



Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP)

Meeting Agenda

8:00 a.m., October 4, 2010

Hughes Metropolitan Complex
5015 E. 29th Street North, (29th and Oliver)
Mayor Kristey Williams, Chairman

I. Welcome and Introductions: Mayor Kristey Williams

II. Special Legislative Forum

REAP has invited candidates from the 4th Congressional District to attend the meeting, introduce themselves and present their platforms for success for our region and state.

III. Approval of Minutes from September 13, 2010 Meeting: Mayor Kristey Williams

Recommended Action: Approve or modify minutes as needed.

IV. Regional Business Items

1. Report of the Executive Committee: Mayor Kristey Williams

A report on the September 29 meeting of the Committee, which included the REAP Treasurer's third quarter report, KAAP update, and REAP retreat information.

Recommended Action: Approve or modify the third quarter financial report as needed.

2. Report of the Legislative Committee: Mayor Kristey Williams

A report will be provided on recent REAP legislative information, including plans for the 2010 Legislative Policy Summit and transportation update.

3. Report of the Economic Development Committee: Commissioner Dave Unruh

A report will be provided on the September 23 EDC meeting, including update on the Strategic Focusing initiative, actions taken by the Chief Elected Officials Board, and the upcoming scheduled committee meetings.

Recommendation: That REAP members from Local Area IV ratify the actions taken by the Chief Elected Officials Board as appropriate.

4. Report of the Water Resources Committee: Mayor Willis Heck

A report will be provided on recent actions taken by the WRC and the upcoming scheduled committee meetings.

5. Reports from REAP Representation on Regional Committees and Organizations

- *Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition: Mayor Kristey Williams*
- *Mid-Continent Airport Advisory Board: Mayor Willis Heck*
- *KansasBio: Mr. Joe Yager*
- *Report on Visioneering: Mr. Joe Yager*

6. Report of the Chief Executive Officer: Mr. Joe Yager

A report will be provided on several upcoming events, also information about the annual survey and retreat. There will also be a special presentation in preparation for the upcoming retreat.

Recommended Action: Receive and file reports.

V. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates

VI. Adjourn (The next REAP meeting will be the **ANNUAL RETREAT** on Monday, **November 1, 2010**, at the Sedgwick County Extension Office, 21st and Ridge Rd.)

Meeting Minutes September 13, 2010
Hughes Metropolitan Complex, 29th and Oliver
Mayor Kristey Williams, Chairman

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mayor Kristey Williams, City of Augusta, called the meeting to order; members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes from June 7, 2010 Meeting

Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County, moved (Mayor Willis Heck, City of Newton) to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Special Presentations and Updates

1. Composites Kansas WIRED Grant

Mayor Williams provided a brief introduction of Ms. Debra Franklin, Program Director for the Composites Kansas WIRED grant initiative. Ms. Franklin explained that the WIRED initiative was a three year grant designed to accelerate economic growth within the REAP region. Ms. Franklin then provided a brief overview of the accomplishments of the WIRED initiative such as providing education and training at Wichita Area Technical College, initiating train the trainer programs, providing support to K-12 schools, and providing funding for youth workforce summer training camps.

Ms Franklin concluded her presentation by noting that there were two initiatives that had been developed to keep the momentum of the initiative sustainable, the convening of the regional economic development partners, and the inception of the WSU, College of Engineering Center for Learning, Exploration, Research and Development in Composite Materials for Aerospace Applications. Ms. Franklin's presentation is available on the REAP website.

2. Hugo Wall School

Mayor Williams introduced Dr. Nancy McCarthy Snyder, Director of the Hugo Wall School. Dr. Snyder briefed the board on recent staff changes including the departure of Dr. John Wong and the change in Dr. Ed Flentje's teaching status to part-time. Dr. Snyder assured the REAP board that aforementioned changes will not cause any staffing changes for REAP and that REAP will continue to be a high priority for the Hugo Wall School. She also thanked the members of REAP for their continued support of the School.

IV. Regional Business Items

1. Report of the Executive Committee

Mayor Williams provided the report for the Executive Committee noting that the Committee did not meet in July. Mayor Williams noted that REAP had agreed to serve as the applicant for a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development entitled the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant, which was submitted August 23, 2010. She noted that staff from multiple REAP member communities came together to submit this grant and thanked those communities that participated while noting that REAP should hear back on the status of the application at the end of 2010 or early in 2011.

Mayor Williams continued her report by providing an update on the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program. The \$5 million dollar allocation was awarded to Sedgwick County for the fiscal year 2011. Mr. Joe Yager, Chief Executive Officer for REAP, commented that the state has notified REAP that all criteria requirements have been met and that the award funds should be transferred to the REAP account within the next few weeks.

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Mayor Williams also commented on the annual REAP Retreat, noting that it is scheduled for November 1, 2010 from 8:00am-12:00pm. Mayor Williams encouraged every member of the board to attend. At the retreat, the board will look at other examples of regional councils of government, hear thoughts from speakers, and learn how new principles can be applied to our region. Mayor Williams noted that REAP will still work to develop a work plan that can be approved by the board at the December REAP meeting.

Mayor Williams concluded her report by encouraging the board to maintain open communication with her and/or staff on ideas for the retreat. The executive committee will meet in late September.

2. Report of the Legislative Committee

Council Member Jeff Longwell, City of Wichita, provided the report of the Legislative Committee and commented briefly on the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program noting that KAAP will be a priority for the Legislative Committee throughout next year's legislative session.

Council Member Longwell commented on the T-Works program, noting that KDOT has requested regional input on a series of proposed transportation projects within our region. KDOT would like the South Central region to rank projects in order of community importance. Mr. Yager reminded the committee that this Thursday, September 16th, REAP was hosting a regional transportation meeting to learn more about the proposed projects and KDOT criteria. Mr. Yager also noted that the KDOT region specified for these projects is much larger than REAP, extending into western Kansas.

Council Member Longwell also commented on the Annual REAP Policy Summit, encouraging REAP board members to start thinking about regional issues that they would like to discuss at the policy summit. The REAP Policy Summit will be held December 2nd at the Wichita Downtown Courtyard Marriott.

Council Member Longwell concluded his report by noting that the Legislative Committee reviewed an endorsement letter of the state water plan which was forwarded to the board of the League of Kansas Municipalities. The next Legislative Committee meeting will be September 24th at 12pm.

