount of \$354,425."*

5. BRIDGE REPLACEMENT -- PUBLIC WORKS  
FUNDING -- (B4742) 295TH STREET WEST

*"This recommendation is to accept the low bid from Klaver Construction Co., Inc., and this is in the amount of \$431,828.37."*

6. RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTING SERVICES -- RISK MANAGEMENT  
FUNDING -- RISK MANAGEMENT

*"This recommendation is to accept the low proposal from IMA, Inc. for contracted rates as shown above for three (3) years with two (2) one (1) year options to renew."*

*Mr. Thomas said, "I'll be happy to try to answer any questions you may have in regards to any of these items, and I recommend approval of all six."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Mr. Thomas. I know each one of the Commissioners had a chance to review the Bid Board minutes that were provided, and it does not appear that we have any questions on it. So with that, I am open for a motion."*

MOTION

*Commissioner Unruh moved to approve the recommendations of the Board of Bids and Contracts.*

*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>

*Mr. Thomas said, "Thank you, Commissioners."*

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

**Approved**

**CONSENT**

*Mr. Mike Scholes, County Manager, greeted the Commissioners said,  
"Commissioners, I recommend you approve consent agenda items November (N)  
through Alpha Hotel (AH)."*

MOTION

*Commissioner O'Donnell moved to approve consent agenda items November (N)  
through Alpha Hotel (AH).*

*Commissioner Unruh 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>

*The Board of County Commissioners recessed into Fire District No. 1 meeting from  
10:09 a.m. and returned at 10:10 a.m.*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Next item, please."*

- N**     [18-183](#)            Two (2) Temporary Construction Easements for Sedgwick County Project on 87th Street South between 167th & 183rd Streets West; 640-15-1167. CIP# R264-43. District 2.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- O**     [18-184](#)            Three (3) Easements for Right of Way for Sedgwick County Bridge Project on 71st Street South between Webb Road and Greenwich Road; 636-33-1850. CIP# B491. District 5.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- P**     [18-185](#)            One (1) Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Project on 87th Street South between 167th & 183rd Streets West; 604-15-3525. CIP# R264-44. District 2.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- Q**     [18-151](#)            CIP Amendment for the 2016 Cold Mix and Gravel Road Replacement Program (R342). All Districts.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- R**     [18-153](#)            Amend CIP Project R344 to Widen Greenwich Road from Harry to Pawnee. District 5.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- S**     [18-156](#)            Approval of an Agreement with the City of Wichita for Widening of Greenwich Road from Harry to Pawnee (R344). District 5.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- T**     [18-163](#)            Agreement for Psychosocial Rehabilitation, Attendant Care, and Respite Services with Behavioral Link.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- U**     [18-165](#)            Approval of an agreement between the Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad Company, Sedgwick County and the Secretary of Transportation of the State of Kansas regarding the installation of railway-highway crossing signals, flashing light straight post type, and gates at the intersection of 135th Street West and the K&O tracks north of Clearwater. District 2.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- V**     [18-169](#)            Approval of an agreement between the Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad Company, Sedgwick County and the Secretary of Transportation of the State of Kansas regarding the installation of railway-highway crossing signals, flashing light straight post type and gates at the intersection of Hoover and the K&O tracks north of Sedgwick County Park. District 3.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- W**     [18-173](#)            Stericycle Contract for the Regional Forensic Science Center.

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

- X     [18-199](#)     Resolution adopting a revised and combined policy on Risk Management and Claim Settlement; and rescinding prior resolutions pertaining to such subjects.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- Y     [18-190](#)     Hire a Zoo Maintenance Worker above Grade Minimum.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- Z     [18-177](#)     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:  
  
Cherese Woods Addition.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- AA    [18-178](#)     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:  
  
Alex of Sunnydale Addition.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- AB    [18-168](#)     Order dated 2/12/2018 to correct tax roll for change of assessment.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- AC    [18-161](#)     Treasurer Claim Certification.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- AD    [18-125](#)     General Bill Check Register for February 21, 2018 - February 27, 2018.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- AE    [18-126](#)     General Bill Check Register for February 28, 2018 - March 6, 2018.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- AF    [18-128](#)     General Bill Check Register for March 7, 2018 - March 13, 2018.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- AG    [18-127](#)     Payroll Check Register for the February 17, 2018 payroll certification.  
**Approved on the Consent Agenda**
- AH    [18-129](#)     Payroll Check Register for the March 2, 2018 payroll certification.



Approved on the Consent Agenda

**LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

Chairman Dennis said, "Mr. Deer."

Mr. William Deer, Assistant County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Just a couple of quick updates. House Bill 2597 which is the bill that would designate Sedgwick County as an urban area, the hearing is actually tomorrow in the Senate at 9:30 [a.m.], local government.

"That bill's already passed out of the House [of Representatives] 122-1, so we're fairly confident that's going to become law this year. The other pending matter is House Bill 2509, which is the budget bill relating to the Election Commissioner. That did pass out of the House back on February 22nd. There has not been a hearing set in the Senate thus far, but we're confident that we are going to be able to move that bill this session as well."

Chairman Dennis said, "Good. Anything else we need to worry about right now?"

Mr. Deer said, "I don't have anything else to discuss. If anybody has any questions, be happy to run the information..."

