

# Sedgwick County

525 North Main Street 3rd Floor  
Wichita, KS 67203



*Sedgwick County...  
working for you*

## Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, May 16, 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 9:02 a.m. on May 16, 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. Kelly Arnold, County Clerk; Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources; Sheriff Jeff Easter, Sheriff's Office; Captain Jared Schechter, Sheriff's Office; Mr. Jay Holmes, Deputy Director of Adult Programs, Department of Corrections; Mr. Steve Stonehouse, Deputy Director of Corrections Programs, Division of Corrections; Ms. Tania Cole, Director of Facilities, Division Information and Operations; Ms. Lindsay Poe Rousseau, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Kate Flavin, Public Information Officer; Ms. Heddie Page, Deputy County Clerk.*

### **GUESTS**

*Ms. Sybil Strum, 3000 West Douglas Apartment 412, Wichita, Kansas  
Mr. Roosevelt DaShazer, Appointee  
Mr. Matthew McKernan, Ornamental Horticulture Agent, Sedgwick County Extension Education Center  
Dr. Jim Lindquist, Assistant Director, K-State Research and Extension  
Mr. Alan Pfaff, Attorney*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Madam Clerk, next item."*

### **INVOCATION: Pastor Lyle Hinsdale, Church of Christ, Clearwater.**

### **FLAG SALUTE**

### **ROLL CALL**

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

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

### **PUBLIC AGENDA**

*Chairman Dennis said, "We have one person signed up to speak on public agenda, Sybil Strum. You may approach the podium. State your name for the record, and you have three minutes."*

*Ms. Sybil Strum, 3000 West Douglas Apartment 412, Wichita greeted the Commissioners and said, "I would like to express that the Register of Deed had caused so much trouble with me. I have been paying the taxes on 326 North Walnut*

*[Street] since 1992. They said that they kept giving Laverne Becker. I am Sybil Strum. I just received word that they had made a mistake on my name, and I have been paying the property tax every since, 1992. Now, how can you mess up someone's name and last name? So I went through a lot of trouble. Dave Unruh remembers, because I called him. I said a Central [inspection] (now known as Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department) came in my house without my permission and started finding things wrong with it, and I didn't know who to call. So I called Dave Unruh, and he helped me. He said call the police. Tell them that a man came in and trespassed, because I had a sign that said no trespassing.*

*"My neighbor, Steve Martinez, asked the guy what was his you know, why was he there? He said, I'm not going to tell you, and he said that I will condemn this house. I don't care if she pays the property tax. I don't care. I'm going to take action. That's another thing that's going on in Wichita. Central's are acting like they own the houses. Since the Register of Deed had caused me this trouble, I couldn't get a construction worker in that house to fix it up. I am mad about that. I'm sorry. I'm angry, because I gave a lady money to get the deed done in February, and it's now May 16th, and I am very angry. I want my deed. They should not have made a mistake on that deed. If I had paid those property taxes, which I had, I showed him it, that every year I was paying it. They should know my last name, but they put Sturm, s-t-u-r-m.*

*"Now another thing I want to get back is Police Department. I have been approached by the police, and I have filed several police reports on things that have happened. I had that man over there, Lonnie, come at me and start trouble with me. So I want to know how us victims can get help. If the police aren't going to do their job. I got hit almost by a car 4 o'clock in the afternoon. When I told the Lord's Diner police officer about it, he just laughed. He said it's not my problem. Thank you."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. I don't have anyone else signed up to speak today. Is there anyone else in the audience that would like to speak in the public agenda? Seeing none, Madam Clerk, next item."*

## **APPOINTMENTS**

- A     [18-424](#)     ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF DANIEL KRUSE (COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O'DONNELL APPOINTMENT) FROM THE SEDGWICK COUNTY ANIMAL CARE ADVISORY BOARD.  
Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Accept the Resignation.

*Mr. Eric Yost, County Counselor, greeted the Commissioners and said, "We have four items on appointments today. Unfortunately, I don't think we can bulk any of them. So we'll have to take them each separately."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Okay."*

*Mr. Yost said, "Item A is the resignation of Daniel Kruse from the Sedgwick County Animal Care Advisory Board. Mr. Kruse had been the appointee of Commissioner O'Donnell. No replacement has yet been found for Mr. Kruse, and I would urge adoption of the resolution."*

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

MOTION

Commissioner O'Donnell moved to accept the resignation of Daniel Kruse from the Sedgwick County Animal Care Advisory Board.

Commissioner Howell 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."

**Approved**

**B**     [18-374](#)

RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROOSEVELT DESHAZER  
(COMMISSIONER DAVE UNRUH'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE  
SEDGWICK COUNTY SHERIFF'S CIVIL SERVICE BOARD.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, item B is a resolution that would appoint Roosevelt Deshazer to serve on the Sheriff's Civil Service Board. Mr. Deshazer is being appointed to fill the unexpired term of Reverend Terence Holder who resigned. This appointment, the appointment of Mr. Deshazer is being recommended by Commissioner David Unruh, and his term would expire on January 31st of 2019. Mr. Deshazer is present to be sworn, and I would urge adoption of the resolution."

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

MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to adopt the resolution.

Commissioner Ranzau 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, "Welcome, Mr. Deshazer."

*Mr. Kelly Arnold, County Clerk, thanked the Commissioners and said, "Please raise your right hand. I do solemnly swear that I'll 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 Sheriff Civil Service Board so help me God."*

*Mr. Roosevelt Deshazer, Appointee, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I do."*

*Mr. Arnold said, "Congratulations."*

*Mr. Deshazer said, "Thank you, sir. I want to thank the board for this opportunity to serve my city and county again. It's a wonderful opportunity, and I take it very seriously. Thank you so much."*

*Chairman Unruh said, "Thank you."*

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

**Approved**

**C**     [18-392](#)

RESOLUTION APPOINTING BERNIA WILLIAMS (COMMISSIONER RICHARD RANZAU'S APPOINTMENT) TO THE WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY ACCESS ADVISORY BOARD.

Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

*Mr. Yost said, "This is a resolution appointing Ms. Bernia Williams to the Wichita/Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board. This position had been held by Mr. Glen Davidson, whose term has expired. Commissioner Richard Ranzau is recommending that Ms. Williams be appointed and her term would expire on May 31st of 2020. Ms. Williams is not expected to be here this morning, I don't believe, but I would urge adoption of this resolution."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. 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

<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, "Madam Clerk, next item."*

**Approved**

- D [18-393](#) RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ANNETTE GRAHAM (BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION REAPPOINTMENT) TO THE ARTS COUNCIL, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.  
Presented by: Eric Yost, County Counselor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the Resolution.

*Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, this is a resolution reappointing Annette Graham to the Arts Council Board of Directors. Ms. Graham has been serving on this board but her term has expired, her current term has expired. Her new term would expire on May 15th of 2021. The paperwork is in order. I would urge adoption of the resolution. I don't believe Ms. Graham is present to be sworn."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you very much."*

MOTION

*Commissioner Dennis moved to adopt the resolution.*

*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, "Madam Clerk, next item."*

**Approved**

**PROCLAMATIONS**

- E [18-433](#) PROCLAMATION DECLARING NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK.  
Read by: Chairman David Dennis or his Designee.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt the proclamation.