3. Report of the Economic Development Committee

Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County, provided the Economic Development Committee report, noting that the committee met in both July and August, and at these two meetings the committee focused on the ongoing strategic focusing process. To continue this process the committee will be arranging a teleconference with Dr. John Wong for the September meeting. Commissioner Unruh also provided an overview of the key points discussed at the GWEDC/REAP Regionalism Workshop held July 14th.

Commissioner Unruh then welcomed Mr. Keith Lawing, Executive Director for Workforce Alliance, to provide the Workforce Alliance report. Mr. Lawing provided a brief report of recent business items approved by the CEOB including the approval of the FY 2010 Workforce Alliance operating budget and two new appointments to the Workforce Alliance Board of Directors. The Workforce Alliance Board of Directors has invited both Congressional candidates to speak at their next board of directors meeting on September 30th and the board has encouraged the candidates to discuss their platform on economic development and jobs. He concluded by noting that the Summer Youth Employment Program had come to an end and was a great success that served many youth in the region.

Commissioner Unruh thanked Mr. Lawing for his report and noted that the next Economic Development Committee meeting will be held September 23rd at 12pm.

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4. Report of Water Resources Committee

Mayor Heck welcomed Mr. Dane Baxa, the new Executive Officer for Water Resources. Mayor Heck noted that Mr. Baxa has been busy throughout the month becoming acquainted with his new position and that he will be visiting REAP Water Resources member communities throughout the months of September and October to meet with staff and to become more familiar with the region.

Mr. Baxa commented that a stormwater bus tour in Johnson County will be held October 14th, committee members will leave at 7am and are anticipated to return at 6pm.

Mayor Heck concluded his report by noting that Mr. Baxa will developed a survey that will go out to member communities in early October. The Water Resources Committee is scheduled to meet immediately following the full board today.

5. Reports from REAP Representation on Regional Committees and Organizations

Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition

Mayor Williams welcomed Ms. Debra Teufel to provide the GWEDC report. Ms Teufel provided a brief overview of the coalition's current activities.

Mid-Continent Airport Advisory Board

Mayor Heck provided the report for the MAAB noting that the advisory board will meet on September 20th, Wichita City Manager Bob Layton will be in attendance to speak with the board on pertinent issues. Mayor Heck encouraged REAP members to become knowledgeable about the airfare program for continued success.

KansasBio

Mr. Yager provided the KansasBio report noting that Kansas recently ranked 5 in the nation of BioTech industries. KansasBio will be hosting a Hot Team meeting in Wichita on October 5th, Mr. Yager encouraged REAP members to attend noting more information would be forthcoming.

Visioneering Wichita

Mr. Yager provided the Visioneering Wichita report noting that Wichita Downtown Master Plan will be announced on September 28th at 5:30pm and at 6:30pm. He also noted that the City to City visit was scheduled for October 10-12 in Louisville, KY, which he will be attending.

6. Report of the Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Yager highlighted Randy Riggs' recent article in the Wichita Eagle. Mr. Yager also announced the CEDBR Outlook Conference, which will be held on October 7th at Century II, and the League of Kansas Municipalities Annual Conference, which will be held October 9-12th at the Overland Park Convention Center. Mr. Yager also announced that Mayor Heck was recently elected Chair of the Kansas Advisory Council on International Relations. Mr. Yager concluded his report by noting that the annual survey will be sent out following the October REAP meeting.

IV. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates

There were no unscheduled business items or updates.

V. Adjourn

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned. All reports were received and filed.

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REAP Attendance 9/13/2010	
Members and Alternates	Jurisdiction
Mayor Kristey Williams, Chair	Augusta
Jennifer McCausland	Andover
Mr. Dale Shaffer	Benton
Mr. Randall Oliver	Cheney
Ms. Diana Brooks	Colwich
Mayor Tom McKibbin	El Dorado
Mr. Herb Llewlynn	El Dorado
Commissioner Chip Westfall	Harvey County
Commissioner Marge Roberson	Harvey County
Mr. David New	Haysville
Mr. John Deardoff	Hutchinson
Mr. Bob Jackson	Kechi
Council Member Nick Ard	Maize
Mayor Terry Somers	Mount Hope
Mayor Willis Heck	Newton
Commissioner Jim Nickel	Newton
Ms. Francis Garcia	Reno County
Mayor Keith DeHaven	Sedgwick
Commissioner Dave Unruh	Sedgwick County
Commissioner Karl Peterjohn	Sedgwick County
Commissioner Garey Martin	Sumner County
Mr. Gus Collins	Wellington
Council Member Jeff Longwell	Wichita
Guests and Staff	
Ms. Debra Teufel	GWEDC
Mr. Anthony Swartzendruber	Harvey County
Mr. John Waltner	Harvey County
Mr. Harlen Priddle	K-96 Corridor Association
Mr. John Schlegel	MAPD
Mr. Randy Riggs	Newton
Ms. Irene Hart	Sedgwick County
Mr. Doug Clary	USDA Rural Development
Mr. Dale Goter	Wichita
Mr. Allen Bell	Wichita
Mr. Keith Lawing	Workforce Alliance
Dr. Nancy McCarthy Snyder	WSU
Ms. Misty Bruckner	WSU
Ms. Debbie Franklin	WSU
Dr. Ed Flentje	WSU
Mr. Joe Yager	WSU
Mr. Dane Baxa	WSU
Ms. Angela Buzard	WSU
Ms. Nicole Bailey	WSU
Ms. Becky Eby	WSU

REAP Agenda Item IV (1)

Report of the Executive Committee

The REAP Executive Committee met on September 29, 2010, to take action on the REAP 3rd Quarter Financials. The following report is provided:

REAP Treasurer’s Report

REAP Budget for 3rd Quarter, 2010

The Executive Committee is charged to serve as the treasury for REAP, collect all REAP revenues, make disbursements in accord with the budget adopted by REAP, and conduct financial management of REAP assets in accord with REAP fiscal procedures.

Under the agreement with the Center for Urban Studies, Wichita State University, staff support is provided to REAP in calendar year 2010. In accordance with this agreement, REAP will make payments on a quarterly basis to Wichita State University for this support.

The Executive Committee took action to approve payments for the third quarter of 2010 to 1) Wichita State University in the amount of \$21,509.25 for REAP staffing; 2) Wichita State University in the amount of \$18,146.75 for Water Resources staffing; 3) Hugo Wall School in the amount of \$12,724.15 for REAP Operating expenses; and 4) Hugo Wall School in the amount of \$2,610.98 for Water Resources Operating expenses.

Please note that the financials for the 2010 3rd Quarter are attached on pages 9-12.

