SEDGWICK COUNTY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Ronald Berges with John Fryar, Darrin Tobin and Christy Beckman present in office. Guests in office are Vickie Sandlin, Julesburg Advocate and Lori Ehmke.

CONSENT AGENDA:
Fryar moved to approve the October 28, 2025 agenda with the addition of Dola Grant update, Resolution #2025-006, Building Permit #2005-006, and add an executive session with Kelly Lowery, Attorney, concerning Sheriff Pay. Tobin second, carried.

Berges moved to approve the October 28, 2025 payables. Fryar second, carried.

Fryar moved to approve the October 21, 2025 minutes. Tobin second, carried.

PUBLIC:
Vickie Sandlin told the Board about the Working Circles meeting that was held this morning which was very informative about all that is going on in Sedgwick County and was disappointed that the Board missed attending this. Sandlin told the Board that this will be a monthly meeting.

Senator Pelton joined the meeting. Pelton agrees with the objection to the unfunded mandates. Pelton then brought up discussion about land use and the state thinks the county is not doing a good enough job with green energy and wants to take it over. Pelton told the Board that he will fight against this, SB212. Pelton told the Board that Region 4 has the worst road conditions in the state. Pelton asked that the Board do a resolution and send a letter to the state. Pelton told the Board that he will be attending a meeting concerning the Perkins Canal. Fryar asked Pelton what we can do about the land use. Pelton told the Board to keep in contact with CCI.

REPORTS:
Fryar reported to the Board on the CWCP / CAPP meeting he attended. There will be an increase in the cost to the county in the upcoming year. Fryar updated that outside of a slip and fall from the hospital in 2024, there are no other outstanding claims. Fryar told the Board that there were discussions on posting the open position of the county attorney.

Tobin reported on the CCI meeting. Tobin then reported on the obstacles we are running into with the underfunded courthouse grant. Tobin has constructed a letter objecting to the unfunded mandates that are imposed on counties which is one of 27 counties sending letters and Tobin moved to approve sending the letter. Berges second, carried.

Fryar reported on the underfunded courthouse grant and we were asked to change some things on the application. There will be a meeting on November 18th and Ron will be attending.

Berges reported on the NE Colo Health meeting. There was one case of tuberculosis.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
The Board reviewed the MOU between Sedgwick County Assessor and Pueblo County Assessor and Elmer Ruder jumped on to explain that Pueblo County will be an interictal part of the process next year. Fryar moved to approve the MOU between the Sedgwick County Assessor and the Pueblo County Assessor. Tobin second, carried.

Fryar told the Board that there will be an RFP posting for the county attorney position in the near future.

Fryar told the Board that he has not received all of the information asked for concerning on call pay in order to make a decision. Fryar said he is missing information from the ambulance service. Berges asked if this would be a blanket on call policy or will be different for different departments. Fryar told the Board this will be determined based off of the information received.

Fryar told the Board that he spoke with Katheryn Schroeder, Special Counsel and Matthew Mendisco and was surprised to find out that the lease was presented to SCOR a few weeks ago. There was some incomplete information and Fryar has yet to hear anything from Schroeder or Mendisco. We are now waiting on SCOR's response to the lease.

NEW BUSINESS:
Elmer Ruder joined the meeting to explain that the Heifer Authority protested their assessment for prior years and they were found to be correct, therefore, the 2023 and 2024 payments that were made will need to be returned. The process if the amount is over $10,000 will be to send the approved abatement to the state for review. Fryar asked if this problem has been taken care of for this and others. Ruder said it was. Fryar moved to approve Resolution #2025-006, Petition for Abatement for Heifer Authority LLC in the amount of $67,232.94. Tobin second, carried. Discussion: The County Clerk will send this Petition for Abatement to the State.

Berges moved to approve Building Permit #2025-008 for an Ag Barn for Cody Woodhams to be located at 29-11-45. Fryar second, carried.

Discussion was held on the need for the Assessor's office for a new hire to help with the mandates. Fryar asked if Ruder has talked to Matthew Mendisco about how this would impact the budget. Ruder told the Board that Mendisco has not responded. Fryar suggested meeting with Mendisco before a decision is made.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The next regular meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

GUESTS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

It is October 28, 2025 and the time is 9:23 a.m.. For the record, I am the Chairman, as required by the Open Meetings Law; this executive session is being electronically recorded. Also present at the executive session are the following persons: Ronald Berges, John Fryar, Darrin Tobin and Kelly Lowery, Attorney. This is an executive session for the following purpose: For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e); The time is now 9:55 a.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive session were: Ronald Berges, John Fryar, Darrin Tobin, Kelly Lowery, Attorney. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record. Hearing none, the next agenda item is…

ADJOURNMENT:
Fryar moved to adjourn the meeting. Tobin second, carried.

Submitted by: ____________________________________
Sedgwick County Clerk & Recorder

Approved: November 4, 2025

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEDGWICK COUNTY, COLORADO

(seal)

By:_________________________________
Ronald Berges, Chairman

Attest:

____
Sedgwick County Clerk & Recorder