VISUAL PRESENTATION

*Chairman Dennis said, "We have a proclamation that I would like to read. It says,*

*WHEREAS, public works services provided in our community are an integral part of our citizens' everyday lives; and*

*WHEREAS, the support of an understanding and informed citizenry is vital to the efficient operation of public works systems and programs such as streets, highways, bridges, drainage improvements, environmental services, household hazardous waste and noxious weed control; and*

*WHEREAS, the health, safety and comfort of this community greatly depends on these facilities and services; and*

*WHEREAS, the quality and effectiveness of these facilities, as well as their planning, design, and construction, is especially dependent upon the efforts and skill of public works officials; and*

*WHEREAS, the efficiency of the qualified and dedicated personnel who staff public works departments is substantially influenced by the people's attitude and understanding of the importance of the work they perform.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, David T. Dennis, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 20 - 26, 2018 as*

**NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK**

*in Sedgwick County and I call upon all citizens and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the issues involved in public works and to recognize the contributions which public works officials make every day to our health, safety, comfort, and quality of life.*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Dennis moved to adopt the proclamation declaring national public works week.*

*Commissioner Howell 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, "Our Public Works Director, David Spears is here to accept. Thank you."*

*Mr. David Spears, Assistant County Manager of Public Works, Facilities Maintenance, Project Services and County Engineer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Since 1960 APWA (American Public Works Association) has sponsored National Public Works Week. Across North America, our more than 30,000 members in the U.S.*

*(United States) and Canada use this week to energize and educate the public on the importance of the contribution of Public Works to their daily lives. Planning, building, managing and operating the heart of our local communities and building the quality of life. There would be no community without the quality of life Public Works provides. There would be no community to police and protect, no public to lead or represent.*

*“The Power of Public Works theme for the 2018 National Public Works Week poster gives voice to the impact that Public Works has on modern civilization. From disposing of solid waste to building roads and bridges to removing snow on roadways or devising emergency management strategies to meet natural or man-made disasters, Public Works services determine a society’s quality of life. I thank you for the proclamation, and once again, I would like to remind you that infrastructure is the mother’s milk of economic development. Here is the poster, national poster this year, the Power of Public Works. Thank you.”*

*Chairman Dennis said, “Mr. Spears, thank you very much for accepting that and for informing us of how important of Public Works is. Yesterday you got to come and brief us a little bit.*

*“I learned that not only do I have half the roads and half the bridges, I also have half the amount of noxious weeds in my district. So it’s an important service that you provide to all of our community. I thank you very much.”*

*Mr. Spears said, “Thank you.”*

*Chairman Dennis said, “Next item, please.”*

**Adopted**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- F      [18-355](#)      CONTRACT FOR A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOTE COLLECTION EVENT ON MAY 19, 2018 WITH WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY.  
Presented by: Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environmental Resources.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the contract.

*Chairman Dennis said, “Another important service provided by our Public Works Department. Good morning, Susan.”*

*Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Director, Environment Resources greeted the Commissioners and said, “Sedgwick County has a household hazardous waste facility. It’s located at 801 Stilwell. That’s a place where citizens can bring their unwanted oils, old gasoline, unused paints or old household cleaners that they no longer want, get them out of the house and bring them down there, and we’ll safely recycle or dispose of them. That facility is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 [a.m.] to 5 [p.m.] and on Saturdays 9 [a.m.] to 3 [p.m.]”*

*“But to better serve our community, we also have five remote household hazardous waste collection events every year. Our first event is this Saturday, May 19th. It’s located at Wichita State University’s (WSU) [Eugene M.] Hughes Metro[politan] [Com]plex Center, and that’s at 5015 East 29th Street North, that’s on the south side of 29th Street North, about a quarter mile east of Oliver [Street]. So we encourage*



anyone who lives in the north part of Wichita, Bel Aire, Kechi, Park City, Valley Center north area, come on down and bring your unwanted household hazardous waste this Saturday.

"We'll be taking the waste from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m, so we encourage you to come. If you're not sure of what material we will or will not take, you can always call 660-7464 to get more information. We'll also check our website, [sedgwickcounty.org](http://sedgwickcounty.org), and we'll help you out. Thank you so much. WSU (Wichita State University) President Bardo has signed the contract that's in front of you, and I recommend that you approve the contract and I'd be happy to answer any questions."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you very much. Commissioner Ranzau."

#### MOTION

Commissioner Ranzau moved to approve the household hazardous waste remote collection event on May 19, 2018 with Wichita State University.

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

Ms. Erlenwein said, "Thank you."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, Susan. Thanks for doing this for us. Next item, please."

**Approved**

#### G [18-430](#)

#### CJCC REVIEW.

Presented by: Captain Jared Schechter, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and File.

#### VISUAL PRESENTATION

Chairman Dennis said, "Well, good morning. Before we get started, I noticed the Sheriff's [Jeff Easter] in the room. The other day we recognized Sargent [Clayton] Barth as Excellence in Public Service. I don't know if Sheriff wants to say any more about that, but I saw an article on KWCH [12] who happens to be in the room today that also recognized Sergeant Barth, and I think maybe the Sheriff may want to say a few words about that."

*Mr. Jeff Easter, Sedgwick County Sheriff, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Yes last week, Sergeant Barth was recognized with the Excellence in Public Service because of what he does not only for the county and the Sheriff's Office but what he does in his own personal life. He's a pastor with his church, he devotes a lot of time volunteering for the community and is just a really, has a really big heart and does a lot of volunteer work for folks as well.*

*"Yesterday he was driving to work, he sees a car partially submerged in a creek with two kids and two adults in the car, and so he went in to the creek and made sure the kids were able to get out safely and delivered them to some other citizens that were on the side of the creek and then assisted the two other passenger, or the driver and the passenger and getting the creek as well.*

*"That's just a sign of, first off, how Sheriff's Deputies and law enforcement in general are always going to react. Secondly, it goes to the character of Sergeant Barth. He always puts people ahead of him. So thank you for letting me talk about that."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you very much. Please pass on our sincere appreciation for everything he does and all your officers do, especially this week where we're recognizing everything that our officers do to protect us. Thank you for being here."*

*Commissioner Howell thanked the Chairman and said, "Sergeant Barth."*

*Mr. Jared Schechter, Captain, Sheriff's Department Detention Bureau, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I was going to give a brief overview concerning the CJCC the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council over jail population and program trends. This is actually from the April presentation all the May presentations are not prepared yet. This is going to be March stats and later. Also, I have Steven Stonehouse and Jay Holmes here to talk about their programs too when we get to those slides.*

*I'll talk about the detention facility. The first thing we look at with stats is talking about booking admits and housing releases. The jail, unlike the Department of Correction, has to take everyone that's brought us to. We don't get to say we're full or at capacity, regulate who comes to us. We did see a pretty substantial spike in March after February, we had about 400 more inmates booked in in March, and actually our bookings outpaced our releases, so it did affect our population some. A lot of these inmates that came in were actually able to be released on their own recognizance, our jail population didn't overall spike too much. If you look at the bottom left corner, our booking trends are still slightly lower than previous years, so we have seen some reductions in the amount of bookings in the jail, but we still had over 2,200 bookings in March into the jail.*

*"Population trends over the last two years. You can see historically, March, April, we start to see a decrease in jail population through the colder months wrapping up throughout the county and community. We do anticipate our population will begin to increase in the summer, increase in the fall as it historically does. Last fall was a very historic high. We hadn't gotten above 1,550 in many years, and we were extremely full last fall. So of course, a lot of changes we had to do. Average length of stay, we have been working on this, trying to work with the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC), work with the District Attorney's (DA) Office about moving inmates to prison in a rapid manner, getting people released out of custody in a quick manner on their own recognizance, working with the courts.*