2010 Year End Budget Projections

The Executive Committee reviewed the REAP 2010 Year End budget projections for both the REAP Operating and Water Resources budgets. In review of these funds the Committee was informed that in order to meet the budgeted expenditures a transfer of interest from the REAP Affordable Airfares fund to the Operating fund to cover administration would be necessary. The Committee took action to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to transfer funds in the amount of \$25,000 from the REAP Affordable Airfares account to the REAP Operating account for administration. The projected revenues, expenditures, and carryover amounts for both funds are as follows:

2010 REAP Operating Year End Projections

	Total Projected Revenues	Total Projected Expenditures	Total Projected Carryover Funds
2010 Budget Projections	\$144,656	\$136,315	\$8,342

2010 REAP WRC Year End Projections

	Total Projected Revenues	Total Projected Expenditures	Total Projected Carryover Funds
2010 Budget Projections	\$129,936	\$92,169	\$37,767

Recommendation: Approve or modify as needed.

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Kansas Affordable Airfares Program Update

The Executive Committee is charged to administer the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program and assure that all statutory requirements for programming, evaluation, accounting and auditing, financial management, and reporting are met.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Update

REAP has received notification of the funding from the State of Kansas and is awaiting the official transfer after submitting a performance report from the previous year. According to the Kansas Department of Commerce all criteria that REAP is responsible for has been met and the Department is now waiting on confirmation that the monies have been transferred to the Affordable Airfares Fund. Once this occurs the monies can be transferred via electronic payment. Due to this delay in receipt of the State monies REAP is forced to delay the normal allocation to Sedgwick County in accord with the selection of the fiscal year 2011 program. Sedgwick County has been informed and understands that REAP will forward the funds as soon as they are available.

Southwest Airlines Announcement

On Monday, September 27, 2010 it was announced that AirTran Airways has entered into a definitive merger agreement to be acquired by Southwest Airlines, subject to regulatory and shareholder approval. The Committee discussed the ramifications of this announcement as it pertains to air service out of Mid-Continent Airport and noted that this will be important to our efforts as we move forward in discussions on affordable airfares in the future. Additional information on the announcement can be found at: <http://www.kansas.com/2010/09/27/1513124/southwest-airlines-to-buy-airtran.html>.

REAP Strategic Planning and Annual Retreat Update

REAP is conducting a strategic planning process designed to engage REAP members and stakeholders in discussion on the future direction and sustainability of REAP over the next three to five years. With changes in REAP leadership, current and anticipated requests from other organizations, and the economic environment, a strategic planning process will reinforce the value of the REAP organization, strengthen commitment to the REAP mission and set forth a framework for the direction of the REAP organization. The strategic planning session will include all members, alternates, participants, and several partners and is scheduled for the **November 1, 2010 REAP Retreat**.

The retreat will include a keynote speaker, panel response, report on a comparative analysis of other regional organizations, and group discussions of issues that REAP may face in the next 3-5 years as well as possible goals for the REAP organization. The retreat will be held at the Sedgwick County Extension Office from 8:00 AM to Noon and will be facilitated by Ms. Misty Bruckner of the Hugo Wall School, Wichita State University.

In conjunction with this staff will forward out the annual survey via email. All members, alternates, and participants are encouraged to respond on the survey. Please note that this year the survey will have a different look as staff is utilizing Constant Contact which will provide a web-based survey. *Surveys will be forwarded on Monday, October 4 following the regularly scheduled REAP meeting and will be asked to be responded to by Monday, October 18.*

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Next Committee Meeting

The Committee will meet following the other November REAP Committee meetings and prior to the December 13 REAP Board Meeting to discuss the 2011 budget and 2011 work plan.

Submitted by the Executive Committee:

Mayor Kristey Williams of Augusta, REAP Chair

Commissioner Garey Martin of Sumner County, REAP Vice-Chair and Treasurer

Commissioner Dave Unruh of Sedgwick County, Economic Development Committee Chair

Council Member Jeff Longwell of Wichita, Legislative Committee Chair

Commissioner Willis Heck of Newton, Water Resources Committee Chair

Mayor Terry Somers of Mount Hope, at-large representative

Commissioner Chip Westfall of Harvey County, at-large representative

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REAP Treasurer's Report

REAP Expenditures for 3rd Quarter, 2010

Expenditures	Adopted	1st Quarter Jan-Mar	2nd Quarter Apr-Jun	3rd Quarter Jul-Sep	4th Quarter Oct-Dec	2010 Year End Totals	Percentage Expended Description
Staffing							
Executive Officer	\$71,917.00	\$17,979.25	\$17,979.25	\$17,979.25		\$53,937.75	75% Compensation and benefits
Graduate assistant	\$14,120.00	\$3,530.00	\$3,530.00	\$3,530.00		\$10,590.00	75% Compensation and benefits
<i>Staffing Subtotal</i>	<i>\$86,037.00</i>	<i>\$21,509.25</i>	<i>\$21,509.25</i>	<i>\$21,509.25</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$64,527.75</i>	<i>75%</i>
Operating							
Current office expense	\$8,610.00	\$2,152.50	\$2,152.50	\$2,152.50		\$6,457.50	75% Computing, telephone, fax, equipment, etc.
Consultation and technical assistance	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00		\$5,000.00	50% Additional assistance through WSU
Other operating—general	\$6,000.00	\$1,336.46	\$1,016.74	\$577.15		\$2,930.35	49% Meeting expense, memberships, travel, etc.
Other operating—KAAP	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	0% Accounting, auditing, reporting, legal counsel
Legislative liaison	\$28,000.00	\$4,468.95	\$6,356.80	\$8,144.50		\$18,970.25	68% Topeka-based representation, receptions, travel
Project funds	\$10,373.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,850.00		\$1,850.00	18%
<i>Operating Subtotal</i>	<i>\$65,483.00</i>	<i>\$7,957.91</i>	<i>\$14,526.04</i>	<i>\$12,724.15</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$35,208.10</i>	<i>54%</i>
Total	\$185,410.00	\$29,467.16	\$36,035.29	\$34,233.40	\$0.00	\$99,735.85	54%

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REAP Treasurer's Report**

Revenues to Date, 2010

Revenues	Projected	Received	Percentage Description
Annual membership assessments	\$105,850	\$102,100	96% Membership dues
Special assessments	\$0	\$0	n/a Special assessments
Workforce oversight agreement	\$15,000	\$16,000	107% CEOB oversight duties
Kansas Affordable Airfares Program	\$25,000	\$0	0% KAAP administration
Other revenues received	\$2,200	\$349	n/a Other revenues received
Carryover funds	\$3,470	\$1,033	30% Prior-year carryover
Total	\$151,520	\$119,482	79%

Notes:

Other revenues received accounts for interest through 8/31/10.

