



**Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP)**

**Meeting Agenda**

**8:00 a.m., November 7, 2011**

Hughes Metropolitan Complex  
5015 E. 29<sup>th</sup> Street North, (29<sup>th</sup> and Oliver)  
Mayor Kristey Williams, Chair

**1. Welcome and Introductions:** Mayor Kristey Williams

**2. News and Announcements:** Mayor Kristey Williams

**3. Consent Agenda and Committee Reports:** Mayor Kristey Williams

*The action items in the reports have been reviewed, discussed and acted upon at the Committee level. Members of the Board of Directors may request discussion on any of the action items at the meeting or the reports may be accepted as presented in a single motion.*

- A. Review of REAP Minutes from October 3, 2011
- B. REAP Committees Report
- C. Reports of Regional Committees and Organizations
- D. Report of the Chief Executive Officer

***Recommended Action: Approve the consent agenda as presented.***

**4. REAP 2011 Annual Survey Discussion:** Mr. Joe Yager

*Annually REAP utilizes a survey and membership discussion that is designed to assist REAP members in guiding REAP activities in the upcoming year. Members will be provided a brief history of the organization, highlights from the past year, and the results of the survey.*

- A. Milestones, 1997-2011
- B. Highlights, Calendar Year 2011
- C. Purpose and Next Steps
- D. Presentation of Survey Results

**5. Discussion and Identification of Priorities for 2012:** Mayor Kristey Williams

*Members and partners are encouraged to discuss potential priorities for REAP to engage in 2012.*

**6. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates:** REAP Members and Partners

**7. Adjourn**

*The next REAP Board meeting will be in conjunction with the annual Policy Summit and will include a celebration reception on Thursday, December 8, 2011.*

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**Mission**

*Guide state and national actions that affect economic development in the region and adopt joint actions among member governments that enhance the regional economy.*

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## REAP Meeting Minutes October 3, 2011

Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas  
Mayor Kristey Williams, Chairman

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### 1. Welcome and Introduction.

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

### 2. News and Announcements

There were no announcements.

### 3. Consent Agenda and Committee Reports

#### A. Review of REAP Minutes from September 12, 2011

The members were informed that the minutes were available in the report. No changes were noted.

#### B. REAP Committees Report

Mayor Williams noted that on October 10<sup>th</sup> she will be testifying on behalf of REAP to the Legislative Budget Committee as a requirement for the administration of the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program in Topeka. She also noted that the Kansas Department of Commerce has indicated that we may need to consider an audit of the program performance, specifically the economic return on investment.

Quarterly payments were approved at the last Executive Committee meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that the financials could be found on pages 11-14 of the agenda materials. The Committee will continue to work on a budget for 2012 to present to membership at a future meeting.

Mayor Williams stated that the HUD Sustainable Communities Grant is on schedule to be submitted on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Jeff Longwell, Wichita, explained that the Listening Tour has been productive. The most recent event contained lots of positive feedback from Butler County. These tours have been a great learning experience to hear communities voice their particular and widespread parochial issues.

Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County, stated that the Economic Development committee approved reappointments to the Workforce Alliance Board of Directors as noted. He also noted that due to a discussion at the Committee on wind energy staff has been directed to evaluate establishing a wind and alternative energy task force. He also directed members attention to page 15 of the agenda materials pertaining to some regional facts about a potential wind energy cluster.

#### C. Reports of Regional Committees and Organizations

Mayor Williams noted an event that the governor will be at regarding wind energy on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 8 am at the Hyatt in Wichita. She also noted that the City to City Visioning trip was very

successful. There are several links in the agenda packet about it. If anyone has an opportunity to go on a trip like this, it is highly beneficial.

*D. Report of the Chief Executive Officer*

Mr. Joe Yager, REAP Chief Executive Officer, gave an overview of the upcoming CEDBR Economic Outlook Conference on October 6<sup>th</sup>, as well as the upcoming LKM Conference coming up on October 8-10. He also stated that the Kansas 150 Festival will be held in Wichita, and is on October 8<sup>th</sup>. The Governor is having an Economic Summit on energy on October 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss growth and economic development of different energy sources and transmission of those within Kansas. A REAP survey will be sent out later this month, and that will be due that Friday to capture our member's thoughts and suggestions for prioritization for 2012.

*Commissioner Unruh (Commissioner Brad Dillon, Reno County) made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.*

**4. WSU Center for Innovation and Enterprise Engagement (CIEE) Update**

Mayor Williams reported that REAP is tasked with serving on and appointing the majority of the CIEE Board of Directors. It was noted that additional appointments have been requested with Jim Krone and Robin Harris as those new additional members. It was also noted that there is still an open position for an investor for this board.

*Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County, (Commissioner Unruh) made a motion to approve these new appointments as presented. The motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Williams also announced that a \$2 million grant was given to their organization to help them keep research and development in the public sector. It was noted that additional information was provided in the agenda materials on pages 21-22.