*"So we were able to see a reduction in the length of stay in the jail. It had been creeping up for a while. So our average length of stay as you can see for the housing year is 37.8 days for everybody in housing, and then you combine that with the booking population, it drops to 23 days, the average time somebody stays in jail right now.*

*"Look at our long-term jail population forecast in the past I mean, our last, we have been decreasing up till 2013. Since 2013, there has been a slight increase in jail population every year. So that forces us now to realize that we need to start looking at other programs, other services to try to reduce our jail population, try to find other ways to do that.*

*"Something that we've been working on is developing other programs in the jail through our mentoring program, through our new SCORE our Sedgwick County Offender Re-entry Program, we've launched the last few months. Try to work on connecting inmates with services and what they need. Before we look at any kind of program, we also need to look at what recidivism looks like in our jail. This is something we actually started working on the last few months. We never really had looked at recidivism in the jail, how often people come back and we're talking about recidivism, we're talking about people released to our community. We're not including people who are released to prison, people who are sent out of state, people who were sent to other areas for warrants, people released on probation, day reporting, anyone that gets released to the community.*

*"As you can see, within 90 days of between one-fourth and three-tenths of all inmates are brought back in jail within 90 days on a new offense. Look at six months out, that number climbs to two out of five are booked back into jail. You look at a year, over half of the people who have been released are being booked back into the jail for a crime. Look at two years out, that crawls to around six out of 10. So there is a problem with the same people being stuck, being constantly booked, constantly arrested. As far as when we're looking at with our programs, now it's finding a way to break that cycle, trying to offer people more services, get people connected to jobs, community resources, things they might need. That's our re-entry program we've been working on very heavily for the last year and a half. We've actually launched the last four months ago to try to find ways to help these people that want help to be able to stay out in the community and not end up back in jail.*

*"At that time, that concludes the jail portion of this. If you have any questions for me, I would be happy to answer or I can wait until the end? So."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Do we have questions? I don't see any questions. I hope we can do something about the recidivism."*

*Captain Schechter said, "Absolutely."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Sixty percent in two years is pretty high."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Is that a national average or do you know that?"*

*Captain Schechter said, "We're pretty close to national average with those rates. It's very similar to the national average. So it's not that we're having higher recidivism problem than other communities, we're pretty close to the national average. But it's a way for us now to evaluate our program.*

*“So as we enroll inmates in these programs, we’re tracking their recidivism separately, so hopefully we can start to see what programs work and what doesn’t, because we don’t want to waste resources on programs that don’t work. We have to be able to establish what works and what doesn’t. So we had to set that baseline of figuring out what our current situation is. That’s what we’ve done the last about six, eight months now by evaluating recidivism, because we never really looked at that before.*

*Commissioner Unruh said, “This also includes those individuals who have been through our alternative programs?”*

*Captain Schechter said, “We’re only looking at people the Sheriff’s Office is helping through the jail through our mentoring program inside the jail and our reentering program inside the jail. You’d have to talk about to Jay (Holmes) and other people about their programs and what their rates look like. But this is just, we’re just looking at what the Sheriff’s Office is doing, so.”*

*Commissioner Unruh said, “Okay, thank you.”*

*Captain Schechter said, “Yes, sir.”*

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

*Commissioner Howell said, “Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say, Captain Schechter, thank you for your service and I appreciate the presentation thus far. I wanted to say Commissioner Ranzau and myself, I think, both serve on this committee, as well as Manager Scholes and a number of other people from the county. But we look at this fairly regularly, and it seems like it’s always a challenge trying to manage the population at the jail. I just wanted to say a couple things. I know the, one thing I actually saw this on TV (television) news report yesterday, but they’re talking about 66 jail Deputy openings, and that I think continues to be a problem. In fact, I don’t know what percentage of our ideal staff, numbers that would be. But it’s a fairly significant shortfall in terms of staff over there.*

*“So I know it’s not technically related to CJCC directly, but I just want to put a pitch out there for the Sheriff and the community just saying that it’s a great opportunity to work for Sedgwick County. They provide, I think, fairly good salary and benefits package, and it’s a great place to work and great opportunities, a stepping stone into a great career. I just wanted to say that I hope we can continue to put that plug out there to let people know that this is a great opportunity. I know people who work over there, and they love it. So I would encourage people to consider that as an occupation.*

*“That’s really all I have. But I would say also that the DA (District Attorney) and Sheriff also did present to us their budget requests for this next fiscal year, and it is alarming, some of the crime trends going on. That obviously is going to have an impact on what we do in terms of public safety and the jail management.*

*“So I am concerned for those trends, and I think it’s something we need to be very, very vigilant to monitor these things that are going on. But again, thank you for your information so far. Thank you, Chairman.”*

*Chairman Dennis said, “Thank you. Captain, I don’t see any other questions.”*

*Captain Schechter said, “Thank you.”*

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you."

Mr. Jay Holmes, Deputy Director of Adult Programs, Department of Corrections, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here today to provide some general statistical information about our adult programs that are routinely shared during the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council meetings. This slide that's currently up illustrates that the pretrial services population is climbing as we projected over the course of last two years. That aqua colored line, kind of indicates that we've been in the last quarter pretty much at an all-time high going back to '16, of year-to-date average population at 306. Again, that's through the end of March of 2018.

"The next slide is really interesting to us. I'm sure it's interesting to jail staff as well, that it appears that the jail population has decreased slightly at this point in calendar year 2018, but the percentage of possible inmates being supervised by our pretrial services program is at an all-time high through the first quarter of 2018. You know, it's obvious that this alternative program is diverting inmates from the Sedgwick County Jail to their homes under this supervision of intensive supervision officers, and as a result, is having the desired effect of saving jail bed spaces.

"The next slide covers our drug court program. Drug court population has dropped in the past year as illustrated by the orange line there on the graph. This can be attributed to some staff turnover that we've experienced in the last year and some suitability decisions that have been made have impacted our ADP (average daily population). At this point, we're now fully staffed and look forward to increasing our average daily population in the second half of the calendar year '18.

"The next slide, kind of, it indicates where our ADP is in regards to our adult intensive supervision program and residential. Our ADP in the adult intensive supervision program has dropped a little below 1,460. This can be attributed, in my opinion, to fewer felony intakes that we received in calendar year '17. Specifically, we received 120 fewer intake assignments from the [18th Judicial] District Court in the previous year. However, intakes through the first quarter of calendar year '18 have increased significantly. If this pattern continues, our ADP will rebound by the end of the year.

"The residential population has remained consistently in the 60's for the last two years. This facility, as you know, is utilized as a sanction center for Community Corrections clients that violate a condition of probation and can potentially benefit from the structure and services provided at that facility. This last slide, kind of represents an annualized average daily population for the last two years of the adult programs and the jail population. It breaks down the overall numbers that are represented in each adult program. In the next report to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council there will be a slide specifically related to the work release population. As you see that number there in 2018 at the end of March, we had an average daily population of 30, and we just fully became operational with that program at the end of February. I'm happy to report, as of yesterday, our ADP in the work release program was 54.