Workforce agreement runs on fiscal year, July 1 to June 30. \$15,000 was based on estimation for oversight agreement.

2010 REAP Available Funds

	Total Revenues	Total Expenditures	Total Encumbrances	Total Available Funds	Percentage Available
2010 to Date (9/30/10)	\$119,481.88	\$99,735.85	\$0.00	\$19,746.03	17%

REAP Banking Account Balances

	Operating	KAAP	Water Resources
2010 to Date (9/30/10)	\$54,336.28	\$56,906.32	\$79,555.84

** Balances include interest through 8/30/10.*

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REAP Treasurer's Report

Water Resources Expenditures for 3rd Quarter, 2010

Expenditures	Adopted	1st Quarter Jan-Mar	2nd Quarter Apr-Jun	3rd Quarter Jul-Sep	4th Quarter Oct-Dec	2010 Year End Totals	Percentage Expended	Description
Staffing								
Executive Officer	\$58,464.00	\$14,616.00	\$14,616.00	\$14,616.00		\$43,848.00	75%	Compensation and benefits
Graduate assistant	\$14,120.00	\$3,530.00	\$3,530.00	\$3,530.00		\$10,590.00	75%	Compensation and benefits
<i>Staffing Subtotal</i>	<i>\$72,584.00</i>	<i>\$18,146.00</i>	<i>\$18,146.00</i>	<i>\$18,146.00</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$54,438.00</i>	<i>75%</i>	
Operating								
Current office expense	\$7,260.00	\$1,815.00	\$1,815.00	\$1,815.00		\$5,445.00	75%	Computing, telephone, fax, equipment, etc.
Consultation and technical assistance	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00		\$5,000.00	100%	Additional assistance through WSU or other sources
Other operating—general	\$7,000.00	\$191.20	\$799.71	\$770.48		\$1,761.39	25%	Meeting expense, memberships, travel, etc.
Legislative liaison	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	n/a	Topeka-based representation, receptions, travel
Project funds	\$15,000.00	\$1,825.00	\$1,881.73	\$25.50		\$3,732.23	25%	
<i>Operating Subtotal</i>	<i>\$39,260.00</i>	<i>\$3,831.20</i>	<i>\$9,496.44</i>	<i>\$2,610.98</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$15,938.62</i>	<i>41%</i>	
Total	\$111,844.00	\$21,977.20	\$27,642.44	\$20,756.98	\$0.00	\$70,376.62	63%	

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 REAP Treasurer's Report**

Water Resources Revenues to Date, 2010

Revenues	Projected	Received	Percentage Description
Annual membership assessments	\$84,400	\$80,400	95% Membership dues
Special assessments	\$0	\$0	n/a Special assessments
Other revenues received	\$2,200	\$5,719	260% Other revenues received
Carryover funds	\$42,520	\$43,596	103% Prior-year carryover
Total	\$129,120	\$129,714	100%

Notes:

The other revenues denotes interest earned on the account through 8/31/10.

Other revenues also reflects \$2,350 in registrations and sponsorships for the annual conference.

Other revenues also reflects \$2,924.43 from Hesston for Dissolution of WW#10.

2010 REAP Water Resources Available Funds

	Total			Percentage Available
	Total Revenues	Expenditures	Total Encumbrances	
2010 to Date (9/29/10)	\$129,714.47	\$70,376.62	\$0.00	46%

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Report of the Legislative Committee

The REAP Legislative Committee held a meeting on September 24, 2010. The following report is provided:

Kansas Affordable Airfares Program

The Committee received an update on the current status of the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program, including information pertaining to fiscal year 2011 receipt of funding and efforts by regional partners to secure future funding. REAP will be working closely with the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, and the Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce as we work to secure support for the airfares program in the upcoming legislative session. It was noted by the Committee that REAP must maintain this issue as its number one priority.

Transportation Update

On Thursday, September 16th at the request of the REAP Legislative Committee, REAP hosted a regional transportation meeting that included presentations from KDOT and WAMPO to help provide some direction how we as a region might approach the upcoming KDOT Local Consult Transportation Meeting in Hutchinson on Thursday, October 28. KDOT had expressed its preference that each region identify projects of regional priority within projected available funding for expansion and modernization projects of \$600 Million over 10 years. The list included 34 identified projects, which is far more than can be funded with the available money.

From that meeting staff was requested to ask each member community to prioritize the top tier listing of potential projects that are located in their respective counties with a brief justification as to why the project(s) is regionally significant. Staff requested that these priorities be provided prior to the REAP Legislative Committee meeting on the 24th.

The Legislative Committee reviewed responses from several communities and determined that the best course of action for REAP was to direct staff to compile a one page informational report on the projects that helps to identify projects of importance and to include language that discusses regional connections. Staff is drafting a report that will be forwarded to all members of REAP via email. The Legislative Committee also encourages members to become educated on the projects in our region and to make sure that we participate in the process, especially the local consult meeting in Hutchinson on October 28.

T-Works Update

The following email was forwarded from KDOT Secretary Deb Miller on September 29, 2010:

In reading recent media stories about the upcoming local consult meetings, I'm pleased to see many communities are taking their preparations seriously so they can provide feedback on the group of projects that they think would most benefit their region.

Based on what I'm reading though, I am concerned that some communities believe having large numbers of people at the meetings advocating for a specific project will equate to a greater likelihood that project will be selected for T-WORKS funding. I want to remind everyone that consistent with what KDOT has said throughout the development of the project selection

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process, what matters is the quality of the project and the extent to which agreement has been developed within the community and within the region. We're looking for projects that provide sound, regional benefits not the project that brings the largest delegation or is associated with the loudest voices. The focus should be on articulating why a project has value. Certainly, communities can bring as many folks as they would like to the local consult meetings, I just want to everyone to understand what little bearing the size of the group will have on the selection process.

