

STATE OF KANSAS            )  
WYANDOTTE COUNTY        )) SS  
CITY OF KANSAS CITY, KS  )

REGULAR SESSION  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in regular session Thursday, November 3, 2016, with eleven members present: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Walker, Commissioner At-Large Second District; Townsend, Commissioner First District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; Murguia, Commissioner Third District; Johnson, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Markley, Commissioner Sixth District; Walters, Commissioner Seventh District; Philbrook, Commissioner Eighth District; and Holland, Mayor/CEO, presiding. The following officials were also in attendance: Doug Bach, County Administrator; Ken Moore, Chief Legal Counsel; Bridgette Cobbins, Unified Government Clerk; Assistant County Administrators Gordon Criswell and Melissa Mundt, Terry Ziegler, Police Chief; Deputy Police Chiefs Tyrone Garner and Rodney Smith; Curtis Nicholson, KCKPD; John Paul Jones, Fire Chief; and Captain Michael Vivian, Sergeant-at-Arms.

**MAYOR HOLLAND** called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL:** Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson, Holland.

**INVOCATION** was given by Sister Therese Bangert, Our Lady and St. Rose Catholic Church.

**Mayor Holland** asked if there were any revisions to the agenda. **Bridgette Cobbins, UG Clerk**, said there were none.

#### **MAYOR'S AGENDA**

No items of business.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR'S AGENDA**

**ITEM NO. 1 – 16865...PRESENTATION: POLICE AWARDS**

**Synopsis:** Police awards presented by Chief Terry Ziegler, KCKPD.

**Curtis Nicholson, KCKPD**, said I'm the major and I'm in charge of our awards committee. I'll be doing the presenting tonight's award ceremony. I want to thank Mr. Bach, Mayor, Commissioner's for allowing us to hold our ceremony with you this evening. Tonight we're going to be honoring 18 police officers and firefighters for outstanding service to our community. This ceremony a little different from most. Normally, there are several different levels of awards that are given, but tonight every award recipient will receive the award for Valor. This is the highest award given by the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department. The award description can be found on the back of the program with the other awards here tonight.

To the families and the public. When making a preparation for this ceremony I had to reach out to each recipient and inform them that they were receiving the highest award for their heroic actions on the incidents where Brad Lancaster and Dave Melton were killed. They were humble about the invitation to attend, but many of them initially declined the invitation because they felt like their actions were not worthy of recognition.

To the officers and the firefighters that are receiving the awards tonight during both of these incidents you knowingly put your lives on the line for Brad and Dave. Hero's don't run from danger, they run towards it and that's exactly what you did. It is my opinion and the opinion of the award committee and the opinion of the Chief of Police you're all heroes and you absolutely deserve these awards tonight.

For our first award I would like to call Sgt. Scott Laddish, Officer Ron Sutton, Sgt. Randal Anderson of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department; and Officer Jonathon Munyan of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department.

On May 9 officers responded to the Hollywood Casino on a suspicion person call. After initial contact with the suspect he ran on foot. Detective Brad Lancaster drove to a grassy area where the suspect was running to attempt to capture. The suspect began firing at Brad ultimately killing him. The suspect entered Lancaster's vehicle as he was trying to escape. Officer Ron Sutton seized the suspect trying to flee from Lancaster's car and essentially rammed it in order try to prevent his escape. This was unsuccessful. When this was unsuccessful Officer Sutton and Sgt. Laddish would then chase the suspect on foot, exchanged gun fire with the suspect and speed away. Sutton's car was struck by gunfire during this exchange. The suspect continued his crime spree carjacking and shooting others that ultimately ended in Kansas City, Missouri with Sgt. Randal Anderson and Officer Jonathon Munyan intervened. The suspect's car was spotted in the area of 68<sup>th</sup> & 71Hwy. by Sgt. Anderson who gives chase until it crashes into a bridge pillar. Officer Munyan arrives and sees a suspect firing at Sgt. Anderson, other officers, and

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citizens. For more than 100 yards away Officer Munyan fires one shot from his patrol rifle incapacitating the suspect ending his bi-state crime spree. For their actions these officers are receiving the award of Valor.