"So we're starting to see an increase in the number of work release clients being assigned to us both from [City of Wichita] Municipal Court and District Court. Finally, I'd just like to thank you for allowing us to share information about our adult crisis programs and would be willing to entertain any questions you have at this point."

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Are there any questions? I guess, my only question is, and you talked about it a little bit, but drug court, we keep hearing more and more problems in drugs, and yet the number of people going to drug court is declining. That's kind of surprising."*

*Mr. Holmes said, "Well we have, you know, we've been short staffed, and as a result of that, we've had a supervisor that has had to take on a responsibility of supervising a caseload. Now that we are fully staffed, I anticipate that ADP will increase."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "I see."*

*Mr. Yost said, "Mr. Chairman, I usually don't..."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Mr. Yost."*

*Mr. Yost said, "I usually don't harass our conferees with questions, but I would like to ask something. Mr. Holmes, are there some legal impediments to some of these alternative programs being expanded even more that the legislature could address and make things a little bit, loosen up things for you a little bit?"*

*Mr. Holmes said, "Yeah, I'm not aware of any. Some of the criteria that we have in place at this point, you know for example, for our residential program and drug court in particular. You know, there are certain things that need to be met in order for us to effectively supervise folks. For example, you know, there needs to be somewhat of an underlying sentence for these folks for us to even consider placing them in drug court or residential.*

*"If they have less than four or five months' worth of time to serve, you know, a lot of these folks get to that point, then there's really no motivation or incentive for them to successfully complete it."*

*Mr. Yost said, "Have we utilized pretrial services as much as we could, or is there anything holding us back on that?"*

*Mr. Holmes said, "I don't think there is anything holding us back. You know, we've seen a huge increase in the last year. You know, could we, could we assume more clients? We certainly could."*

*Mr. Yost said, "Alright. Thank you."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you, any further questions? Oh, Commissioner Unruh."*

*Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well I just wanted to make a comment that were it not for these alternatives and pretrial services and different programs we have, our jail, I mean, we would be talking about building more jail space. So the work you do is very, very important, and your people that are involved in it need to understand that we appreciate their efforts in trying to keep our community safe at the lowest possible cost, because were we not to have these, the cost of incarceration would totally over-burden and blow our budget apart. So anyway, it's important for the individuals, but it's also important for us making business decisions, so thank you."*

*Mr. Holmes said, "Yeah thank you, Commissioner. I'll pass that along to my staff."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. I don't see any further questions. I appreciate it."*

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

*Chairman Dennis said, "Good morning."*

*Mr. Steve Stonehouse, Deputy Director of Corrections Programs, Division of Corrections, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I'm here to talk about the juvenile version of the jail, which is the Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) and then the alternatives, which we have in place to help youngsters remain out of detention if they can safely. The first slide shows a snapshot of just March, average daily population for the last four years, and you'll notice that in the detention facility there is a pretty steady decline in our numbers, and that is consistent with what we've seen for about the last seven or eight years is a decline in our admits and average daily population in the detention facility. Below that really are the alternatives available to the court for youth to remain under supervision of the court but not in the Juvenile Detention Facility.*

*"The juvenile residential facility population has struggled in the last four years. Part of that is a function of fewer kids in the detention facility. So there are fewer kids to go over to the residential. Homebased supervision numbers are growing. That's the equivalent of our pretrial program for kids. So those provide supervision of intensive supervision officers to allow juvenile offenders to be released from the detention facility and be supervised from home depending on the next court date. So that program continues to steadily grow just a little bit as youth can be maintained in the community pending outcome of court hearings.*

*"Then Detention Advocacy Case Management Services has got another program. This program is contracted by the county and performed by Kansas Legal Services, and it performs much of the same duties to offer yet another program to supervise juvenile offenders pending the outcome of their court. So as with the jail, if you would add all of the numbers together, that would put us over capacity for what we have available in the detention facility. So our alternatives give us good options to reserve the most expensive and secure beds for those juvenile offenders who the court deem need that level of care.*

*"The next slide just presents a visual representation of what happens at the front door. The Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center (JIAC) is the receiving facility for all juveniles who are arrested in Sedgwick County, and you'll notice, since January of '12, a steady decline. If I could do math, I would get paid more money, but you'll notice a downward slope. So there are fewer kids coming through the [Juvenile] Intake and Assessment Center, and that's a trend that we continue to see month after month, that there are fewer and fewer kids coming in through intake and assessment. Our JDF population remains pretty steady, between low 60's and mid-50's, but there is an overall trend of fewer kids being in the detention facility every day. So that's just a brief overview of the juvenile detention continuum in Sedgwick County, and this information is also presented to CJCC. If you have any questions or comments, I'd be happy to entertain anything."*

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

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have, I guess, two questions on the second to the last slide there. You show the weekend alternative detention programs going to zero."

Mr. Stonehouse said, "Yes."

Commissioner Howell said, "Can you please explained that, if you already said that I may have missed it, because I was looking at your data. But can you please explain how that goes to zero?"

Mr. Stonehouse said, "Yes, we had some staffing turnover in that position, and we were finding it hard to get enough referrals to make it go on a monthly basis. So we took the last part of the year to really assess who the kids were coming to the program. In this first quarter, we are revamping the program to include programming on Wednesday and Saturdays.

"So the program is not going to be a weekend alternative anymore. It's going to be a mid-week and Saturday community service program. So we'll get that started here this quarter."

Commissioner Howell said, "So you'll probably report that with a different description, but you'll see new numbers pop up somewhere else."

Mr. Stonehouse said, "Yes, sir."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay. Then on the trend lines on the, I guess, last slide there, the trend lines are positive, I guess. I mean, as long as there's less offenses or less crime being committed, that's obviously a good thing. It seems like with the crime trends we saw from the District Attorney and from the Sheriff earlier, it seems like the population in general, we're seeing an increase in crime trends on, I guess, the major crimes that are being tracked are showing an increase. I'm just curious is, are there less offenses by juveniles being committed? Is that's what's going on here or we just have less going through our system, or what's going on?"

Mr. Stonehouse said, "I can say there's less going through our system. I don't know, I know what law enforcement is reporting does not necessarily match what we're seeing in our facilities, but we're largely a product of the court system and the kids actually charged by the District Attorney's Office. So that's what we are seeing is fewer filings."

Commissioner Howell said, "So if they don't go through the JIAC (Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center) or JDF, where do they go? I mean, if there's a young person that's been charged with some type of offense and they don't go to JDF or JIAC, are we..."

Mr. Stonehouse said, "They would go straight to the court."

Commissioner Howell said, "Okay, I'm going to have to think about that for a while. Alright. Thank you for the information. I appreciate it. Thank you, Chairman."

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

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Steve, the home based supervision, is that the program that replaced, the programs we had at Judge Riddel Boys [and Girls] Ranch (JRBR)?"



Mr. Stonehouse said, "No, sir. That, home based supervision offers release from detention. The program, Judge Riddel Boys and Girls Alternative Programs replaced the program at the [Judge Riddel] Boys Ranch, and that's offered at Juvenile Field Services (JFS), and that provides programming in the evening hours. That's separate from this."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay. So this is separate from this report. Can you make a comment without factual data..."

Mr. Stonehouse said, "Sure."

Commissioner Unruh said, "...in front of you and tell us how that is going?"