**5. Special Presentation – Celebrating Kansas' 150th Birthday One Community at a Time**

Ms. Martha Slater Farrell, President of First Generation Video, provided a presentation and discussion on advanced ways to develop community marketing and the upcoming events of the state's 150th birthday. This unique presentation focused on our regions' communities and identified the connection between tourism, marketing, and economic development.

**6. REAP Membership Discussion: REAP Members and Partners**

Ms. Slater Farrell led a discussion with members and partners on her presentation and use of community pride in economic development. She identified how tourism is the bed rock of a community, through hospitality, history, heroes, and heritage.

**7. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates**

No unscheduled items were discussed at this meeting.

**8. Adjourn**

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

<b>REAP Attendance</b>	
<b>10/3/2011</b>	
<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Jurisdiction</i></b>
Mayor Kristey Williams	Augusta
Mr. Kent Brown	Clearwater
Ms. Diana Brooks	Colwich
Mayor Tom McKibban	El Dorado
Mr. Herb Llewellyn	El Dorado
Commissioner Chip Westfall	Harvey County
Mr. David New	Haysville
Mayor Dave Kauffman	Hesston
Commissioner Carol Voran	Kingman County
Mr. Tom Winters	Kingman County
Mr. Mark Tallman	Kechi
Mayor Terry Somers	Mount Hope
Ms. Dana Walden	Park City
Commissioner Willis Heck	Newton
Commissioner Brad Dillon	Reno County
Mayor Keith DeHaven	Sedgwick
Commissioner Dave Unruh	Sedgwick County
Commissioner Richard Ranzau	Sedgwick County
Council Member Jeff Longwell	Wichita
<b><i>Guests and Staff</i></b>	
Ms. Martha Slater Farrell	First Generation Video- Guest Speaker
Mr. Anthony Swartzendruber	Harvey County
Mr. John Waltner	Harvey County
Mr. Harland Priddle	K-96 Corridor Dev. Association
Ms. Irene Hart	Sedgwick County
Mr. Marv Duncan	Sedgwick County
Mr. Bill Bolin	SCKEDD
Mr. Dale Goter	Wichita
Ms. Kim Cronister	Workforce Alliance
Ms. Kelly Fuller	WSU
Ms. Angela Buzard	WSU
Dr. Nancy McCarthy-Snyder	WSU
Mr. Joe Yager	WSU
Mr. Dane Baxa	WSU
Ms. Kate Flavin	WSU
Mr. Taylour Tedder	WSU
Ms. Misty Bruckner	WSU

**REAP Board Meeting  
November 7, 2011  
Item #3 B**

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**Item**

REAP Committee Reports

**Background**

Since the October 3, 2011 Board meeting, the REAP Committees received information or acted upon the following issues and projects listed below. Agendas and minutes from the committee meetings are available on the REAP website at <http://www.reap-ks.org>.

**Report of the Executive Committee**

The REAP Executive Committee did not meet in October. The following is a report of various updates on behalf of the Committee:

*Kansas Affordable Airfares Update*

**Reporting and Funds Request 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.

On behalf of REAP, Mayor Kristey Williams *testified on October 10, 2011 to the Legislative Budget Committee*. Mayor Williams testimony has been included at the end of the Committees report and the performance report can be found on the REAP website.

The REAP Executive Committee has also been informed that an official letter of notification from Kansas Commerce Secretary Pat George has been received that indicates that an electronic payment in the amount of \$4,750,000 has been transferred to the REAP account and acknowledging that the local match obligation has been met, as has the reporting requirement to Commerce. It does also note additional requirements of reporting to the legislature as a reminder. However, to date, REAP has not officially received the transfer of funds.

In addition, REAP staff has been in conversation with Commerce staff regarding additional reporting for future reports, including the use of an independent return on investment study. Staff has been directed to provide an update and recommendations at the next Executive Committee meeting. The timeframe to have this completed has been set by Commerce indicating that a report to the legislature is to be submitted on or before May 1, 2012.

*Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Update*

REAP staff officially submitted an application for a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Fiscal Year 2011 Sustainable Communities Planning Grant. The grant would assist in developing a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD) that would be a coordinated plan to foster long-term job creation with adequate infrastructure to affordably access employment and services. The RPSD would provide a framework to ensure the region's economic competitiveness by focusing on housing, workforce, environmental, economic

development, transportation and health issues. Additional information pertaining to this grant is available on the REAP website at: <http://www.reap-ks.org/sustainability2011.html>.

The REAP-led consortium that is identified in this grant includes the City of Wichita, as the MSA's traditional principal city, as well local units of government for Butler County, Harvey County, Reno County, Sumner County, Sedgwick County, and the largest cities in each county: El Dorado, Newton, Hutchinson, and Wellington. Aside from local governments, the consortium also includes the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO); Wichita State University's Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs and the Center for Community Support and Research; Visioneering Wichita; Workforce Alliance and Kansas Workforce One; the Kansas Small Business Development Center; Wichita Downtown Development Corporation; the Kansas Health Foundation; United Way; Independent Living Resource Center; Ponder:Connect Marketing; University of Kansas School of Medicine –Wichita; and Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, Inc. In addition we received partnership support from the Urban League of Kansas; Wichita Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Healthy Reno County Coalition; Kansas Department of Transportation; Our Local Foods; Sumner County Economic Development Commission; and the Cowley County Housing Authority Serving Sumner and Reno Counties. This consortium accounts for \$814,156 in local matching funds.