I'd also like point out that we're planning for larger crowds than attended the T-WORKS workshops. While many of the auditoriums can accommodate a large number of people, the constricting factor is having sufficient breakout meeting spaces. We've planned to accommodate the following numbers of participants:

- **Independence** – Breakout groups to accommodate 150-200 people (though the auditorium holds 1,920 people).
- **Kansas City, Kansas Armory** – Breakout groups to accommodate 300-350 people (though the main auditorium holds 1,000 people).
- **Abilene Sterl Hall** – Breakout groups accommodate 100 – 125 people (though the main room holds 400 people).
- **Hays Ramada Inn** – Breakout groups accommodate 100 – 125 people (though the main room holds 200 people).
- **Liberal Seward County Activity Center** – Breakout groups accommodate 100 – 125 people (though the main room holds over 400 people).
- **Hutchinson Grand Prairie Hotel**—will be renamed the Ramada Inn and Convention Center as of October 1 – Breakout groups accommodate 300 – 350 people (though the main hall holds 750 people).

In closing - I encourage you to send your most articulate and well-reasoned representatives, not as many reps as you can fit on a bus.

REAP WRC Request on State Water General Fund Demand Transfer

The Water Resources Committee reviewed the current Kansas Water Plan budget which is contingent on the State of Kansas honoring its statutory commitment to provide \$6 million in general funds, which has not been fulfilled in recent years. Discussion from the members about municipal statutory requirements to contribute municipal water fees led to directing staff to create a statement for inclusion on the REAP 2011 Legislative Priorities requesting the State to meet their statutory obligation of \$6 million to the Water Plan Fund. The Legislative Committee determined that more education on the issue was needed but that it should be included on the REAP annual survey and a statement should be crafted.

Proposed Comprehensive Tax Plan

The Committee reviewed a recent proposal submitted by State Sen. Dick Kelsey (R-Goddard) that proposed eliminating many sales tax exemptions. The money would be used to lower the sales tax rate and to eliminate corporate income taxes and the sales tax on grocery store food. It was noted that this will be an issue that will be discussed in depth this year with a new Governor and uncertainty of State revenues.

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2010 REAP Policy Summit

The Committee directed staff to develop in conjunction with several partners the South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation Policy Summit to prepare for the 2011 legislative session. The Policy Summit is in development stages but has been scheduled for **Thursday, December 2, 2010 at the Courtyard Marriott in Old Town**. One change this year is that the Summit will be a one day event, starting at approximately 9:30 am and ending with a reception at 5:00 PM. All REAP members will be encouraged to attend this event. More details will be made available at a later date, including an agenda and times.

2011 Issue Identification

Under the 2010 Legislative work plan, the Committee is charged with the development of legislative priorities for 2011. The Committee has identified several issues as important enough for further study and will continue to develop through the annual REAP survey.

Visioning Unified Legislative Agenda Update

The Committee received an update on the Unified Legislative Strategic Alliance (ULA) process for building the 2011 Unified Legislative Agenda. The first meeting of the ULA is scheduled for October 18 at the Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

The Committee discussed several upcoming events, including the Technical Education Panel for Area Legislators being hosted by the Workforce Alliance. The panel was meant to be an informational session for area legislators and legislative candidates as a part of the follow up to the presentations made before the Technical Education Authority last March. Additionally, the Committee discussed the upcoming congressional forums scheduled for the WA Board of Directors meeting as well as the October 4, 2010 REAP meeting. Members were encouraged to attend all of these events.

2010 Legislative Committee Meeting Schedule

The Committee is scheduled to hold its next monthly meeting on **October 22, 2010 from Noon to 1:30 p.m.** on the fourth Friday of each month at the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas Administrative Offices, 150 N. Main, Wichita, unless otherwise indicated. Meetings are not held if there is no business before the committee.

Submitted by the Legislative Committee:

Council Member Jeff Longwell, Wichita, Chairman
Mayor Kristey Williams, Augusta
Mr. Will Johnson, Butler County
Mayor Dion Avello, Derby
Ms. Stephanie Knebel, Derby
Mr. Bob Myers, Newton
Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County
Mr. Dale Goter, Wichita

REAP Agenda Item IV (3)

Report of the Economic Development Committee

NOTICE: Through an agreement entered into by counties in Local Area IV as defined by the State of Kansas, the Economic Development Committee (EDC) has been designated to serve as the Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB), as defined in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 in Local Area IV, which includes Butler, Cowley, Kingman, Harper, Sedgwick and Sumner counties. All EDC members are asked to participate, however, only those designated elected officials of the CEOB shall have a vote.

The REAP Economic Development Committee met on September 23, 2010. The following details the business items that were discussed at the meeting:

Regional Economic Development Strategic Focusing

The EDC identified in the 2010 work plan the priority of use of a comparative analysis of the regional economy to identify the strengths and weaknesses and recommend action to address them. For the September meeting the Committee was joined via conference call by Dr. John Wong who discussed a draft report compiled from the first two sections of the Strategic Focusing effort. This report has been placed on the REAP website under the Strategic Focusing page (<http://www.reap-ks.org/focusing.html>).

The report was provided in two general sections: 1) General Overview and Identification of Internal Strengths and Weaknesses; and 2) Identifying the Economic Base and Potential Opportunities and Threats. In section one the general trends and analysis on population, income, and wealth creation help to identify where the region stand today. The second section helped to define the three areas that were identified as potential opportunities: manufacturing; retail trade; and high tech, or applied technology. From these discussions the Committee directed staff to work on enhancing this initial report and to begin planning for a potential economic summit in 2011.

Regional Economic Development Partners Update

The Regional Partners met on September 14 at the Wichita Workforce Center. In coordination with REAP the Workforce Alliance successfully convened the partners for updates on AMI's interviews with the South Central Kansas businesses and Economic Development partners and Review of State Energy Sector Partnership Training Grant (SESPT), both workforce related items. The partners also indicated a willingness to reconvene in October, at which time discussion for ongoing meetings will take place.

KansasBIO Hot Teams Meeting

The Committee received notification that KansasBIO will be holding a Hot Teams Meeting in Wichita on October 5, 2010, 8 am to Noon, at the National Center for Aviation Training. REAP and WA staff are working with KansasBIO to develop this meeting, and the results of this meeting and others around the State will be compiled by KansasBio and used as needed to advance education and awareness on the emerging role of bio-sciences on the Kansas economy.

2010 Work Plan Updates and Review

The Committee reviewed the 2010 Work Plan and began to discuss potential issues to be included in the annual survey. Several items were highlighted, including technical education, WIRED, upcoming bioscience meeting, regional economic comparative analysis and potential summit, and coordination of economic development groups in the region. The Committee was encouraged to continue to think of issues that could be incorporated in the annual survey and retreat.

REAP Agenda Item IV (3)

CEOB and Workforce Alliance Report

Wichita Workforce Center Lease Agreement Ratification

Due to a time sensitive situation with the Wichita Workforce Center Lease Agreement, the WA Executive Committee held a special meeting via teleconference to take action. Commissioner Unruh serves as a member of the WA Executive Committee and was asked to speak on behalf of the CEOB, however, all members of the CEOB were invited to participate in the conference call. Several items were noted, including the term, which runs until December 31, 2015; reduction of parking spots as required by the landlord allowing for independent contracting on spaces; reduction in overall base rent in the amount of \$45,000 total; improved repair of premises and maintenance clauses; and expanded termination clauses. The lease agreement was reviewed and approved by legal representation for the WA and the WA Executive Committee. The Committee took action to ratify the action taken by the WA Executive Committee to authorize the Executive Director to enter into an addendum to and first amendment of 150 N. Main Building Lease Agreement.

Technical Education Panel for Area Legislators

The Committee was notified that the WA will be hosting an informational session for area legislators and legislative candidates as a part of the follow up to the presentations made before the Technical Education Authority last March. On Tuesday, September 28, 2010 the panel will discuss technical education and its effect and importance on the future of the various industries in the region.

WA Board of Directors and Congressional Forum

The Committee was notified that the WA would be hosting the 4th Congressional District Candidates at the September 30, 2010 Board of Directors meeting. Each candidate will be allowed to discuss their views on economic development and employment and training issues. Chairman Conway will moderate the discussion and Board Members will have an opportunity to ask follow up questions.

2010 Economic Development Committee Meeting Schedule

The Committee holds its monthly meetings from Noon to 1:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas Administrative Offices, 150 N. Main, Wichita, unless otherwise indicated. Meetings are not held if there is no business before the committee. Due to the scheduled KDOT local consult meeting in Hutchinson on October 28, the next Committee meeting will be held on the third Thursday, ***October 21, 2010***.

Recommendation: That REAP members from Local Area IV ratify the actions taken by the Chief Elected Officials Board as appropriate.

Submitted by the Economic Development Committee:

*Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County,
Chairman
*Commissioner Jeff Masterson, Butler County
Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County
*Commissioner Earl Reno, Kingman County
*Council Member Nick Ard, Maize

*Mayor Emil Bergquist, Park City
*Mayor Keith DeHaven, Sedgwick
*Commissioner Garey Martin, Sumner County
*Mayor Carl Brewer, Wichita
Ms. Allison Moeding, Derby (*ex officio*)
Mr. Allen Bell, Wichita (*ex officio*)

**Voting members on CEOB Business*

REAP Agenda Item IV (4)

Report of the Water Resources Committee

Johnson County Stormwater Management Tour with Greenway Alliance

The GreenWay Alliance is sponsoring an opportunity for cities and counties in south-central Kansas to spend a day learning and visiting successful stormwater management, flood prevention, and regional collaboration stories in Johnson County. The tour date is October 14th, from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The bus will depart and arrive back at the Lawrence-Dumont Stadium parking lot at 300 South Sycamore St. in Wichita. Lunch will be provided at the new Johnson County KSU Extension Office. The cost of this tour is free. Deadline to RSVP for the event is October 1st. Please contact Hoyt Hillman for questions or to make reservations at 316-686-7105 or at hoythillman@sbcglobal.net.

WRC Request \$6 Million Demand Transfer

On August 6th, the Kansas Water Authority adopted the Fiscal Year 2011, Kansas Water Plan Budget. This \$19.6 million budget is contingent on the State of Kansas honoring its statutory commitment of \$6 million demand transfer from general funds, which was only funded with \$2 million in FY 2009, and \$0 in FY 2010.

The WRC voted at their September 13th meeting to request the State Legislature to honor its statutory obligation to make the \$6 million demand transfer. On September 24th, The REAP Legislative Committee recommended the issue be put on the REAP WRC survey, and considered at the November 15th WRC meeting whether or not it should become a REAP legislative priority for 2011.

On August 4th, the REAP WRC drafted a letter supporting Mayor Brewer's request to the League of Kansas Municipalities to include a statement on the reevaluation of state water policy in their 2011 LKM Statement of Municipal Policy. The LKM statement is a broader discussion of reevaluating the Kansas Water Authority representation, revenue sources to the state water fund, distribution of state water plan funds, and the overall legislative process for the introduction, consideration, and adoption of the annual KWA budget. This initiative may take several years to accomplish.

Economic Impact Study of Rural Water District Annexations

The WRC is partnering with the Environmental Finance Center to research the economic impact of past transfers of water service territories between cities and rural water districts.

Upcoming Water Resources Committee Meeting and Annual Survey

Please note that the next REAP WRC meeting is scheduled for **8:30 a.m. Monday, November 15** at the **Hughes Metroplex**.

In conjunction, staff will forward out the annual WRC survey via email on Monday, October 11th. All members, alternates, and participants are encouraged to respond on the survey and will be due no later than Monday, October 25th at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by the Water Resources Committee:

Commissioner Willis Heck, Newton, Chair

REAP Agenda Item IV (5)

**Reports from REAP Representation on
Regional Committees and Organizations**

Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition

Mayor Kristey Williams

Mid-Continent Airport Advisory Board

Mayor Willis Heck

KansasBio

Mr. Joe Yager

Visioneering Wichita

Mr. Joe Yager

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

KansasBio and our industry partners invite you to participate in a **Bioscience Workforce Development Hot Team Meeting** where local KansasBio members and partners will share insights and results from the 2010 Bioscience Workforce Survey, with a goal to **enhance communications** between the bioscience industry and P-20 educators in the Wichita and South Central Kansas region and develop a bioscience workforce roadmap for success

Tuesday, October 5, 2010

- National Institute for Aviation Research, 4004 N Webb Road, Wichita, KS
- Hosts: Wichita State University, ICM Inc, Wichita Technology Corporation, Workforce Alliance of SC Kansas, REAP

Agenda

Welcome	8am
<i>Hear from the KBA about the current status of the Kansas Bioscience Initiative and the state's investment outcomes</i>	
Bioscience Medical Devices - CIBOR	8:25am
<i>Meet and hear from the new CEO of CIBOR as he discusses the current and future needs of their research</i>	
Bio-energy industry – ICM, Inc.	8:45am
<i>Hear from industry researchers and business leaders in the bioenergy field as they share how their needs for talent are changing</i>	
Bioscience Workforce Survey results	9:05am
<i>Dr David McDonald from Wichita State University will highlight results from the recent KansasBio Bioscience Workforce Survey, with details about what bio industry Skills and competencies are being sought</i>	
Breakout sessions to map assets and vision future plans	9:30-11:30am
Report Back and Debrief Session	11:30am-noon
<i>Each breakout group will report their results to begin fashioning a bioscience Workforce Roadmap for Wichita and SC Kansas</i>	



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RSVP to Kelsi Pio at kpio@kansasbio.org or (913) 495-4334

Visioneering Wichita Report

The Visioneering Wichita Steering Committee met on September 13, 2010. The meeting consisted of updates on the following: Sustainable Communities Planning Grant; HUD Community Challenge Planning Grant; TIGER II Discretionary Grant; 2010 City to City Visit to Louisville; Emerging Leadership Program which is sponsoring two individuals to attend the city to city; the Alliance for Regional Stewardship Organizational Champion Award; announcement of the unveiling of the Downtown Master Plan for September 28; and the 2011 Unified Legislative Agenda. The major portion of the meeting was about the Health Alliance Community Health Priorities which is summarized below:

Convening – Catalyzing – Collaborating: Community Health Priorities

What are the health priorities for Wichita and Sedgwick County? That was the question facing Visioneering's Health Alliance along with more than 100 people representing organizations, businesses, government and nonprofit agendas in early 2010. Through a three-month planning process, the group focused on those issues that affect the greatest number of people and yet have experienced a low level of community action – a place where positive change could happen.

The discussions were based on data, trends, observations and experience. The result? A plan that focuses on what one participant called “actionship.” It is a phrase that combines action and leadership. It does not reassess what already has been done. Nor does it focus on lofty wishful thinking. The plan asks for action that will lead to positive change in five areas:

Access: Connecting the ongoing Health Access Project efforts working to improve the capacity of community health clinics and access to the medical system (including “medical home” models). This area recognizes even with the influence of national health care reform there will be increasing needs for cost-effective primary care services and a gap in insurance coverage, particularly for the working poor.

Obesity and Diabetes: As obesity rates rise, diseases like diabetes and heart disease increase. Workplaces, neighborhoods, schools and the community-at-large need to be focused on ways to increase physical activity and healthy eating.

Mental Health: Costs to treat the results of mental illness and substance use are borne by the community through increased responses by emergency medical services, law enforcement, and lost time at work for the individual and for families who care for them. By working together, the behavioral health community hopes to improve the understanding of mental illness and substance use, reducing the stigma associated with these disorders.

Oral Health: Tooth decay is considered preventable, but it four times more common than asthma among adolescents and remains one of the most common chronic diseases among children and young people. Efforts that engage community partnerships and focus on public health solutions will be pursued.

Health Disparities: Disparities in health outcomes among some populations in our community are available and unjust. This plan seeks to ensure that the voices of the disenfranchised are heard within each priority area. Identifying and countering health disparities will be a central focus.

The Health Alliance held a community summit in late August with where 61 Sedgwick County health entities and 100 participants offered their assistance in tackling these five areas.

REAP Agenda Item IV (6)

Report of the Chief Executive Officer

CEDBR Economic Outlook Conference

The Center for Economic Development & Business Research (CEDBR) is holding “On the Road Again” the 31st Annual Wichita Area Economic Outlook Conference scheduled for Thursday, October 7, 2010 from 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. at Century II Convention Hall. The complete program and registration details are available at: www.wichita.edu/cedbr.

2010 LKM Annual Conference

The League of Kansas Municipalities’ 2010 Annual Conference and 100th Anniversary Celebration will be held in Overland Park, October 9-12, 2010. This year, the Annual Conference schedule has been significantly changed in order to allow for more workshop opportunities for attendees and to provide for the 100th Anniversary gala event. The Conference events will be held at the Overland Park Convention Center & Sheraton Hotel and attendees will have the opportunity to choose from 24 different workshop sessions and 30 different roundtable discussions. In addition, the conference will feature five experienced keynote presenters, including renowned historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, who will be discussing the importance of understanding history in making better leaders for the future. The complete program and registration details are available at: www.lkm.org.

Project Downtown: The Master Plan for Wichita

On Tuesday, September 28, hundreds of people gathered at the Bank of America building in Wichita to see the implementation strategies and illustrative concepts for the future of Downtown Wichita. The presentation and supplemental documents can be found on the Wichita Downtown Development Corporation (WDDC) website [here](#).

Upcoming REAP Meeting Schedule

Please note that due to the League of Kansas Municipalities Annual Conference, the next REAP meeting is scheduled for the first Monday of the month, **Monday, October 4, 2010** at 8:00 AM at the **Hughes Metropolitan Complex**, (29th and Oliver).

Please note that the REAP meeting for November is scheduled for **Monday, November 1, 2010** at 8:00 AM. Please note that this is the first Monday and that it will be the annual retreat, so the meeting is scheduled to begin at **8:00 a.m.** and will last until 12:00 p.m.

In conjunction with this staff will forward out the annual survey via email. All members, alternates, and participants are encouraged to respond on the survey. Please note that this year the survey will have a different look as staff is utilizing Constant Contact which will provide a web-based survey. *Surveys will be forwarded on Monday, October 4 following the regularly scheduled REAP meeting and will be asked to be responded to by Monday, October 18.*

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

Submitted by: Mr. Joe Yager, REAP Chief Executive Officer



ANDOVER, ARKANSAS CITY, AUGUSTA, BEL AIRE, BENTLEY, BENTON, BUTLER COUNTY, CHENEY, CLEARWATER, COLWICH, CONWAY SPRINGS, DERBY, EL DORADO, GARDEN PLAIN, GODDARD, HALSTEAD, HARVEY COUNTY, HAYSVILLE, HESSTON, HUTCHINSON, KECHI, KINGMAN COUNTY, MAIZE, MCPHERSON COUNTY, MOUNT HOPE, MULVANE, NEWTON, PARK CITY, RENO COUNTY, ROSE HILL, SEDGWICK, SEDGWICK COUNTY, SUMNER COUNTY, VALLEY CENTER, WELLINGTON, WICHITA, WINFIELD

REAP 2010 Work Plan
Adopted December 14, 2009

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) is comprised of thirty-five city and county governments in nine counties of South Central Kansas, which include Butler, Cowley, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, McPherson, Reno, Sedgwick and Sumner counties. Since its inception, REAP has been guided by the following mission:

To guide state and national actions that affect economic development in the region, and to adopt joint actions among member governments that enhance the regional economy.

