



Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP)

Meeting Agenda

8:00 a.m., June 6, 2011

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

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements: Mayor Kristey Williams

2. New Business: Mr. Joe Yager

A. Staff Recommendation on Officers for 2011-12

Recommended Actions: 1) That Mayor Kristey Williams, Augusta, be approved to serve as Chair and Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County, be approved to serve as Vice-Chair for 2011-12; 2) The REAP chair nominate members to serve on the Executive Committee and seek approval of the nominations no later than the July REAP meeting; and 3) The REAP chair appoint a taskforce to evaluate updates to the REAP Bylaws.

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 Minutes from May 9, 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 Legislative Engagement: Mayor Kristey Williams and Council Member Jeff Longwell

At the March 14 REAP meeting the Legislative Committee was charged with evaluating methods to improve our engagement with our own communities and our legislators. Since that meeting, the Committee has made several changes to increase engagement, partnerships, and new methods to identify issues of importance in our region. A recap of the results of the 2011 REAP Legislative Priorities and review of the process for REAP engagement will be presented.

- A. 2011 Legislative Priorities
- B. Legislative Priority Process and Current Engagement

5. Special Legislative Engagement Panel Discussion: Dr. Ed Flentje

Several experts in legislative engagement representing our region have been invited to participate in a panel discussion on the past legislative session and REAP's role in the legislative process going forward.

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

7. Adjourn

The next REAP Board meeting will be Monday, July 11, 2011.

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.

**REAP Board Meeting
June 6, 2011
Item #2A**

Item

Staff Recommendation on Officers for 2011-12

Background

In accord with the REAP bylaws, the term of office for Chair and Vice-Chair shall be for a period of one year, or until such officer's successor is elected. In addition, the REAP bylaws say that Chair is responsible for appointing a nominating committee each calendar year to place in nomination names for REAP Chair and Vice-Chair at the May meeting.

Due to an oversight by staff the nominating committee was not appointed.

At the May 10, 2010 REAP meeting the REAP nominating committee reported that the past two REAP Chairs each served two consecutive one-year terms as Chair, which was noted as being beneficial for the organization, and suggested that the incoming Chair and Vice-Chair would be a two-year commitment. However, due to the language in the current bylaws this was not allowed and a nominating committee should have been appointed again this year. In lieu of the nominating committee the Executive Committee has reviewed staff recommendations and agrees it would be appropriate for current REAP Chair, Mayor Kristey Williams of Augusta, to be asked to serve a second one-year term.

In addition, due to the results of the November 2010 election, the 2010-11 Vice-Chair, Commissioner Garey Martin of Sumner County, was not eligible to complete his term and the REAP Chair, in accordance with the REAP bylaws, appointed Commissioner Dave Unruh of Sedgwick County to fulfill the term. It would also be recommended that Commissioner Unruh be asked to continue to serve as Vice-Chair for the upcoming year.

Additionally, staff has discussed the term and the nomination and election clauses in the REAP Bylaws with the past four REAP Chairs, who have each suggested that a two-year term for Chair and Vice-Chair be considered. Furthermore, in reviewing the bylaws it has been determined that it would be appropriate to re-evaluate several clauses. Therefore, it is recommended that the REAP Chair appoint a bylaws taskforce to review and provide any necessary updates to the REAP bylaws to membership for consideration.

Staff Recommendations

1) That Mayor Kristey Williams, Augusta, be approved to serve as Chair and Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County, be approved to serve as Vice-Chair for 2011-12; 2) The REAP chair nominate members to serve on the Executive Committee and seek approval of the nominations no later than the July REAP meeting; and 3) The REAP chair appoint a taskforce to evaluate updates to the REAP Bylaws.

Meeting Minutes May 9, 2011
Derby Welcome Center, Derby, Kansas
Mayor Kristey Williams, Chairman

1. Welcome and Introduction.

Mayor Kristey Williams, City of Augusta, called the meeting to order; Mayor Dion Avello, City of Derby, welcomed everyone to the new Welcome Center in Derby; members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

2. News and Announcements

Mayor Williams noted that the theme for the June REAP meeting will be legislation.

Ms. Becky Eby, graduate assistant to REAP Water Resources Committee, was presented a Certificate of Recognition for her work with REAP. It was noted that after graduating in May she will be starting as an intern at Sedgwick County.

Ms. Kate Flavin was welcomed as she is a first year graduate student and graduate assistant in the Hugo Wall School and will be serving as the graduate assistant for the Water Resources Committee.

Mayor Williams congratulated Ms. Misty Bruckner, Associate Director of the Center for Urban Studies, Wichita State University, on the birth of her son.

3. Consent Agenda and Committee Reports.

Mayor Williams noted that the Executive Committee partnered with five organizations to co-sponsor Kansas Governor Sam Brownback's first Economic Growth Summit, "Kansas Aviation: Soaring into the Future."

Mayor Williams discussed that the WSU Center for Innovation and Enterprise Engagement (CIEE) is developing a grant application for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration's i6 Green Challenge (information on page 9 of the agenda packet) and have asked REAP to provide a letter of support for their efforts for manufacturing. A more in-depth look is provided on page 16 of the packet.