In moving forward a key element will be the connections through these entities, and each of our members and partners in identifying people, organizations, businesses, etc. that we should involve in the planning and engagement process to ensure that we develop our own sustainable vision and goals that reflect our unique regional values and identity.

### **Report of the Legislative Committee**

The REAP Legislative Committee did not meet in October while they have conducted the Listening Tour. The following highlights information from the Committee.

#### *REAP Listening Tour*

The REAP Legislative Committee kicked off its listening tour in Newton on **August 11**. The tour is intended to help the Committee connect REAP with the communities in the region while allowing REAP members to identify issues that are important to individual communities and could be beneficial to the region. The Committee has noted that although many issues may not be of regional importance, if they are important to that community REAP should be aware and supportive as long as the issue does not hurt any other community in the region. The first stop focused on communities in Harvey and McPherson counties and followed it up with a stop in Hutchinson on **August 26** that focused on communities in Kingman and Reno counties. The third stop was in El Dorado on **September 23**. The fourth stop was held in Wellington and focused on Cowley, Harper and Sumner counties on **October 27**. The final stop has been planned to be held in conjunction with the Sedgwick County Association of Cities monthly meeting in Kechi on **November 12** and will focus on Sedgwick County.

#### *CIBOR Update*

The Kansas Bioscience Authority (KBA) board of directors approved a one-year \$3 million award to the Center for Innovation in Biomaterials in Orthopaedic Research (CIBOR), a KBA center of innovation based in Wichita, to support its ongoing operations. The center has already

received \$1 million of the \$3 million directly from the state treasurer, as provided by the Kansas legislature in the 2011 session. The allocation was part of a \$7.1 million investment package announced by the KBA board at its Olathe meeting. A full description from the KBA action can be found at <http://www.kansasbioauthority.org/news/Detail.aspx?id=144>.

#### 2011 REAP Policy Summit

The Legislative Committee Chair directed staff to develop in conjunction with several partners the South Central Kansas Legislative Policy Summit to prepare for the 2012 legislative session. The Policy Summit is in development stages but has been scheduled for **Thursday, December 8, 2011 at the Drury-Broadview Hotel in Downtown Wichita**. A major change this year is that the Summit will be a half day event, starting at approximately 2:30 pm and ending with a reception at 5:00 PM. In addition, the reception will also serve as the REAP December Board meeting and celebration. All REAP members will be encouraged to attend this event. More details will be made available at a later date, including an official invitation, agenda and times.

#### Next Legislative Committee Meeting

With the completion of the annual survey, retreat discussion and the end of the Listening Tour, the Committee will meet on **Friday, November 18** and discuss priorities for 2012.

#### **Report of the Economic Development Committee**

The REAP Economic Development Committee did not meet in October. The following highlights information from the Committee.

#### Workforce Alliance and WSU Receive Grant to Increase the Number of Engineers in Kansas

Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas and the Wichita State University College of Engineering and National Institute for Aviation Research will receive a \$5 million grant to provide education, training and job placement assistance to long-term unemployed workers in critical engineering occupations.

The funding was received under the H-1B Technical Skills Training Grant Competition to support high-growth fields in which employers are currently using the H-1B nonimmigrant visa program to hire foreign workers.

In the Oct. 3 announcement, U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Hilda Solis said, "These grants are an important part of the administration's efforts to help ensure that our workers have the chance to succeed in new and emerging fields, and that growing businesses have access to the skilled American workforce they need."

In Kansas, aviation manufacturing is the primary engine that generates new wealth and job creation in the local, regional and state economies. The Workforce Alliance Kansas Engineering Excellence Project (KEEP) seeks to reduce the number of H-1B visas sought for engineers who work for local aviation manufacturing firms, research institutes and institutions of higher learning.

"The aviation industry is starting to recover, and industry leaders have expressed an immediate and future need for qualified engineers," said Workforce Alliance Executive Director Keith

Lawing. “The grant will be used to increase the number of engineers ready to work in south-central Kansas’ aviation industry.”

Funding for KEEP, received from the H-1B Technical Skills Training Grant, will be used to help 100 eligible women, minorities and laid-off individuals in south-central Kansas obtain degrees in engineering.

“This is a very unique funding opportunity,” said Zulma Toro-Ramos, dean of WSU’s College of Engineering. “Wichita State College of Engineering is pleased to partner with the Workforce Alliance and the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration to advance the education and skills of approximately 100 engineering students – undergraduate, Master’s and PhD – over the next four years.”