Mr. Stonehouse said, "I can do that all day. Judge Riddel Boys and Girls Alternative Program offers programming to juvenile offenders who would otherwise be in out-of-home placements, and it offers an opportunity for kids to be served in the community and receive programming that's shown to reduce their risk for recidivism. Programming is offered five days a week at Juvenile Field Services. The first year of data, we're seeing about a 16 percent recidivism rate for those kids who actually complete the programs. So that's pretty good, that's those initial numbers at one year are pretty good for the kids that are able to continue or excuse me, complete the program. It's rigorous training. It's 420 hours for high risk kids that they have to come to group and participate. So it's a very structured programming for them."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Okay. Well thank you for that explanation. "I would just like to kind of give a shout-out or recognition to your volunteer program that works at the Juvenile Detention Facility. My wife and I had the privilege of sitting in on your recognition that you have for those folks. We had a nice dinner with some ice cream and prizes and things to recognize those folks. But I don't know the total number, but there's a good number of folks who volunteer their time to give counseling and support to these folks, young fellows, young and girls in detention. So I just wanted to say thanks to them, and if there is something I said that wasn't quite right, you correct me. But I was impressed by their commitment."

Mr. Stonehouse said, "Right. We offer, we have about 100 community volunteers from the various churches from the Diocese of Wichita, from the Optimist Club, who give of their time to juvenile offenders and their families, really, at the Juvenile Detention Facility for religious and nonreligious programming, tens of thousands of hours every year, and we're very appreciative of them and we're happy to have you in attendance that night."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Well, make sure they know that the County Commission appreciates their commitment."

Mr. Stonehouse said, "Will do."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Thank you. That's all I have."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. I don't see any further questions. We appreciate all the information that you provided us.

"We're in a big gathering mode right now actually, on a lot of data because we're in the middle of the budget cycle, also. So this is just one more piece of information to put

*with everything else we've gotten."*

**MOTION**

*Commissioner Dennis moved to receive and file.*

*Commissioner Howell 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, "Thank you all very much for speaking with us today. Madam Clerk, next item."*

**Received and Filed**

**H**     [18-347](#)

**COUNTY EXTENSION QUARTERLY REPORT.**

Presented by: Matt McKernan, Ornamental Horticulture Agent, Sedgwick County Extension Education Center.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and File.**

*Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Matt, welcome."*

*Mr. Matthew McKernan, Ornamental Horticulture Agent, Sedgwick County Extension Education Center, greeted the Commissioners and said, "In my role, I serve the county residents and the horticulture industry in dealing with horticulture issues related to trees, shrubs, flowers, insects diseases and help provide them solutions to serve either their customers and their own landscape. So I'm honored to be here with you today and have the opportunity to share with you a few of the things going on in our horticulture program.*

*"This spring, we've had a lot of questions related to weather. As you all have known, it's been a very up and down spring and late winter. So we're seeing a lot of injury on plants that we're helping people deal with. The winter, for the most part, was extremely cold but not an extreme temperature cold, so it was cold for a prolonged period of time, but it wasn't extreme temperatures, so that was good for most areas of our plant material. The problem we're seeing most commonly right now, though was drought injury on our plants, because during the winter months we saw very little to no rainfall in most of the county.*

*"Most people had their irrigation systems turned off, so there was no supplemental watering. Most people just didn't think about dragging out hoses to go water their trees and shrubs. So a lot of that is showing up late in the spring here as our temperatures start to warm up.*

*"Really damage to the lawn and turf grass is probably what is most noticeable for people, because it's been slow to green up earlier in the spring and especially turf*

*under trees or areas next to trees. That turf grass is extremely weak and damaged because really the trees outcompeted the turf grass for water during the early spring and winter months. So the trees won in this case, which is really a good thing, because they're much harder to replace, but that is leading to more problems, and a lot of questions as you mentioned earlier this morning, Commissioner, about weeds. Because as those lawns are damaged by weeds, or excuse me, the lawns are weakened, so they're thinner, they're less healthy, less vigorous and then they are more prone to weed and disease problems earlier on this spring and summer.*

*"Also seeing a lot of questions related to trees, because especially evergreens, that wind is constantly pulling moisture out of the leaves during the winter months, and because there was no water added to the soil to replace it, that's causing some branch die-back, and dying of especially newly planted trees and evergreen trees in our area. Our late spring freezes and those April snows that we have are also causing some issues for people, a lot of injury to plants that leafed out early or started to grow because of our warmer February. But a lot of that stuff is going to be able to recover. It's just going to be a little bit weaker this spring.*

*"But all-in-all with the weather, there is some good news, because we had extreme cold or that prolonged period of cold this winter. That's good at reducing our insect populations. It's more beneficial to reducing some of those numbers. Even though it's a little bit too early to establish a lot of insect trends, hopefully we will see some less problems this spring. I think the problem that most people are dealing with this spring is ticks. There seems to be a high population of ticks out there. So there are some things that our residents in Sedgwick County can do to help prevent themselves.*

*"The first thing to know is really where ticks are residing. Ticks are a flightless, wingless creature that feed on blood, whether that's human, animal, bird blood. So they attack those hosts essentially with an ambush technique. Meaning, they're going to crawl up on tall grasses, low brush or weeds, and then wait for someone to walk by and brush up against that foliage. When they do, those ticks jump off of that plant on to their host and search for a place to feed on either us or our pets, things like that. So any time that we can avoid those areas of tall brush, typically ticks are not going to be more than a couple feet off the ground. They're generally never coming from trees or areas like that. They may crawl a couple feet in response to us moving around, heat being produced or other stimulants.*

*"But some things we can do besides just avoiding those areas of tall grass, brush and weeds, is to wear light colored clothing. This has worked for me even this spring, because if you're wearing lighter colored pants, for example, those dark ticks stand out very clearly on that light colored clothing.*

*"So you can often catch them on you before they actually start to feed. Insect repellents are also going to be very effective in helping prevent tick feeding on you. So that would be insect repellents containing either DEET or Picaridan that you can spray on you safely. The other important thing for people to know is if you do have a tick feeding on you, the quicker you remove it, the less likely you are to have diseases or other problems that that tick may be carrying transmitted to you. So the sooner that we remove ticks on us or our pets, the less likely we are to be influenced by any kind of diseases that a tick might be carrying.*

*"One other thing that I'd like to share with you all today is a recognition that our master gardner volunteers from across the State of Kansas received actually two weeks ago today at the [Kansas] House of Representatives up in Topeka. In 2017, our master*

*gardeners were across the State of Kansas, provided over 100,620 hours of service to the State of Kansas, which has a dollar value of over \$2.23 million. The really exciting thing, and I think what you'll be interested to know is across the state, over 20 percent of that service happened right here in Sedgwick County. Our 297 master gardeners in Sedgwick County contributed over 19,452 hours of recorded service to Sedgwick County in 2017. So if you average that out, that's about 65 and a half hours of service per year per volunteer. Or the equivalent of 9.3 of me, full-time employee being paid by the county. So here locally, that dollar value is about \$469,571 and it really has a huge impact across the community.*

*"One of the biggest things that our master gardeners are working on this spring is our gardening hotline, where they answer questions related to insects, diseases, plant selection and provide research based information from K-State [Kansas State University] to our local residents, horticulture industry and things like that. So I'm responsible for helping train those master gardeners, and currently this spring we've averaged about 150 residents of Sedgwick County either coming in to our office, calling on the phone or sending an e-mail with questions, and 150 is a large amount for this time of year, because typically our summer months are when we get our peak question answering.*