Next if I could have Detective Larry Chronister, Officer Dylan Passimese, Sgt. Joe Grasela; and Officer Eric Jones please come forward. On July 19 Officer Eric Jones sees a group of men running who match the description of several suspects who had just committed a drive by shooting in the area of the Juniper Gardens Apartments. Jones was in plain clothes and a plane car because he is supporting an undercover drug operation in the area. Jones notices that one of the suspects is running towards him and drawing a handgun from his waist area. Jones realizes that he is going to be carjacked and/or shot. Jones exits his vehicle, identifies himself and takes one of the suspects into custody. A short time later Captain Dave Melton and Detective Chronister see another suspect running in the area of 22<sup>nd</sup> & Kimball. Both speed towards the suspect knowing that he has just committed a drive by shooting. Captain Melton's car is facing towards the suspects as he arrives just a little before Detective Chronister following behind him. The suspect begins firing at Captain Melton at close range. Detective Chronister sees this and tries to approach from an angle where he can run over the suspect, but is unable to do so because of the position of Melton's car and the position of the suspect. Detective Chronister renders aid to Melton and gives the suspects direction to travel to approaching officers. Officer Dylan Passimese and Sgt. Joe Grasela drive to the area where the suspect is running knowing that he had just shot Captain Melton. Because of their extensive knowledge of the area they intercept him at the moment that he exits the woods and take him into custody. For their actions these officers are receiving the award for Valor.

I'd like to invite the following firefighters to come forward: Firefighter Jeremy Hedlund, Cary Eldridge, Robert Sanders, Ray Lopez, Wayne Bradley, Phil Blomberg, Dan Porter, Chris Wing, and Ryan Johnson. As many of you know Police Officers and Firefighters have a playful and ongoing rivalry about whose job is the most dangerous, whose job is the most important? Today, I, as some of my comrades will concede that our jobs are equally important and equally dangerous because of the action that these firefighters took trying to save Captain Melton's life. While Dave lay on the ground fighting for his life these heroic fighters ran past many police officers in a scene which was unsecure. That means that the person who just shot Dave was still on the loose, but they didn't care. These firefighters are unarmed, but nevertheless ran to a scene to attempt to save Dave putting their own lives in danger. I don't know that the KCKPD has

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ever given our highest award to a firefighter, but tonight we are honored to do so. For their actions these firefighters are receiving the KCKPD award for Valor.

May I have the Melton Family please step forward. This is the first of several awards that the Melton family is going to receive tonight. On July 19 Captain Robert “Dave” Melton responded to the area of 22<sup>nd</sup> & Kimball to attempt to apprehend a suspect who had just committed a drive by shooting. During that incident Captain Melton was killed in the line of duty. Captain Melton is being awarded the KCKPD medal of Valor for his heroic actions. Accepting this award on his behalf is his family. Please help acknowledge Captain Melton’s family and Captain Melton for their sacrifice to this community.

**Chief Ziegler** said the next honor that we want to give to the Melton family comes from the American Police Hall of Fame. It’s the Medal of Valor; I’m sorry Medal of Honor. The plaque reads, we also have a plaque for Officer Bates. It says “This is presented in memory of Captain Robert “David” Melton, Kansas City, Kansas Police Department. Who in the performance of his duties, as a Public Safety Officer, gave his life on July 19, 2016 protecting life and property that we dedicate ourselves to his memory and the supreme sacrifice he made.” This meritorious award gives public recognition of the honor of which we will forever honor him by edging his name in the Police Hall of Fame Memorial so that his sacrifice, his dedication, humanity, and justice will always be remembered by generations to come.

The last presentation is from the International Association of Chiefs of Police. It’s called their Tribute Award. I prepared a statement I’m going to read to you. Today, the International Association of Chiefs of Police acknowledges the death of Captain Robert “Dave” Melton and the service of his community. Captain Melton died doing a job he loved, serving a community he loved even more. Captain Melton represents all that is decent, honorable and intrepid about America. To think that Captain is heroic because of his death is to miss the significance of this tribute. What was so noble about Captain Melton was not how he died, but how he lived. Captain Melton did not lose his live, he gave it. That is what we are honoring here tonight. A police officer pledges to keep our todays safe knowing full well it could cost the officer his tomorrows. Today the International Association of Chiefs of Police presents its tribute to the family of Captain Robert Melton. The inscription on the stone reads, “We could flee where no man pursuith, but the righteous are bold as lines.” Captain Melton’s name is now deeply engraved in the IACPs tribute. Please note that law enforcement agencies from around the world

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share in their loss. May this tribute serve as a reminder that Captain Robert “Dave” Melton will never be forgotten.