Interested people should contact Wichita State University at [innovation@wichita.edu](mailto:innovation@wichita.edu) to receive additional information.

#### Workforce Alliance E-News

The WA has created a portal and dissemination of information electronically with the redesign of the website. One of the features allows people to receive notification via email pertaining to the calendar of events and job notifications. In addition there is a feature that allows you to subscribe to electronic versions of the newsletter, press releases, or labor market information. If you are interested please visit: <http://www.workforce-ks.com/index.aspx?page=98>,

#### Next Economic Development Committee Meeting

The next Economic Development Committee monthly meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, November 17, 2011**.

#### **Report of the Water Resources Committee**

The REAP Water Resources Committee did not meet in October. The following highlights information from the Committee.

#### Kansas Joint Committee on Energy and Environmental Policy

WRC staff was requested to find and present information on whether or not “hydraulic fracturing,” was being performed over the Equus Beds ground water to the Kansas Joint Committee on Energy and Environmental Policy on October 17th, 2011.

Hydraulic fracturing is a technique used in oil and gas production that has had some national attention after it has caused serious ground water contamination issues in the eastern part of the United States. Hydraulic fracturing has recently drawn attention in Kansas after a recent spike in letters that are being sent to land owners from oil and gas companies to lease mineral rights. There is uncertainty as to whether hydraulic fracturing is being used as a technique for production and of chemicals that are being used in the hydraulic fracturing process.

WRC staff contacted officials from the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) Conservation Division to find information on hydraulic fracturing. KCC officials identified recent “intent to drill,” applications, and directed staff to contact the Kansas Geological Survey, who have an

interactive map and search engines that produced geo-spatial information on the location of oil and gas production sites.

WRC staff found that there were no identified oil and gas production sites over the Equus Beds that are using hydraulic fracturing, but found some information relating to hydraulic fracturing and some inconsistencies in recent “intent to drill” applications. One finding was that oil and gas producers do not have to disclose in their “intent to drill” whether or not they are using hydraulic fracturing techniques until they complete their production process. If an oil and gas producer does use hydraulic fracturing, they do not have to disclose what chemicals are being used when they are using that technique.

This issue may require additional attention and education and the Committee will have further discussion regarding this issue.

*Water Resources Committee Meeting to Discuss 2012 Work Plan*

The WRC will meet **Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>** following the REAP Board meeting to discuss the 2011 WRC survey results and identifying objectives for their 2012 work plan.

**Testimony for the Review of Regional Economic Area Partnership  
(Affordable Air Fares) to the Legislative Budget Committee**

Date: October 10, 2011

From: Kristey Williams, Mayor of Augusta and REAP Chair

Good morning. My name is Kristey Williams. I am Mayor of Augusta and Chair of the Regional Economic Area Partnership. Thank you for allowing me to appear before you this morning on behalf of REAP. My testimony today is to detail the actions taken by REAP as the administrator over the past year and provide specifics on the performance and effectiveness of this program.

REAP is a coalition of 37 cities and counties in south-central Kansas. Our mission is to help guide state and national actions that affect economic development in the region. In the 2006 session of the Kansas Legislature, REAP was assigned responsibility for administering the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program, or KAAP. Those legislative actions assigned REAP responsibility for administering KAAP as follows:

- REAP shall be the grant recipient of state appropriations for development and implementation of the program;
- REAP shall receive matching moneys from local governments; and
- REAP shall evaluate and report on the effectiveness of the program, as well as the expenditures from the grant and local matching moneys.

As you are aware, since 2006, REAP has administered KAAP with a commitment to the program's specific statutory objectives of providing "more air flight options, more competition for air travel and affordable air fares for Kansas, including a regional airport in western Kansas", as well as transparency and financial integrity in program administration.

Annually, on the advice of this Committee and the Kansas Department of Commerce, REAP has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) on April 1 for the KAAP program. The RFP including a description of the selection process and criteria is sent to 27 area newspapers, 4 television stations, 3 radio stations, and one professional publication (Wichita Business Journal). In addition, this information is also provided to the Kansas Department of Commerce, the Kansas League of Municipalities, and the Kansas Association of Airports. The RFP in its entirety is available for view on the REAP website: [www.reap-ks.org](http://www.reap-ks.org).

Through this annual process REAP also receives presentations and utilizes interviews to determine funding recipients. We also work closely with those recipients to compile relevant and accurate performance reports. You have been provided with an extensive performance report that details performance for Fiscal Year 2011 compiled by REAP and presented to the Kansas Department of Commerce as required.

For fiscal year 2011 REAP awarded funds to Sedgwick County to provide a one year revenue guarantee for AirTran Airlines to maintain affordable airfares to eastern destinations and a one year revenue guarantee for Frontier Airlines to maintain affordable airfares to western U.S. destinations. Total funding requested for award by REAP was \$6,666,250, with \$5 million in

State funding and the required \$1,666,250 by local match. However, due to timing on the funding of the second grant for fiscal year 2010, the final award for fiscal year 2011 was a total of \$6,545,000, with \$4,875,000 in State funding and the required \$1,670,000 in local match.