*"Another great thing that our master gardeners have done this spring is hosting youth lawn mowing clinics, where they're teaching youth grades five to nine about lawnmower maintenance, safety, proper turf grass care, business professionalism, how you would essentially create a lawn mowing business and interact with your customers. This year we hosted 55 different youth, grades five through nine, and one really great thing this year that we found out is we have a child named Brayden who attended this class three years ago. He immediately then went out and started a lawn mowing business with the skills that he learned and had been saving up his money for three years. So this spring he actually was able to purchase his first truck with cash from what he had saved up from his lawn mowing business. So he not only saved up enough money to pay for a truck with cash, but he also plans to use that truck to help his business and has also used the additional money to start a college savings as well. So the skills that we're hopefully able to teach these children and youth are being implemented in a variety of ways, but I just thought that was one great example of a youth this spring who was a great success from this program.*

*"So besides presenting many other presentations at the Wichita Public Libraries and to various community organizations, these are just a few ways that our master gardeners are involved in the community. But appreciate the opportunity to visit with you more about what they do, and I'm happy to answer any questions. I would just like to add we also have Dr. Jim Lindquist here from K-State to answer any questions that I may not be able to answer for you today. So happy to take any questions that you might have."*

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

*Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to say thank you for the presentation this morning. You did a good job. I want to just, I guess what my simple question is, the county extension is the same budget as the Extension Council. Is that, they're connected and related?"*

*Mr. McKernan said, "That is correct. Yes."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "So yeah, I had some questions about the budget and I guess the election, the election process for the Extension Council."*

*Mr. McKernan said, "Sure."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Before I get to, let me just say I appreciate everything you all do. You provide a tremendous service. I get lots of great complaints from all kinds of people who use your services. They like the advice and guidance. You guys provide I guess, some kind of training as well."*

*"The fact that we have a K-State presence here in the county, there is nobody else really competes or provides what you all provide, and so I think it's great to have a K-State resource in the county providing that service. I would just mention that agriculture is one of our major economic drivers or sectors of our state including in Sedgwick County. So I know there's a lot of people who depend on the services you provide and it does have a benefit to all of our Sedgwick County citizens. So, I want to say thank you for that."*

*"I can tell you it is a science that has changed probably over the decades. As I've visited some of the farmers, they really do use a lot of science in what they do. There is no longer just a go out there and put your thumb in the air and try to figure out what to do. That's what I do, and I fail miserably. I don't have the green thumb science knack, but you all do, and I appreciate what you provide there. I do have a couple questions though. Looking at the budget book, it looks like the budget is around \$825,000 roughly. I know this is kind of an old topic, but I guess I'm just curious what your position is or can you please help me understand the process. Extension Council, I guess, they are elected during some type of annual election, once a year?"*

*Mr. McKernan said, "That is correct. I might refer these questions to Jim."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Sure that would be great."*

*Mr. McKernan said, "He'd probably be more prepared to answer them."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "You can please introduce yourself and help answer questions as well. That would be great. But I understand basically there is an election that happens and I guess it is advertised, but it's not done through the election office. It's done kind of there in your own facility. Can you please describe the process?"*

*Dr. Jim Lindquist, Assistant Director, K-State Research and Extension, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Work with a number of our units across the state. Very happy to be here for Matt's presentation this morning. I think the front desk gets about 30,000 calls a day. Matt said this spring he thinks most them are coming for him and his master gardner volunteers. So there's a lot of citizens that are utilizing the extension for..."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Did you say 30,000 calls a day?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "...a year."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you. That's a lot of calls."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "I misspoke. Matt thinks there are that many in a day 30,000 calls that come across the front desk in addition to all the educational programs that are*

*going on. But to answer your question about the election process, of course, the [Kansas] State [County] Extension Council Law that was written many years ago has a process for citizens coming together in a meeting format to hold an election to elect program development committee members. There are four different program development committees that are organized under the Extension Council. One represents agricultural pursuits, which Horticulture is part of, one represents 4-H Youth Development Programs, one Consumer Science Programs, and one Community Vitality Programs.*

*“So the citizens participate in that election process, and then as those program development committee members are elected, those 24 individuals, six representing each of those four sub categories, come together, hold an annual meeting and elect a nine member executive board. It’s that executive board then that has the responsibility under the Extension Council statute for being the local management board for the extension program.”*

*Commissioner Howell said, “Is this election advertised in some way so the citizens of the community can participate?”*

*Dr. Lindquist said, “I can’t give you specifics about what happens here, but generally, yes, what happens, there is of course, a legal public notice that is a part of that process, but then there’s marketing and advertising of the election broadly through the community. My understanding here in Sedgwick County is that Facebook is utilized, extension electronic newsletter that goes to all the extension users is one of the vehicles for getting information out, and I think a couple of years ago the program develop committee is organized to try to find a way to try to involve more people in the election process.*

*“Through the years, people don’t tend to come to those kinds of event activities like they used to just for the purpose of an election. If it were an educational program, you know, that would draw more people in, but just for an election, that doesn’t seem to be as high a priority. So this year, I think, my understanding is they went out to several locations in the county. They had utilized the rec[reation] center in Derby, they utilized facility in Mount Hope, they were in two or three other places around the county in addition to the extension center and offered the election opportunity to the people that would come into those locations.*

*“There are 50 counties in the State of Kansas still organized under the Extension Council method that followed the statute and that election process. There are 55 counties that have organized in to extension districts, multi-county extension units, and in those, in that law, the district extension law, the governing body members are elected on the general election ballot. So when people come in to vote in those odd year fall municipal elections, they’re voting for extension governing body members in addition to everybody else they’re voting for. Obviously, the participation is much greater in those situations where people have that opportunity.”*

*Commissioner Howell said, “That brings up a lot of thoughts. So we’re one of the 50.”*

*Dr. Lindquist said, “Correct.”*

*Commissioner Howell said, “We’re actually one of the 50 or 49 counties. Okay. Well, I don’t know that I need to change something that’s working, but I guess it is interesting*

*that there is nearly a million dollars from the county basically controlled essentially by this council. You said 24 elected members?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "24, yes."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Is that, are the, are the counties that do it through general election ballot, are they large bodies like this one? Are they smaller? Or..."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Most everybody is smaller. None of the really large counties in Kansas have organized in the multi-county extension district units. It's, I guess, the largest counties would be down in the southeast corner of the state, Crawford, Labette, Montgomery and Wilson are organized.*

*"That's probably our largest populated district, about 110,000 people living in that, in those four counties that comprise that extension district. So much different than the population."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "So, does everybody in Sedgwick County have the right to vote on this election?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Everyone that's 18 years of age and a legal resident yes, does have the right to vote."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Do you have a poll book or voter registration thing your verifying that there is one vote per person type of thing?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "When people come in, they sign a register that indicates they've voted so there is no duplication that they're not voting at multiple sites or that sort of thing. I suppose, I'm not sure what kind of process there is, Matt, to verify that an individual is not showing up other than just one location. But..."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "In terms of election, election principles, you know, what about someone who is absent? Can they vote on absentee ballot?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "There is not a process. The extension law calls for it to be a physical meeting location. So again, that's just one of the peculiarities of the extension statute."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "So there's no early voting?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "There's early voting."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "This brings up a lot of questions in my mind. I guess, you know, I don't want to change something that's working, but I do think the process itself does, I hate to use the word disenfranchise, but it does seem like it disenfranchises military members, people who can't bet there that day."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Sure."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Or maybe they're working during the election time. There's a number of things that come up in my mind, and to the extent this is a, I'll use it's an authority type of council that actually has the ability to spend about a million dollars and since they're not appointed officials, they're elected officials, I'm interested in making sure the election is done in a way that every Sedgwick County citizen has an*

