



**Legislative Committee
Meeting Agenda
12:00 NOON, May 28, 2010**
Workforce Alliance Administrative Offices
Council Member Jeff Longwell, Chairman

1. Welcome and Introductions: Council Member Jeff Longwell

2. Review of Minutes from the April 30, 2010 REAP Legislative Committee Meeting: Council Member Jeff Longwell
Recommended Action: Approve or modify minutes as needed.

3. Kansas Affordable Airfares Update and Discussion: Mr. Joe Yager
Staff from Wichita Mid-Continent Airport has been invited to provide an update on the air market and discuss the future of the affordable airfares program. A handout will be provided at the meeting.

4. Update of REAP Legislative Committee 2010 Work Plan: Mr. Tom Bruno
An update will be provided on the REAP 2010 legislative priorities.

5. Water Conference Review and Update on Issues: Ms. Angela Buzard
The annual REAP Water Conference was held on Thursday, May 27 in El Dorado. A review of the conference, including potential legislative issues will be provided.

6. South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation Appreciation: Mr. Joe Yager
Staff recommends that a letter of appreciation, co-signed by the REAP Chair and Legislative Committee Chair, be forwarded to the South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation. A draft of the letter is provided.
Recommended Action: Approve a letter of appreciation on behalf of REAP to be forwarded to the members of the South Central Legislative Delegation.

7. 2010 Legislative Committee Meeting Schedule: Council Member Jeff Longwell
The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2010, due to a potential conflict staff requests evaluation of the need for a June meeting. The July Committee meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2010.
Recommended Action: Take appropriate action.

8. Other Business: Members of the Committee

9. Adjourn

Legislative Committee
Meeting Minutes – April 30, 2010
Workforce Alliance Administrative Offices
Council Member Jeff Longwell, Chairman

II. Welcome and Introductions.

Council Member Jeff Longwell, City of Wichita, opened the meeting; members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

II. Review of Minutes from the March 26, 2010 REAP Legislative Committee Meeting

Mayor Kristey Williams, City of Augusta, moved (Ms. Stephanie Knebel, City of Derby) to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

III. REAP Legislative Committee Business

1. Consensus Revenue Update

Dr. John Wong, WSU, provided LC members with an update on the latest Consumer Revenue Estimates which were released on April 16. It was noted that a brief memo could be found on pages 4 through 9 of the agenda packet. He noted that the State may not recover as quickly as in the past, but there were positive indication of recovery. He also noted that legislators would need to look at the fact that budget numbers are currently being propped up by stimulus funds which will not be available in future years. There was a healthy discussion on selling government assets and the effect an increase in sales tax versus a cut in spending would have on employment and the economy.

2. Update of REAP Legislative Committee Workplan

Mr. Tom Bruno, Bruno & Associates, gave the Legislative Committee an update on the 2010 LC Workplan priorities via conference call. A copy was provided on page 10 of the agenda packet. Mr. Bruno noted that REAP's major issues were funded, but that there were different funding levels for NCAT in the House versus the Senate. He also noted that the Senate Ways and Means had voted on a one-cent sales tax to start on June 1, 2010 to cover budget shortfalls. He noted that revenue from the tax would go to both the highway fund and the general fund. He also noted that an expansion of the food sales tax and a raise in cigarette and tobacco tax was approved. These items will go to the Senate floor next, although they have not been scheduled yet.

3. Transportation Update

Mr. Joe Yager, Chief Executive Officer of REAP, provided LC members with a transportation update. It was noted that a full update could be found on pages 11 through 12 of the agenda packet. He noted that the T-Works bill was a comprehensive transportation program bill that was receiving interest, but that it would not be discussed until after the budget. He also noted that it was projected that highway quality will decrease to 1988 levels by 2020 and that the State was only focusing on maintenance and not new projects. It was noted that roads were vital to the region's economic development.

4. Water Issues Update

Ms. Angela Buzard, Executive Officer of the REAP Water Resource Committee provided LC members with an update on water issues. She noted that an alternative to Secretary of Agriculture Josh Svaty's conservation as a beneficial use bill, where jurisdictions would be looked at on a case by case basis was introduced. She noted that other bills were currently not being discussed with the focus on budget.

**Legislative Committee
Meeting Minutes – April 30, 2010**

5. South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation Meeting Recap

Mr. Yager also provided a recap of the recent SCK Legislative Delegation Meeting. He noted that it was a large, yet controlled public forum held at WIBA. He also noted that there were 60-70 people present along with 15 legislators.

6. 2010 Legislative Committee Schedule

Council Member Longwell noted that the next LC meeting would take place at noon at the Workforce Alliance on May 28th.

7. Other Business

Mayor Kristey Williams, City of Augusta, noted that 5 counties within REAP were considering the possibility of applying for a sustainable community HUD grant. She noted that REAP would serve as the governing body and appoint a steering committee for oversight of the grant.

It was also noted that the REAP WRC Annual Conference was set for May 27th at the Civic Center in El Dorado. Members were encouraged to attend.

IV. Adjourn

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

REAP Legislative Committee	
<i>Attendance</i>	
4/30/2010	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Jurisdiction</i>
Council Member Jeff Longwell, Chair	City of Wichita
Mayor Kristey Williams	City of Augusta
Ms. Stephanie Knebel	City of Derby
Commissioner Dave Unruh	Sedgwick County
Mr. Bob Myers	City of Newton
<i>Guests and Staff</i>	
Mr. Tom Bruno*	REAP Legislative Liaison
Dr. John Wong	WSU
Dr. Ed Flentje	WSU
Mr. Joe Yager	WSU
Ms. Angela Buzard	WSU
Ms. Becky Eby	WSU

* Via conference call.



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 Legislative Committee 2010 Work Plan

Adopted December 14, 2009

Legislative Priorities

- 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.

Legislative Committee Work

- 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.
- 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.

REAP has taken the following stance on Historical Tax Credits: Adopted February 8, 2010

REAP supports incentives for economic development and believes that the Historic Tax Credits are essential to leverage financing, draw developers and investors to Kansas, create jobs, and to improve the Kansas economy.



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

May 28, 2010

Representative/Senator NAME
ADDRESS
ADDRESS
CITY, KS ZIP

Dear Representative/Senator NAME:

On behalf of the Regional Economic Area Partnership, we want to thank you for your hard work and thoughtful consideration of various items in the 2010 legislative session.

We greatly appreciate the inclusion of funding for Affordable Airfares, the Equus Beds Aquifer Storage and Recovery project, NIAR, workforce training, Wichita Center for Graduate Medical Education, and the National Center for Aviation Training.

The members of REAP understand the complex undertaking involved in finding the necessary resources to fund vital services and can empathize with the difficult task that you undertook as you worked to meet the needs of Kansas.

In South Central Kansas we are committed to a partnership with our regional communities and the State of Kansas. REAP believes that the projects you have funded are vital to the success of our region, and to the wellbeing of the state as a whole.

Again, thank you for your support of our legislative agenda, and we'll look forward to working with you to accomplish our common goals.

Sincerely:

Mayor Kristey Williams, Augusta
REAP Chair

Council Member Jeff Longwell, Wichita
REAP Legislative Chairman