In fiscal year 2011 legislators requested the Legislative Division of Post Audit to conduct a performance audit on the Affordable Airfares program. On February 8, 2011, the legislative post audit report was released and found the following: *“Overall, the program appears to have had the desired effect. Since Wichita’s original affordable airfare program (FairFares) began in 2002, fares have decreased, while the number of passengers and the number of available flights have increased.”*

The audit also included several suggestions to enhance program performance and financial reporting, which we have reflected in our most recent performance report. In particular, the data in the report has been simplified and focuses on the key statutory indicators. Furthermore, notations have been included to highlight data sources. Future reports will include notations to explain any changes or corrections in data from year to year. In addition, REAP and the Kansas Department of Commerce have initiated discussions on the audit recommendation for additional evaluation of the programs impact through an outside party.

In the 2011 legislative session, Governor Sam Brownback requested and the Kansas Legislature appropriated \$5 million for continued funding of KAAP in fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012), through Senate Substitute for House Bill 2014. REAP engaged in an extensive review process and took action on July 11, 2011 to

- 1) Award a proposal from Sedgwick County \$4.75 million. This proposal: 1) addresses all statutory criteria (more air flight options, more competition for air travel, and affordable air fares for Kansas) for the allocation of funding including the priorities of maintaining affordable airfares to eastern and western U.S. destinations and impacting a majority of Kansans; 2) renews a contract with AirTran for the 12 months beginning July 1, 2011; 3) provides for the Frontier revenue guarantee agreement to continue through June 30, 2012; and, 4) provides for the local match of at least 25%.

In accord with the requirements of administration of the KAAP, and in receipt of the local matching funds (25 percent or \$1,583,333.33) REAP officially requested funds in the amount of \$4,750,000 from the Kansas Department of Commerce with a letter and submittal of the fiscal year 2011 performance report on July 29, 2011. This request has been confirmed as received by Commerce and we have been informed that it is being processed.

- 2) Award a proposal from Garden City \$250,000, contingent upon:
  - 1) Approval by US Department of Transportation on the use of these funds for the purpose of contracting with American Eagle service;
  - 2) Approval of the US Department of Transportation to utilize the City of Dodge City EAS funding under the “Alternate Air Service Pilot Program”; and
  - 3) Receipt of the local match.

This proposal: 1) addresses the statutory criteria of more flight options through a contract with American Eagle jet service through Dallas; 2) addresses the statutory clause of

establishing a regional airport in Western Kansas; 3) provides a market analysis; and 4) provides for the local match of at least 25%.

REAP did note that there is a concern that the Garden City proposal does not clearly meet two of the statutory requirements: more competition and more affordable airfares for Kansas. It was also noted that the proposal from Garden City does attempt to address these requirements and competition and affordability would be desired outputs from the initial service. In addition, the Garden City proposal does clearly address the “Western Kansas clause,” which has not been addressed in previous KAAP awards and was noted in the post audit report.

Finally, it was proposed that REAP offer assistance in exploring additional opportunities for the Garden City program to connect with the Wichita affordable airfares program to enhance affordable airfares for Kansas residents.

REAP also reserved the right to re-allocate any of these funds prior to June 30, 2012 if any of the required contingencies are not met.

To date the Garden City proposal has partnered with Dodge City and is awaiting approval on use of funds from the FAA as well as approval of a contract with the desired carrier from the FAA. REAP has not received the local match and has not requested funds for this purpose as yet from Commerce.

REAP has taken the responsibility for administering the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program as a serious matter, dedicating staff time and efforts into maintaining the transparency and integrity of the program. REAP will continue to monitor and assess the progress of the program to assure that it meets the statutory requirements.

Thank you for allowing me to appear before you today.

**REAP Board Meeting**  
**November 7, 2011**  
**Item #3 C**

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**Item**

Reports from REAP Representation on Regional Committees and Organizations

**Background**

REAP strives to be a regional leader through coordination and collaboration by partnering with organizations that help to shape economic development in South Central Kansas. The following are regional organizations REAP has an appointment on.

**Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition** *Submitted by: Mayor Kristey Williams*

- There is no written report available. An update will be provided at the meeting.
- For additional GWEDC updates, go to their website [www.gwedc.org](http://www.gwedc.org).

**Mid-Continent Airport Advisory Board** *Submitted by: Commissioner Willis Heck*

- In an effort to educate the Board on the facilities staff conducted a tour of Mid Continent facilities including underground facilities.
- Targets for the new terminal:
  - Bids in February of 2012
  - Ground breaking June of 2012
  - Completion of the terminal-late in 2014.