Chairman Dennis said, "One question is about Fire Marshal with the elevators."

Mr. Deer said, "The Elevator Bill that was introduced, there's an elevator, I don't recall the exact name of the bill, but the bill would give some additional powers to the State Fire Marshal that has not been set for a hearing yet. Getting fairly late in the session for them to move a bill. So, you know, at this point in time, you know, we don't have any opportunity really to oppose that bill, other than just speaking to some folks up in Topeka, so this bill would create a statewide elevator inspection mechanism, and then potentially take some local control away from our MABCD (Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department)."

Chairman Dennis said, "I know our MABCD is concerned about that."

Mr. Deer said, "They are, and we're keeping on top of it every day. Our lobbyists in Topeka are aware of it. At this point we're just monitoring it."

Chairman Dennis said, "Okay. Can you keep us informed on what's going on with that? We'd appreciate it."

Mr. Deer said, "We will."

Chairman Dennis said, "Any questions from any of the Commissioners? Mr. Yost."

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, I got an email last night late. I didn't even have a chance to visit with Mr. Deer about it, pertaining to our Urban Designation Bill. It came from a lady who I think works in the Secretary of State's Office. In the 60's when there was only one county that had been designated as an urban county, they got kind of lazy up there, and they talked about any county that had been designated as an urban area without referring to a particular county. A couple of things that they passed gives her some concern about if we were to then become an urban area, because she deals with cemetery issues, and we've got a couple of cemeteries in Sedgwick County that she

*has regulatory authority over. So she may ask the committee to maybe exempt that cemetery or something. I am not exactly certain what she's going to do. I don't know yet what our view of that would be. I would want to visit with Commissioners about that, but I just want to give you a head's up that there may be something that happens in committee on that. I will get back with you about that."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Okay. Do the counties that already have urban area designations..."*

*Mr. Yost said, "Pardon me?"*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Do the counties that already have been designated urban areas, do they have cemeteries?"*

*Mr. Yost said, "Yes, they have. What happened was I think Johnson County came in and wanted to exempt something from regulatory involvement by the State, which I suppose was okay, but what would happen is that that would also happen for the cemeteries in this county, and that's not really what we are asking for. So we'll see what she's proposing as far as language. So we may want to go ahead and amend that bill. I will see what she wants to do, but it came, I haven't had a chance to visit with her about it today. So we'll see what she proposes and go from there."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Very good. Well, keep us informed, please. Commissioner Ranzau."*

*Commissioner Ranzau said, "So Mr. Counselor, it seems to me that they wanted to add something to the bill, they could just amend the original legislation that was passed to make it only apply to Johnson County."*

*Mr. Yost said, "They could do that. I don't know what her approach is going to be."*

*Commissioner Ranzau said, "Okay."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Any other questions for legislative? Seeing none, Madam Clerk, next item."*

## **OTHER**

*Chairman Dennis said, "Does anyone have anything? Commissioner Unruh."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Well thank you, Mr. Chair. I've been taught some time back that if you make a public offense then you should make a public apology, and clearly my remarks yesterday offended some folks, some of my constituents, and some citizens in Wichita, so I just wanted to say that was not my intent at all yesterday when I made the comment regarding atheist presentations to this body. We encourage a wide range of spiritual groups to come before us, as does the City and State Legislature and other government entities, and it's a longstanding tradition.*

*"Yesterday in my misunderstanding of why a group that doesn't have a spiritual base would want to come during an invocation time, I made a comment that was intended to be somewhat humorous or sarcastic, and it evidently failed. So just want to say that in terms of issues of faith, I really don't shy away from debate or conversation or argument at all, but it's not my intent, my intent's to win the argument, but my intent is not to offend. So I just wanted to make that apology. I know that we have an*

*opportunity for all people to make comments as they want during our public policy portion of our meeting. So anyway, I hope that doesn't muddy the water. I hope that clears it up and puts this to rest. Thank you, Mr. Chair."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Commissioner Unruh. Anything else? Once again, I want to make sure that we let everyone that comes to this area during the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) tournament know that they're very welcome here in this area. We want them to feel at home, and we want them to understand that we have great folks that live, work, play and pray here in Wichita and Sedgwick County, and we want them to get to know us better, and so that they can see what a great place that this really is. I don't see anyone else wanting anything else, so next item, please."*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Unruh moved to recess into executive session for 20 minutes no sooner than 10:40 a.m. to consult with an attorney for this Commission which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. This executive session is required to protect attorney-client privilege and the public interest.*

*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>

*The Board of County Commissioners recessed into executive session at 10:20 a.m. and returned at 11:13 a.m.*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Pursuant to Kansas law, no binding action was taken while we were in executive session. Is there anything else that needs to come before the County Commission today?"*

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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>

*The Board of County Commissioners recessed into executive session at 10:20 a.m. and returned at 11:13 a.m.*

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**Approved**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.*

*BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS*

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*DAVID T. DENNIS, Chairman  
Third District*

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*DAVID M. UNRUH, Chair Pro Tem  
First District*

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*MICHAEL B. O'DONNELL II, Commissioner  
Second District*

---

*RICHARD RANZAU, Commissioner  
Fourth District*

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*JAMES M. HOWELL, Commissioner  
Fifth District*

ATTEST:

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*Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk*

APPROVED: