



**Legislative Committee
Meeting Agenda
8:00 am, June 24, 2011**

Wichita City Hall, 1st Floor Board Room
Council Member Jeff Longwell, Chairman

1. **Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:** *Council Member Jeff Longwell*
2. **Approval of Minutes from May 27, 2011:** *Council Member Jeff Longwell*
Recommended Action: Approve or modify minutes as needed.
3. **June REAP Board Meeting Review:** *Council Member Jeff Longwell*
The theme of the June REAP Board meeting was Legislative Engagement and included several experts in legislative engagement representing our region participating in a panel discussion on the past legislative session and REAPs role in the legislative process going forward. Discussion on this issue is requested.
4. **2011 REAP Membership Engagement Presentations:** *Mr. Joe Yager*
Staff has compiled several upcoming outreach opportunities where REAP representatives will visit communities, members or potential members, to update councils and commissions on the purpose, priorities, and progress of REAP. An update on presentations and the schedule will be provided.
5. **Report on State Assets in the Region:** *Ms. Lorien Showalter*
Staff has prepared a draft example of a one-page asset report to be used during the regional listening tour. This report will be added to the other reports as well as information gathered during the tour to produce a broader regional report. Discussion on this issue is requested.
6. **2011 Legislative Committee Regional Listening Tour:** *Mr. Joe Yager*
Staff has prepared a draft proposal for engaging in a regional tour that will focus on local assets to help identify potential legislative priorities and increase engagement. Discussion on this issue is requested.
7. **Unscheduled Topics:** *Committee Members*
Committee members are encouraged to provide updates or request discussion on issues that may be relevant to REAP.
8. **Adjourn**

The next REAP Legislative Committee meeting will be at Noon on September 23, 2011.

Legislative Committee
Meeting Minutes – May 27, 2011
Workforce Alliance Administrative Offices
Council Member Jeff Longwell, Chair

1. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements:

Council Member Jeff Longwell, City of Wichita, opened the meeting; members, staff, and guests introduced themselves. Ms. Sue Schlapp, Kansas Department of Commerce, discussed her new position as the Senior Constituent Liaison, with an office at Wichita City Hall, and an offer to work together for the region.

2. Review of Minutes from the October 22, 2010 REAP Legislative Committee Meeting

Mayor Kristey Williams, Augusta, moved (Council Member Longwell) to approve the minutes with an amendment to show that Ms. Stephanie Knebel, Derby, was present at the last Legislative Committee Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. REAP 2011 Legislative Session Review

Mr. Tom Bruno, REAP Legislative Liaison, discussed the conclusion of the 2011 Legislative Session, noting that overall REAP had positive outcomes on its priorities. He specifically noted that Kansas Affordable Airfares received funding of \$5 million, NIAR received funding of \$5 million through Commerce with an additional \$5 million in local matching funds, and that NCAT received funding at a slightly lower level after calculations.

Mr. Dale Goter, Wichita, reported that ASR had a positive outcome with funding and that a tour of ASR and would be held on June 20th with a reception to thank legislators immediately following at Senator Carolyn McGinn's home.

Mr. Jason Watkins, Wichita Chamber of Commerce, stated that with the economic conditions and the condition of the budget, South Central Kansas and Wichita were fortunate to get almost everything they had asked for, which is a testament to the regional delegation. Mr. Watkins said that this exemplifies why people should support good legislators from Kansas and why local government and businesses need to support them and work with them as well.

Mr. Andy Schlapp, Wichita State University, discussed how the delegation from South Central Kansas is a real asset to our region and why it is so crucial to work with and support them.

4. Water Conference Review and Update on Issues

Mr. Dane Baxa, Executive Officer-Water Resources, talked about the 2011 Regional Water Conference: "Water's Role in Economic Development", that was held on Thursday May 26th. Although the keynote could not make it due to weather, the conference was a success and was well attended. Mr. Baxa thanked everyone that participated and helped make the conference a success. Some of the members who attended shared their thoughts and noted the benefits of the conference.

5. South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation Appreciation

Council Member Longwell asked the Committee to review a draft letter of thanks to show REAP's appreciation to the members of the South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation. It was noted that this letter would be forwarded to all members of the delegation. A consensus agreed that it was important to send a meaningful thank-you letter out and the Committee directed staff to finalize and mail those letters as soon as possible.

6. June REAP Meeting – Legislative Engagement Theme Discussion Update

A discussion led by Council Member Longwell focused on how the June REAP Meeting on Legislative Engagement should be structured. It was decided to do a panel of lobbyists and have them discuss how the Legislative Session went with their thoughts on what happened and how REAP can better help them and be involved in the future.

7. 2011 Legislative Committee Regional Listening Tour

Mr. Joe Yager, Chief Executive Officer of REAP, discussed the draft on page 7 of the packet with a tentative schedule for the Regional Listening Tour based on the discussion from the last Legislative Committee Meeting. Mr. Yager also talked about the format being more of a conversation between people about issues in their region instead of a formalized presentation. These meetings would use a host location in that area and would need two or three people from the Legislative Committee to attend each one.

8. Unscheduled Topics

Mr. Yager noted that on Tuesday May 31 the Governor would be in town for a T-Works presentation and that Senator Moran would also be holding a town hall meeting that day at the Hyatt,. He also noted that the Export Conference would be held on Thursday June 2.

9. Adjourn

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

REAP Legislative Committee	
<i>Attendance</i>	
5/27/2011	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Jurisdiction</i>
Council Member Jeff Longwell, Chair	City of Wichita
Commissioner Dave Unruh	Sedgwick County
Mayor Kristey Williams	City of Augusta
Mr. Dale Goter	City of Wichita
<i>Guests and Staff</i>	
Mr. Tom Bruno	Bruno & Associates
Ms. Sue Schlapp	Kansas Department of Commerce
Mr. Bill Bolin	SCKEDD
Ms. Diane Longfellow	Visioneering Wichita
Mr. Jason Watkins	Wichita Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Andy Schlapp	WSU
Mr. Joe Yager	WSU
Mr. Dane Baxa	WSU
Ms. Lorien Showalter	WSU

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Item

2011 REAP Membership Engagement Presentations

Background

One of the items identified in the REAP Strategic Plan is to engage stakeholders by conducting outreach on the purpose and accomplishment of REAP. The Legislative Committee identified an action step of scheduling on-going community visitations to provide updates to councils and commissions on the purpose, goals, and status of REAP.

At the request of the Committee staff has compiled several upcoming outreach opportunities where REAP representatives will visit communities, members or potential members, to update councils and commissions on the purpose, priorities, and progress of REAP. These representatives would also take questions concerning REAP. Staff is coordinating the schedule for these meetings as well as all necessary materials.

Potential Membership Presentation Schedule

Monday, June 27	Sumner County	10:00 AM	CONFIRMED
Thursday, July 14	Kechi	7:00 PM	Requested
Monday, July 18	El Dorado	7:00 PM	Proposed
Tuesday, July 19	Hutchinson	9:00 AM	Proposed
Monday, August 1	Goddard	7:00 PM	Proposed
Thursday, August 11	Cheney	7:30 PM	Proposed
Thursday, August 18	Cowley First (Arkansas City, Cowley County, Winfield)	9:30 AM	CONFIRMED

Following these presentations, the next communities that staff suggests are: Andover, Bentley, Kingman County, Maize, McPherson, and Wellington.

Recommended Action

Discuss and provide direction to staff.



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, MCPHERSON COUNTY, MOUNT HOPE, MULVANE, NEWTON, PARK CITY, RENO COUNTY, ROSE HILL, SEDGWICK, SEDGWICK COUNTY, SUMNER COUNTY, VALLEY CENTER, WELLINGTON, WICHITA

REAP'S 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.

WHO WE ARE

Some issues reach across the boundaries of individual communities. Often they can only be addressed by working together.

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) promotes regional cooperation and develops innovative solutions. REAP provides government leaders an opportunity to come together for support, ideas, collaboration, and for a common purpose -- to strengthen our individual communities and our region's economy.

REAP is a council of city and county governments for the South Central Kansas region. Governed by a [board of local elected officials](#), 37 local governments, thirty cities and seven counties are members of this regional organization that is considered an established voice on issues of common concern among local governments in the region.

We provide forums for the region to work together to advance economic partnerships, workforce development issues, water resources, and state and federal legislation that affect our region.

REAP is funded by local contributions and earned income.

WHAT WE DO

Our role is to provide collaboration to enhance the South Central Kansas regional economy through leadership, partnership, and advocacy.

Leadership

- Create a vision for regional economic development.
- Provide a forum to identify and discuss future economic needs.
- Promote consensus and commitment to regional solutions.

Partnership

- Engage stakeholders on workforce development, water resources, economic partnerships, and more.
- Encourage inter-jurisdictional planning to promote a sustainable regional economy.
- Coordinate policies that guide progress in the region.

Advocacy

- Guide state and national policies that impact the regional economy.
- Provide a unified voice to promote regional economic development.
- Advance sustainability in the region's vision for growth and development.

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

www.reap-ks.org



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, MCPHERSON COUNTY, MOUNT HOPE, MULVANE, NEWTON, PARK CITY, RENO COUNTY, ROSE HILL, SEDGWICK, SEDGWICK COUNTY, SUMNER COUNTY, VALLEY CENTER, WELLINGTON, WICHITA

ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

REAP provides government leaders an opportunity to come together for support, ideas, collaboration, and for a common purpose -- to strengthen our individual communities and our region's economy.

REGIONAL FORUMS

- **Monthly Board meetings** that develop relationships, facilitate dialogue, promote regional connectedness, and identify opportunities to work together.
- **Committees and taskforces** that develop action steps to meet identified regional needs.
- **Conferences, workshops, and summits** that provide valuable information and research on key state and national policy issues, best practices, and training opportunities.

WATER RESOURCES

- **Water Resources Committee** that identifies and coordinates collaborative efforts on regional issues of water quality and supply.
- Annual regional survey of water and wastewater rate information.
- Annual regional water conference that includes relevant speakers and topics.
- Disseminate regional, state, and national information on relevant water issues.
- Facilitate inter-jurisdictional planning efforts that address regional water supply demand.

ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIPS

- **Economic Development Committee** that identifies and coordinates collaborative efforts on regional economic development issues.
- Host regional economic leadership summits.
- Coordinate with local economic development partners in inter-jurisdictional planning.
- Promote regional projects that qualify for state funding assistance.
- Identify initiatives that promote population growth and job and wealth creation.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- **Chief Elected Officials Board** that ensures regional representation and conducts oversight and evaluation activities for all Workforce Investment Act programs.
- Ensure a strong, locally- and regionally-based business-led workforce investment system.
- Promotion of long-term economic growth through education and training initiatives.
- Monitor activities of federal, state, and local agencies affecting workforce development.

LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND PROMOTION

- **Legislative Committee** that identifies and coordinates collaborative efforts on policy issues of regional concern at the state or federal level.
- Annual legislative priorities.
- Topeka-based legislative liaison that represents REAP through advocacy with legislators, officials and other related agencies and interest groups.
- Annual South Central Legislative Delegation Policy Summit.

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

**REAP LC Meeting
June 24, 2011
Item #6**

Item

2011 Legislative Committee Regional Listening Tour

Background

The Legislative Committee directed staff to develop a “Regional Listening Tour” for the Committee this summer to help connect REAP with the communities in the region. The tour would allow 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 Committee identified two goals for the tour:

- 1) Value and purpose for REAP membership by connection of REAP to our member communities with identification of issues and methods for how REAP can support.
- 2) Encourage discussions in our communities about our communities.

In order to accomplish these goals, staff is developing an asset report and has identified five potential host communities for the tour. The following is a potential meeting schedule, however, staff will be flexible as we discuss with each host location for day and time:

- June 24 – REAP Meeting with presentation of initial findings on asset report.
- July 14 – Newton (Harvey and McPherson Counties)
- August 4 – Hutchinson (Reno and Kingman Counties)
- August 18 – El Dorado (Butler County)
- August 26 – Wellington/Winfield/Arkansas City (Harper, Sumner, and Cowley Counties)
- September 8 – Wichita (Sedgwick County)
- September 23 – REAP meeting with report on findings from meetings.

The tour events will include persons representing the various state interests who will be asked to provide 5-10 minute presentations on their role in economic development in the region. From these presentations we will attempt to generate some discussion on these assets, where they are, what shape they are in, and any support they may need.

Recommended Action

Discuss and provide direction to staff.



The REAP Legislative Committee would like to cordially invite you to:

**2011 REAP Regional Listening Tour
LOCATION,
July 14, 2011 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm**

The Purpose:

The REAP Legislative Committee is evaluating the process for developing regional legislative issues by identifying those issues that are important to individual communities.

The Discussion:

The Committee has identified various state assets in the region and needs your help in understanding what is important to the individual REAP communities. Please join us for an informative and educational opportunity that will encourage discussions to identify issues that could be beneficial to the region.

*Please RSVP by July 12th to Lorien Showalter at:
leshowalter@wichita.edu or call 316.978.6530*

Refreshments will be provided.