**Visioneering Wichita** *Submitted by: Mr. Joe Yager*

- The Visioneering Steering committee has conducted an organizational review to document past successes and will now review the methods of evaluation regarding the current benchmarks/activities in order to outline the organizational goals for the next three years.
- Visioneering held a recap meeting with all past City to City participants including attendees from the recent City to City trip to Pittsburgh. There were several presentations (NIAR, WSU School of Entrepreneurism and Go Wichita) plus they discussed the topic of how to broadly engage our regional citizens going forward. At that meeting, Visioneering was tasked by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County to establish and conduct a process determining what priorities/projects should be accomplished in the next three years utilizing regional leadership.

**Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization** *Submitted by: Mr. Joe Yager*

- The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) held a meeting on October 24 to receive several updates on a variety of issues (2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); Safety Plan; Planning studies; and Project progress report).
- This was the first meeting that REAP was an official voting member.
- For additional WAMPO updates, go to their website [www.wampoks.org](http://www.wampoks.org).

**KansasBio** *Submitted by: Mr. Joe Yager*

- There is no report to provide. Information pertaining to KansasBio can be found at [www.kansasbio.org](http://www.kansasbio.org).

**REAP Board Meeting**  
**November 7, 2011**  
**Item #3 D**

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**Item**

Report of the Chief Executive Officer

**Background**

The REAP Chief Executive Officer submits the following updates and report on relevant information to the REAP organization.

*Designing Healthy Communities Event*

Around 150 people representing a wide array of interests, including neighborhoods, businesses, health care providers, nonprofit executives and government officials attended the “Designing Healthy Communities” event sponsored by the Kansas Health Foundation at the Drury-Broadview Hotel on October 25. The event included a keynote address over lunch and a facilitated conversation after the luncheon that explored ways to create healthier, more livable neighborhoods across our region.

Richard Joseph Jackson, M.D. M.P.H. Professor and Chair, Environmental Health Sciences. Professor, Institute of Environment & Sustainability, Urban Planning, University of California, Los Angeles who is a nationally recognized expert on ways to build healthier communities provided the keynote address.

The presentation by Dr. Richard Jackson on Designing Healthier Communities can be found here: [Healthy Community Design Presentation](#).

Contact [Matt Jordan](#) at the Kansas Leadership Center to learn more about this event or to stay informed of follow up activities.

*KDOT Updates*

**Two-years of Preservation Projects Announced**

On October 6 the Kansas Department of transportation held a news conference to announce all preservation projects scheduled for fiscal years 2012-2013. Although these projects had already been identified on the T-WORKS website ([www.ksdot.org/tworks](http://www.ksdot.org/tworks)), the purpose of the event was to make sure that communities and contractors, along with other stakeholders, know what work is planned for the next two years. KDOT has indicated that this will be an annual event, where each year they will reveal the next two years worth of preservation projects. Thus, next year we will announce fiscal years 2013-2014. To view the list, click [here](#).

**Website and Social Media Updates**

KDOT has also indicated that they have now added a new performance measures website (<http://kdotapp.ksdot.org/perfmeasures/>) that will track how they are delivering these projects. They have encouraged people to view this information and to provide feedback.

The Kansas Department of Transportation is now on Facebook. Online communications are an increasingly important part of KDOT’s public outreach efforts. KDOT has noted that they hope that

people with personal Facebook accounts will take a moment to [visit KDOT's page](#) and click the “Like” button. Doing so will ensure that you’re aware of all the information, links and photos they post, and provide you the opportunity to follow (and even participate in) public discussions about KDOT and transportation in Kansas.

### **Miller leaving KDOT**

Kansas Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller announced that she will resign that job to become a consultant to Cambridge Systematics, a national transportation planning and policy firm headquartered in Massachusetts. Miller was appointed Secretary of Transportation by former Governor Kathleen Sebelius in 2003 and has served for nine years under three governors. Miller’s last day with KDOT will be Dec. 16.

### ***Kansas In Question – Beyond 150: Deciding Who We’ll Become***

On December 5-6, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Wichita civic involvement is requested at an event that is meant to help shape the future of Kansas. Sponsored by the Kansas Health Foundation, Kansas Leadership Center, Wichita Eagle, and Wichita State University, this two day event will be a statewide civic leadership symposium that reflects on the future of Kansas, fostering engagement and energy through dialogue on the most critical issues and opportunities facing our state. It is designed for leaders from all walks of life who are interested in Kansas beyond its first 150 years, immersing them in innovative communication to chart a course toward a bright future.

### **Who should attend**

Anyone who is committed to Kansas, has a concern for the future of our state and demonstrates a willingness and interest in shaping that future — to the benefit and well-being of its current and future generations — is welcome to attend the Kansas in Question Symposium.

### **Benefits of attending**

Participants of the Kansas in Question Symposium will learn about Kansas demographics from the 2010 Census. They will engage in dialogue with other leaders by taking part in breakout sessions led by conversation catalysts — a blend of established and emerging Kansas leaders — focusing on the critical challenges facing Kansas in six areas: employment, health, environment, education, rural life and urban life. Attendees will hear reports on the dialogue sessions and take part in planning possible next steps in shaping the future of Kansas. If you received the print brochure in the mail, please note that there has been a change in the schedule for the breakout sessions. The current schedule is available on the web.