*equal right and opportunity to vote in that election. Right now, with the way this is being done, I've heard it termed, maybe this is an offensive term, but hopefully not, but a shoebox election.*

*"You know, where there is box, and you fill out a slip of paper and stick it in the box, and someone is probably counting the slips up at the end of the day. Kind of like, you know, it doesn't parallel in any way to what I consider to be the quality elections we like to provide on elected officials that are doing what we do here, for example. I'm concerned about that."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "I would agree, and I think the extension district method has, my observation, is very valuable. It creates a much greater awareness of the extension program when that person is on the ballot and the citizen is voting for every other elected office, has an opportunity to vote for that extension governing body member."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Well, it's an item for us to discuss. I'm not sure what we should do here. But I do, the in fact there is 55 counties that have a way to do this on the general ballot. I guess we ought to have that discussion and find out whether that it is better for our county. It reminds me of, I use the phrase growing up. This is the way it was done a long time ago, we've always done it this way. But now that we live with a lot of technology, we're doing elections anyway, it would not be hard for us to do this differently in a way that helps, helps every citizen have a voice in this.*

*"I have no problem with anything the Extension Council does in terms of services. I love what they do. I have nothing but positive comments about the services that you provide, and I am not worried about the money. I think you all do a great job with your budget. So I don't really have any complaints other than the fact that the, quote, unquote, shoebox election is not I guess, it needs to grow up a little bit, perhaps. In terms of 24 people, I don't care if it's 24 or another number. It doesn't matter to me. But I just think the issue itself ought to be addressed on a principle basis that everybody in Sedgwick County needs to have a voice when there is an election. Since we do a good job with elections already. Our equipment can handle pretty much anything you can throw at them I would like to have a discussion about possibly changing it to the 21st Century, 21st Century it's time to grow up a little bit."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "I think it would require someone looking at the statutes and seeing if there is any flexibility to do something differently. I will tell you that several years ago Republic County allowed for a table to be set up at every polling center in the county that was for the extension election. They weren't on the ballot that people came in to vote for everyone else. They went to a separate table, but they were able to vote for the Extension Council representatives at each polling site within the county. Now, that might be very difficult to pull off in Sedgwick County with the number of polling places that you have. But being a small rural county, that system seemed to work."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Yeah, we have I guess, our planned election coming up in August, is going to have 73 poll sites, and some of them are space limited. I mean, we're having trouble in some poll sites adding the equipment to help with some of the waiting things that have been brought up last staff meeting about a week ago. But you know, adding a little bit of equipment might help that. But they're saying in some places the poll site doesn't have room for more stuff.*

*"So that might not be something that would work everywhere. But anyway, I guess I have a desire that we ought to talk about maybe this, if it requires legislation to change this, maybe add this to our platform. Something for us to talk about down the road. Thank you very much."*



*Dr. Lindquist said, "Thank you, certainly on the conversation."*

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

*Commissioner O'Donnell thanked the Chairman and said, "Thank you Doctor, Matt thank you for the presentation earlier. Piggybacking on what Commissioner Howell was just saying, so roughly half the counties in the state do it different than we do here in Sedgwick County. So is that something that your office would work with our Legal Department and our Election Office to come up with a 21st Century voting plan?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Sure. Let me clarify. The 55 counties that are doing it differently are organized into multi-county units, so they become an extension district. So it's beyond just a single county entity then. It's two or more counties organized into one extension unit and then their governing body members elected from each county to serve on the district governing body for that multi-county unit. So there's, right now, the 50 counties that are organized under the Extension Council way of organization, the statute controls the election method for that. So we'd have to take a look at that and see if there was any way to have some flexibility with that system."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "But your office is ..."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Yes."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "...willing?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Yes, could work with you to have conversations about it..."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Yes."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "...and see what might need to be done."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "Yeah, I think that would be good, and obviously the Sedgwick County Farm Bureau is very strong, particularly for an urban..."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Yes."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "...city as large as Wichita, to have a Farm Bureau as strong as ours is a great testament to what K-State has done, what the extension office county.*

*"But I do agree with Commissioner Howell that it seems like we're disenfranchising a lot of elderly that are on, or people that are disabled on the permanent mailing list, the military members even if we were to put up like what Republic County did, put up a table in each polling location. You're still not going to get the military and people on the advanced ballot list. But Doctor, I do appreciate you coming down. It was great timing that you were in town today for that overview as well. Matt always does a good job."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Thank you. Matthew is outstanding. Learnin' with McKernan, you can't go wrong. So he does a wonderful job."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "It's a good catchphrase."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "He coined that, by the way. So I would mention that there is a mail*

*ballot option within the Extension Council law, but it is very expensive obviously and would be very expensive to do that sort of election method for the Extension Council."*

*Commissioner O'Donnell said, "That's why it would make more sense to work with our Election Office and see what we can do. Thank you very much."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "I do have one question."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Oh, certainly."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "We all got a copy of this governing body handbook. If there was an extension district, it looks like they have taxing authority?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "That is correct."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "The way we're set up right now without an extension district, they do not have taxing authority. Is that correct?"*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "That is correct."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "Okay. Well, I like the way we're organized."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "Yeah, and that's the choice..."*

*Chairman Dennis said, "I don't think we need one more..."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "...that's the choice that counties can make. It's an option. There are two different organizing methods. So your method is through the Extension Council."*

*Commissioner Dennis said, "Okay, I don't think we need one more taxing authority in Sedgwick County right now, so I think we'll stick with what we've got. Commissioner Howell."*

*Commissioner Howell said, "Yeah, just as a follow up comment there, you know we're talking about changing legislation. Again, we received urban area designation or urban county designation now. I used the wrong term right now. But the point I'm trying to say is if we're talking about changing legislation anyway, I don't know why we'd have to necessarily make it a district like we're talking about but simply deal with the election process only. I think, I'm happy with everything else you're doing. The funding is great. I have no complaints about anything you guys do. It's just this issue with the election itself. So I would just like to say, if you just dealt with that one issue, didn't change anything else, I think that would be where I would feel very comfortable with having that conversation and potentially seeing some legislation that would address that."*

*Dr. Lindquist said, "What I would invite you to do is perhaps send a letter to our director of extension, asking to have some discussion about that. We have a State Extension Advisory Council. These are representatives from across the state elected locally to serve in an advisory capacity, and could get the input from the other than 49 counties that are organized as you are to see what their interest might be in supporting doing something a bit differently, so."*

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

Chairman Dennis said, "Good. Well, I don't have a problem with us looking at that when we come up with our legislative agenda next year, but I don't want to add another taxing authority."

Commissioner Howell said, "I understand. I agree."

Dr. Lindquist said, "Thank you, Commissioners."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you for being here. I appreciate it very much. Thank you, Matt."

Mr. McKernan said, "Thank you."

Chairman Dennis said, "Okay, Madam Clerk, next item."

Ms. Heddie Page, Deputy Clerk, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Chairman, we need to receive and file."

Chairman Dennis said, "Oh, I'm sorry."

#### MOTION

Commissioner O'Donnell moved to receive and file.

Commissioner Howell 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, "Now, next item, please."

#### Received and Filed

### CONSENT

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

Chairman Dennis said, "Commissioner Ranzau."

#### MOTION

Commissioner Ranzau moved to approve consent agenda items India (I) through Papa (P).

Commissioner Ranzau thanked the Chairman and said, "I do have a question I think, Tania is in the room about item O, which is the amendment for EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Post eight (8). Can you tell me when this project is supposed to be completed?"

Ms. Tania Cole, Director of Facilities, Division Information and Operations, greeted the Commissioners and said, "Sure. The work on this project started with the contractor on May 7th, and they will complete the work on August 25th."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "August 25th. I know, we're going to repair this instead of building a whole new one. This is up on 53rd Street in my district, which saved a fair amount of money from the original proposal. Do you have an estimated cost savings?"

Ms. Cole said, "I'm going to lean on Lindsay [Poe Rousseau] to answer that question."

Ms. Lindsay Poe Rousseau, Chief Financial Officer, greeted the Commissioners and said, "When this project was originally contemplated to be a replacement project, the estimated cost was going to be about [\$]1.4 million, and we had talked about doing some bonding.

"That was a few years ago when interest rates were really good, and so what we would have estimated to spend entirely on the project including principle and interest would have been \$1,875,318. Based on the amendment that's before you now, the cost is \$427,239, and so that is avoided cost of just less than \$1.45 million."

Commissioner Ranzau said, "[S]1.45 million."

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

Commissioner Ranzau said, "When you add that into the cost savings on the EMS station in Commissioner Unruh's district, and that's getting into some real money. So we're very happy and excited to get this done. August 25th, we'll be looking forward to seeing what everything looks like. I know staff has gone through a lot of different iterations of this to get to where we're at, and I appreciate all the work and looking forward to it. So thank you."

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

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to commend Commissioner Ranzau for leadership on this item. I don't think I would have known that this was an option without him making us aware of that. I think it's always fun to have new buildings, and everybody likes new buildings, but I think the taxpayers, taxpayers appreciate when we refurbish older buildings and wear them out, give them more time and more life. This is a brick and mortar building. It's substantial, and it's probably not going to be as fun as a brand new building, but I do think that it's going to provide good services to that the community. So I appreciate saving \$1.45 million, and I credit Commissioner Ranzau for bringing this solution to the table. Thank you."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you."

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."*

- I      [18-387](#)      One (1) Temporary Construction Easement for Sedgwick County Stream Maintenance Project near 37th North and 135th West. District 3.

*Discussion for this item will be added after minutes for this meeting are adopted.*

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

- J      [18-388](#)      One (1) Temporary Construction Easement and One (1) Permanent Easement for Drainage for Sedgwick County Project 590-24-3319; Project on 117th Street North west of Meridian. CIP# R-264-49. District 4.

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

- K      [18-389](#)      One (1) Easement for Right of Way for Sedgwick County Project 624-36-204; Bridge Project on Pawnee between 143rd & 159th Streets East. CIP# B-479. District 5.

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

- L      [18-408](#)      Agreement with the City of Wichita for COMCARE to provide administrative services for the Special Liquor Tax Funds.

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

- M      [18-407](#)      Second Amendment to the 2018 COMCARE's Participating Community Mental Health Center Agreement with the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

- N      [18-325](#)      Service Agreement with the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas (ACMHCK).

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

- O      [18-361](#)      Amendment to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the Repair of EMS Post 8.

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

- P      [18-398](#)      General Bill Check Register for May 9, 2018 - May 15, 2018.

**Approved on the Consent Agenda**

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Chairman Dennis said, "Do we have anything, Mr. Yost or Mr. Deer for legislative agenda today? Very good. Things are peaceful. All of our folks are home. Thank you. Next item, please."

## OTHER

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Do, does any of the Commissioners have anything for other?"

Commissioner Howell said, "If I can find it, yes, I do."

Chairman Dennis said, "Commissioner Howell."

Commissioner Howell said, "Thank you. Just as going slightly backwards, on our consent agenda every week we approve our check register, the checks they write. I just wanted to highlight something. I want to just tell the Finance Department how much I appreciate their work. This is just a typical week, but this week we had 803 checks that are going to be drawn on Sedgwick County, for a total of \$771,709. To me, that just shows how much work they have to do, and I appreciate their good work. But I wanted to point out of that \$771,000, \$208,000 of that is for six adjacent or nearby counties for, I presume it's out of county and jail inmate placement.

"So again, I want to just highlight the fact that that's a very, very expensive part of trying to keep our community safe. We spend that money on behalf of the community, but I'm excited for the fact that we're redoing or repurposing, refurbishing the old work release facility at Harry [Street] and Mclean [Street]. With that, we're expected to save about a million dollars a year that can provide services in other ways to the community.

"So just want to highlight that, that great, I guess, management of a problem in trying to save money. Again, becoming more efficient and more effective is one of our principles, one of our goals. So I think we're demonstrating that both with the restructuring of the work release facility, but also our Finance Department that continues to provide excellent accountability and services to the county. Again, just a typical week 803 checks and \$771,000 worth of spending. Thank you, Chairman."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Anything else for other? Seeing none, next item."

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Dennis said, "Commissioner Unruh."

Commissioner Unruh said, "Mr. Chairman, I have three motions for executive sessions and we will take them one at a time."

### MOTION

Commissioner Unruh moved to recess into executive session for 15 minutes no sooner than 10:32 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>

MOTION

*Commissioner Unruh moved to recess into executive session for five minutes no sooner than 10:37 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>

MOTION

*Commissioner Unruh moved to recess into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel. This executive session is required to protect privacy interests of an identifiable individual and that the Board of County Commissioners returns to this room from executive session no sooner than 11:07 a.m.*

*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>

*The Board of County Commissioners recessed into executive session at 10:18 a.m. and returned at 11:17 a.m.*

Chairman Dennis said, "Mr. Yost, do we have action?"

Mr. Yost said, "Well, we took no action in executive session. But we do have a gentlemen here, Alan Pfaff who would like to make presentation to the Commission regarding a possible settlement of a lawsuit."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Sir."

Mr. Alan Pfaff, Attorney, greeted the Commissioners and said, "I am the retained counsel in the civil lawsuit Ashley Parker versus Sedgwick County. I am here to request your approval of a compromise settlement in that case. It arises out of a motor vehicle accident that occurred in April of 2015 on North Broadway at 85th Street. A Sheriff's Deputy on-call collided with a vehicle operated by the plaintiff Ashley Parker at the intersection. A settlement conference was held in the case and a compromise settlement of \$40,000 was agreed to, subject to your approval of the settlement.

"The Sheriff recommends approval, the County Counselor's Office recommends approval of this settlement, and I submit it to you along with my recommendation that you approve it as a reasonable compromise of Ashley Parker's claim. Thank you."

Chairman Dennis said, "Thank you. Mr. Yost do you have any other comment?"

Mr. Yost said, "I conquer with what Mr. Pfaff has just stated."

Chairman Dennis said, "Okay."

#### MOTION

Commissioner Dennis moved to accept the settlement with Ashley Parker in the amount of \$40,000.

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, "Do we have anything else? No binding action was taken during the executive session today. I see nothing else that needs to come before the Commission today."

**Approved**

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.