I just want to say that losing Detective Lancaster and Captain Melton this year has been difficult on our department, but we appreciate the outpouring support from our community, the entire metropolitan area, and from our law enforcement family. It’s because of the support that we receive from you that made it a little bit easier. We still have a long ways to go and we do appreciate the outpouring of support that we continue to receive to this day. Mayor that concludes our ceremony. Thank you.

**Mayor Holland** said I think in light of the significance of the awards tonight I’m going to ask Commissioner Harold Johnson to close us in a word of prayer as we reflect on the weight and significance of what we’ve done tonight.

**Commissioner Johnson** led in prayer.

**Mayor Holland** said we’d invite everyone to join the police and the fire in the lobby. There is a reception planned. We have a few more moments of a meeting here. We will give you a few moments as you head out and then we will resume our meeting in about two or three minutes. Thank you all for coming tonight.

**Action:** Presentation.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mayor Holland** asked if any member of the audience, or any commissioner, who would like to remove an item from the Consent Agenda please move forward to the microphone at this time. Otherwise, all items not removed will be taken upon in a single vote.

**Action:** **Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Murguia, to approve the Consent Agenda.** Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson.

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**ITEM NO. 1 – 16809...GRANT: VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA)**

**Synopsis:** Request permission to accept the FY17 Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant in the amount of \$248,696 to fund the office supplies for a 100% VOCA funded position and for emergency transportation, submitted by Kristen Czugala, Victim Services Unit/Police Department. The grant period runs Oct. 1, 2016 – Sept. 30, 2017. A 20% match is required which will consist of in-kind services and funds already included in the budget. On October 24, 2016, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve and forward to full commission.

**Action:** **Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson.

**ITEM NO. 2 – 16822...REPORT: SOLID WASTE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Synopsis:** Request approval of the Solid Waste Planning Committee’s annual report of the Wyandotte County Solid Waste Plan as required by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), submitted by Tim Nick, Public Works Department.

**Action:** **Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Murguia, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Walker, Bynum, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson.

**ITEM NO. 3 – 16846...REQUEST: FUND KCATA GAP**

**Synopsis:** Request approval to fund the gap between the 2017 Budget for Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KATA) services and the actual negotiated 2017 contract, submitted by Just Welker, Transportation Director. On October 24, 2016, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve the elimination of the underperforming 105 Rosedale route and assuming complete operational

control of the 102 Central Avenue route and to forward said recommendations to full commission.

**Action:** Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Murguia, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Walker, Bynum, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson.

**ITEM NO. 4 – 16811...PLAT: SCHLITTERBAHN VACATION VILLAGE THIRD PLAT**

**Synopsis:** Plat of Schlitterbahn Vacation Village Third Plat, located at 98<sup>th</sup> Street and Parallel Parkway, being developed by Schlitterbahn Waterparks & Resorts, submitted by Brent Thompson, County Surveyor, and Wayne Moody, Interim County Engineer. This item was held over from the October 27, 2016 full commission meeting.

**Action:** Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve and authorized the Mayor to sign said plat. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson.

**ITEM NO. 5 – 16862...NOMINATIONS: BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Synopsis:** Nominations for Boards and Commissions:

Don Jolley to Alcohol & Advisory Board, 11/3/16 – 3/31/20, submitted by Commissioner Markley

Pat Dunn to Law Enforcement Advisory Board, 11/3/16 to 3/31/20, submitted by Commissioner Murguia

**Action:** Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve. Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson.

**ITEM NO. 6 - MINUTES**

**Synopsis:** Minutes from special session of October 13, 2016, and special session of September 29, 2016.

**Action:** **Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Murguia, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson.

**ITEM NO. 7 - WEEKLY BUSINESS MATERIAL**

**Synopsis:** Weekly business material dated October 27 and 31, 2016.

**Action:** **Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Murguia, to receive and file.** Roll call was taken and there were ten “Ayes,” Kane, Markley, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Walker, Townsend, McKiernan, Murguia, Johnson.

**PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA**

No items of business.

**STANDING COMMITTEES’ AGENDA**

No items of business.

**COMMISSIONERS’ AGENDA**

No items of business.

**LAND BANK BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ AGENDA**

No items of business.

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No items of business.



**MAYOR HOLLAND ADJOURNED**

**THE MEETING AT 7:25 P.M.**

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Bridgette Cobbins  
Unified Government Clerk

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