### **Registration**

The symposium registration fee is \$50 and includes symposium materials, dinner on Monday and breakfast and lunch on Tuesday. Please register and pay online at [kansasinquestion.com](http://kansasinquestion.com). Special room rates for symposium attendees have been arranged with the Hyatt Regency Hotel: • \$106.00 + tax (single/double) • \$131.00 + tax (triple/quadruple) For reservations, call the Hyatt at 888-421-1442.

### ***Sumner County Casino Area - Economic Development Planning Group***

It is important that all communities in our region benefit from the Casino development, therefore, Kent Hixson, City Administrator in Mulvane, organized a taskforce of economic development professionals to discuss economic development possibilities around the Casino. REAP Chief Executive Officer, Joe Yager is serving on this taskforce to help provide some regional perspective. That ED group has met

twice and is helping to identify additional stakeholders, including local area Chambers of Commerce and tourism professionals. The taskforce will continue to meet to work on coordination between the various stakeholders to ensure that there is awareness and coordination on efforts to maximize the benefits for our region.

*REAP Meeting Schedule*

REAP staff is currently establishing the meeting schedules for 2012 and should have them available on the REAP website following the November Board meeting. Staff will forward an email with notification when they have been placed on the website ([www.reap-ks.org](http://www.reap-ks.org)) and will include the dates in that email as well.

Please note that the REAP meeting for December is scheduled for **Thursday, December 8, 2010** in conjunction with the REAP Legislative Policy Summit. The Summit will begin at 2:30 pm and the official REAP meeting and celebration will begin at 5:00 pm. All members are encouraged to attend both events and invitations will be forth coming.

## REAP MILESTONES: 14 YEARS OF COOPERATION

### **Brief History**

In 1997 twenty-seven (27) cities signed the first Intergovernmental Agreements forming the South Central Regional Council of Governments. In 1998 the council adopted the name Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) while adopting a structure for operations under official Bylaws, assessments, and a one-year work plan, including contracting with the Hugo Wall School at Wichita State University for staffing. In 1999 REAP revised its bylaws to open membership up to counties. In 2006 REAP re-developed its Bylaws and created a new Interlocal Agreement that was officially approved by the Office of Kansas Attorney General. REAP also established a tax identification number, financial policies, and independent bank accounts. In 2007 REAP established the Water Resources Committee and contracted for staffing to identify and coordinate collaborative efforts on regional issues of water quality and supply. Today, REAP is comprised of thirty-seven (37) city and county governments in a nine county region.

### **Major Initiatives**

*\*Affordable Airfares*

*\*Website and Information*

*\*Wichita MSA*

*\*Workforce Development*

*\*GWEDC*

*\*Sustainable Communities Initiative*

*\*Water Related Issues*

*\*Regional Policy Summits*

*\*Comprehensive Transportation Plans*

### **Legislative Accomplishments**

The first legislative action taken by REAP came in 1998, when members took a six-city, 13-hour bus tour through south central Kansas to raise awareness about REAP and its 1999 legislative priorities. Those 1999 legislative priorities were the first REAP Legislative Agenda. Since that time REAP has adopted an annual legislative platform while working to cultivate relationships with area legislatures to gain favorable outcomes for the region and State of Kansas.

Issues that REAP has weighed in on include:

- Establish local control in the implementation of Workforce Investment Act (2000)
- Governance and financing of the Equus Beds Groundwater Management District (2001)
- Designation of Metropolitan Statistical Area for the region (2001)
- WIA state set-aside funds (2003)
- Vote of Sedgwick County citizens for regional event center in downtown Wichita (2005)
- Enhance access to state parks (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008)
- Low cost commercial air service from Mid-Continent Airport (KAAP in 2006)
- Local Authority for State Casino vote (2007)
- Research and development on composites (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)
- Aviation research at NIAR (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)
- Kansas Center for Innovation for Biomaterials in Orthopedic Research (2009, 2010, 2011)
- Manufacturing-based, business-driven technical education (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)
- Other issues on agendas: Siting of diagnostic center in the region, Star Bonds, and Boeing Investment Act (1999); Parity in electric rates (2000); EDIF funding (2000, 2002); Pollution in the lower Arkansas River basin (2001, 2002); Designation of Metropolitan Planning Organization (2001, 2002); Expansion of passenger rail service in South Central Kansas (2001, 2002); Economic stimulus package for South Central Kansas (2002); Investments in tourism and Regulations to increase the protection of the Equus Beds aquifer (2003); Strengthen home rule authority (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006); 1999 Comprehensive Transportation Plan (2003, 2004, 2007, 2008); Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction (LAVTR), Cowley County lake study funding, and Implementation of destination-based sales taxes (2004); Preserve the existing exemptions under the Kansas Open Records Act and the Kansas Open Meetings Act (2005); Maintain authority of local governments to use eminent domain for economic development, Oppose adoption of TABOR, and Create a legislative scorecard (2006); Blighted properties (2007); Graduate medical education program funding (2008, 2009, 2010); 2009 Comprehensive Transportation Plan (2009, 2010, 2011); Amicable resolution to the territorial disputes between rural water districts and municipalities (2010); Reevaluation of current state water policy (2011).

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

## REAP MILESTONES: 10+ YEARS OF COOPERATION

### **Chairs and Staff**

#### *Chairs*

1997-1999	Mayor Bob Knight of Wichita
1999-2000	Mayor Jeffrey Roberts of Hutchinson
2000-2001	Mayor Carl Koster of Cheney
2001-2002	City Commissioner Carl Harris of Newton
2002-2004	Mayor Mike Ledy of Winfield
2004-2006	Mayor Willis Heck of Newton
2006-2008	Commissioner Tom Winters of Sedgwick County
2008-2010	Mayor John Waltner of Hesston
2010-present	Mayor Kristey Williams of Augusta

#### *Current Staff*

2006-present	Joe Yager, Chief Executive Officer
2010-present	Dane Baxa, Executive Officer of Water Resources

#### *Past Staff*

1999-2006	Keith Lawing, Executive Officer
2007-2010	Angela Buzard, Executive Officer of Water Resources

### **Current Membership**

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

\* WRC only member

### **REAP Three Year Strategic Plan: 2011-2013**

*Adopted February 14, 2011*

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) is comprised of thirty-seven 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.*

In order to meet this mission, REAP has assigned several ongoing elements of its annual work plans to the four standing committees. The four committees and their ongoing commitments as defined through actions of REAP are detailed below:

The **REAP Executive Committee** (EC) assists the Chair in developing agenda items, policy issues, or administrative matters to be presented to REAP; handling special tasks, as determined by the Chair, which require action between regular meetings of REAP; and monitoring adherence to the fiscal procedures of REAP by serving as the treasury for REAP, collecting all REAP revenues, making disbursements in accord with the budget adopted by REAP, and conducting financial management of REAP assets in accord with REAP fiscal procedures. In addition, in 2006 the Executive Committee was assigned the task of administering the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program by assuring that all statutory requirements for programming, evaluation, accounting and auditing, financial management, and reporting are met.

The **REAP Economic Development Committee** (EDC) identifies regional economic development issues and recommends action on those issues to REAP. In addition, since 2000 through an agreement entered into by counties in Local Area IV as defined by the State of Kansas, the 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. In performing duties as Chief Elected Officials Board under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 the EDC ensures regional representation of the Local Workforce Investment Board and is generally responsible for conducting oversight and evaluation activities for all WIA programs.

The **Legislative Committee** (LC) identifies legislative issues of regional concern and recommends to REAP legislative action at the state or federal level. In particular the LC monitors the progress on the annual legislative priorities and since 2000 has provided guidance to the legislative liaison as issues arise. The LC also develops and recommends legislative priorities to REAP for the following year.

The **Water Resources Committee** (WRC) identifies and coordinates collaborative efforts on regional issues of water quality and supply in South Central Kansas. In May of 2007 REAP created the WRC to serve as a regional conduit for dissemination to members of information and education while providing a regional voice on behalf of the members before federal, state, regional and local agencies and organize member involvement in the activities of those agencies.

Based on the discussions at the REAP retreat, Committee meetings, and survey results the following five goals were identified for REAP to work towards in the next 3 years. Each goal is followed by objectives that will then have action steps (work plans associated with them that will be specific and measurable).

## **REAP Three Year Strategic Plan: 2011-2013**

***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.*

- 1) **Provide a unified voice** to promote regional economic development.
  - a) Collaborate with private, non-profit, and public sector stakeholders on regional economic issues.
  - b) Strengthen relationships with existing partners.
  - c) Encourage dialogue on regional economic development.
  - d) Instill regional identity through coordinated branding.
- 2) **Guide state and national policies** that impact regional economic development.
  - a) Engage local leadership to represent the region at the state and national level.
  - b) Develop relationships with state and federal governmental officials.
  - c) Establish a process to identify policies affecting specific industries.
  - d) Coordinate a unified agenda for regional economic development.
- 3) **Engage stakeholders** on issues shaping our regional economy.
  - a) Provide regional forums that connect REAP membership with private, non-profit, and public sector stakeholders.
  - b) Conduct outreach on the purpose and accomplishments of REAP.
  - c) Involve REAP membership in educational opportunities.
- 4) **Support inter-jurisdictional planning** on issues affecting economic development.
  - a) Promote the benefits of a sustainable regional economy.
  - b) Determine REAP's role in regional planning.
  - c) Engage professional staff in multiple jurisdictions for sustainable planning.
- 5) **Lead the region** in addressing future economic needs.
  - a) Create a vision for regional economic development through REAP.
  - b) Determine the organizational capacity to support the future structure and needs of REAP.
  - c) Be proactive in identifying and discussing emerging issues.