REAP adopted a work plan for 2010 and assigned elements of the plan to the four standing committees: Executive, Economic Development, Legislative, and Water Resources.

Executive Committee

- Administer the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program and assure that all statutory requirements for programming, evaluation, accounting and auditing, financial management, and reporting are met.
- Serve as the treasury for REAP, collect all REAP revenues, make disbursements in accord with the budget adopted by REAP, and conduct financial management of REAP assets in accord with REAP fiscal procedures.
- Examine available resources for REAP and recommend sustainable funding sources to provide REAP necessary operating resources for 2011.
- In consultation with the REAP Water Resources Committee, assess the Committee's progress since its inception and if deemed satisfactory, recommend sustainable funding for 2011 and beyond.
- Carry out public relations and communication strategies about REAP activities to local governments and citizens in South Central Kansas.
- Engage Topeka-based representation.
- Assure representation by REAP in regional organizations concerned with economic development, including:
 - Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition;
 - Mid-Continent Airport Advisory Board;
 - KansasBio;
 - Visioneering Wichita; and
 - Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas.
- Oversee maintenance and upgrades of the REAP website.

Legislative Committee Work Plan

- Monitor progress on legislative priorities for 2010 and give guidance to legislative liaison as issues arise.
- Monitor legislative action related to annexation for any threats to economic development in the region.
- Monitor legislative action that may limit the use of eminent domain for local economic development.
- Develop and sponsor regional legislative policy summit.

Strengthening the economy of South Central Kansas through joint action of cities and counties.

REAP 2010 Work Plan

- Develop and implement ongoing communication procedures between REAP and area legislators.
- Identify and make REAP members aware of legislative issues of significance to South Central Kansas and promote engagement.
- Recommend legislative priorities to REAP for the 2011 legislative session.

Legislative Priorities for 2010

- Maintain Kansas Affordable Airfares Program to assure more flight options, more competition for air travel, and affordable airfares for Kansas.
- Advance legislative action to establish the next phase of a comprehensive transportation plan for Kansas.
- Advance legislative and administrative action to secure state financial participation in:
 - business-driven technical education and training that supports the regional economy.
 - the Equus Beds Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Project to preserve the aquifer for agricultural, industrial, and municipal use that is essential to the regional economy.
 - aviation research at the National Institute for Aviation Research at Wichita State University.
 - orthopedic research at a Center of Excellence on Composites Research and Development at Wichita State University.
 - graduate medical education program at the Wichita Center for Graduate Medical Education.
- Support amicable resolution to the territorial disputes between rural water districts and municipalities.
- Support federal reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to include maintaining local control through private sector and employer driven Local Workforce Investment Boards.

Economic Development Committee

- Perform duties as Chief Elected Officials Board under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.
- Monitor progress of economic development initiatives, specifically:
 - Continued funding of Kansas Affordable Airfares Program.
 - State action on technical education and workforce issues in terms of assuring local control.
 - Local and regional initiatives to encourage growth and address the demands of future industry requests and skills in emerging markets.
 - Local and regional initiatives in workforce development and technical training in manufacturing.
 - Development of the new Kansas transportation plan.
 - State, local and regional initiatives for development of renewable energy.
 - The creation of a State Economic Development fund for rapid action.
- Monitor the Kansas Bioscience Authority and KansasBio and explore opportunities for expanding bioscience industries in South Central Kansas.
- Determine the need to sponsor a regional economic leadership summit.
- Assure that a comparative analysis of the regional economy is updated and determine a method to disseminate the results of the analysis broadly with organizations concerned with economic development in the region.
- Based on the analysis of the regional economy, identify the strengths and weaknesses and recommend action to address them.
- Identify and support regional economic development projects that qualify for state funding assistance.

REAP 2010 Work Plan

- Identify opportunities for the region to take advantage of its geographic location and natural resources to enhance economic development and improve the quality of life in South Central Kansas.
- Develop and implement coordination among local government, state government, businesses and other economic development groups in South Central Kansas.

Water Resources Committee Work Plan

- I. Serve as a regional voice on policy issues concerned with water quality and supply before federal, state, and local agencies; and organize member engagement in legislative action where appropriate.*
 1. Support the Municipal Utility Growth Issues Committee in seeking an amiable solution for municipalities and rural water districts, including education and potential action on the regional, state and national level.
 2. Encourage the Kansas Water Authority to see that the State Water Plan Fund is adequately funded and a balance between urban and rural priorities is achieved.
 3. Increase dialogue and provide informational resources for State Legislators on urban water issues.
 4. Work with the Division of Water Resources, Department of Agriculture to ensure municipalities are not limited by regulations pertaining to acquiring water rights that would impede a community's ability to grow; including monitoring and providing support for the Water Rights Conservation Program.
 5. Serve as a liaison to the REAP Legislative Committee on issues the Water Resources Committee recommends as REAP legislative priorities.
- II. Serve as a regional forum for disseminating information regarding the various activities, programs, funding and initiatives of the federal, state, and local agencies involved in water quality and supply issues.*
 1. Provide a forum for regional water issues through regular meetings of the Water Resources Committee as well as meetings of the Technical Subcommittee and establishment of special committees as needed.
 2. Monitor the activities of federal, state, and local agencies affecting water supply and water quality in the region and keep members advised of relevant issues and partnership opportunities.
 3. Encourage additional communities to join the Water Resources Committee through communication and invitation to committee meetings, conferences and events.
- III. Encourage regional collaboration on issues of water quality and supply.*
 1. Identify and encourage the development of key elements necessary to create a regional water plan
 - i. Continue to partner with the Kansas Water Office and the KU Environmental Studies Department to create a GIS based Natural Resource Inventory of the REAP region.
 - ii. Work with the Kansas Water Office, Lower Arkansas and Walnut Basin Advisory Committees to develop collaborative efforts in the region.
 2. Conduct an annual regional water conference.
 3. Provide ongoing educational forums on legislative and policy related water issues.

REAP 2010 Work Plan

- IV. *Assemble informational resources related to water quality and supply issues for members.*
1. Annually survey and compile water and wastewater rate information for all REAP members.
 2. Provide information on water reuse and water conservation initiatives.
 3. Compile and disseminate information on the cumulative cost of water and wastewater service provision in the REAP region to serve as an educational tool.
 4. In consultation the REAP Executive Committee assess the Water Resources Committee's progress since its inception and if deemed satisfactory, recommend sustainable funding for 2011 and beyond.

Regional Economic Area Partnership Organizational Structure