Mayor Williams also talked about how REAP had been asked to nominate 13 members for the CIEE Board of Directors. Nominations were solicited and chosen based on diversity of location, rural and urban areas, aviation and non-aviation industry members and other characteristics to ensure a wide spread of diversity on the board. Mayor Williams thanked everyone for their suggestions and stated that if there were any questions to feel free to let her know.

Commissioner Willis Heck, Chairman of the Water Resources Committee, discussed the Regional Water Conference that will be held on May 26th at the Sedgwick County Extension Center. He noted that there is no fee for REAP members and the theme was "Water's Role in Economic Development."

Mr. Joe Yager, Chief Executive Officer of REAP, discussed that REAP had been asked to help promote the Export Now Conference, which will be held June 2, 2011 and is trying to reach smaller businesses.

Mr. Yager also talked about the Grain Belt Express Clean Line Community Leader Roundtables that will be discussing a high-voltage current line being developed that will connect some of the nation's best wind resources. Mr. Yager encouraged members to attend because it will affect many communities in the southern portion of the region.

Mayor Williams noted that beginning this summer the Legislative Committee will be doing a Regional Tour to visit member communities and discuss state assets for the region as well as find ways REAP can engage these communities.

Mayor Williams requested the board members review the consent agenda. Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County, moved (Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County) to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Special Presentation – “Strategies for Regional Water Supply”

Dr. Ed Flentje, Wichita State University, introduced the presentation by noting that all students in the MPA program must pass a Capstone Course, Public Decision Making, where they participate in a project examining an unresolved Community Issue which focused on Regional Water Supply this semester. Five of the students from the class, Mr. Brandon McGuire, Mr. Chase Fosse, Mr. Sid Fleming, Mr. Mike Jacobs, and Ms. Paula Downs, volunteered their time to give their presentation to the REAP members in attendance. The White Paper, “Thinking and Acting Regionally on Water Supply” is available on the website at www.reap-ks.org.

5. REAP Membership Roundtable Discussion

Roundtable discussions were held to define REAP’s role in addressing long-term supply, demand, and redundancy in water supplies for the region. Three questions were examined by the various groups: 1) What is the value for the REAP region to address regional water supply and demand and redundancy among water supplies; 2) What would the role of REAP be in this process; and 3) What information, policy issues, and partnerships are needed to further this discussion? Overall, it was determined that there is value for REAP to address regional water supply, demand, and redundancy among water supplies. Staff was directed to compile all of the discussion and notes and present the Water Resources Committee with a report.

6. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates.

No unscheduled items were discussed at this meeting.

7. Adjourn.

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

REAP Attendance	
4/11/2011	
Name	Jurisdiction
Mayor Kristey Williams	Augusta
Mayor Harold Smith	Bel Aire
Council Member Maurice Terrebonne	Bel Aire
Ms. Ellie Skokan	Bel Aire
Mr. Dale Shaffer	Benton
Commissioner Jeff Masterson	Butler County
Mr. Kent Brown	Clearwater
Ms. Diana Brooks	Colwich
Mayor Dion Avello	Derby
Ms. Kathy Sexton	Derby
Mr. Phil Alexander	Derby
Mayor Tom McKibbin	El Dorado
Mr. Herb Llewellyn	El Dorado
Mr. Kurt Bookout	El Dorado
Mr. John Bailey	El Dorado
Mr. Kiel Mangus	Goddard
Council Member Phil Adams	Halstead
Commissioner Chip Westfall	Harvey County
Commissioner Marge Roberson	Harvey County
Mr. Scott Davies	Harvey County
Mr. John Waltner	Harvey County
Mr. David New	Haysville
Mr. John Carder	Hesston
Mayor Robert Jackson	Kechi
Council Member Karen Fitzmier	Maize
Commissioner Ron Loomis	McPherson County
Mayor Terry Somers	Mount Hope
Commissioner Willis Heck	Newton
Commissioner Jim Nickel	Newton
Mr. Randy Riggs	Newton
Commissioner Dave Unruh	Sedgwick County
Commissioner Richard Ranzau	Sedgwick County
Ms. Irene Hart	Sedgwick County
Ms. Jaci Reimer	Sedgwick
Mr. Thom Noone	Sedgwick
Mr. Gus Collins	Wellington
Mayor Carl Brewer	Wichita
Council Member Lavonta Williams	Wichita
Mr. Dale Goter	Wichita
Mr. Joseph Pajor	Wichita
Ms. Debra Ary	Wichita
Guests and Staff	
Mr. Harland Priddle	K-96 Corridor Association
Ms. Margaret Fast	Kansas Water Office
Ms. Deb Baker	KWO
Mr. Keith Lawing	Workforce Alliance
Ms. Angela Buzard	WSU
Dr. Ed Flentje	WSU
Mr. Joe Yager	WSU
Mr. Dane Baxa	WSU
Mr. Brandon McGuire	WSU
Mr. Chase Fosse	WSU
Mr. Sid Fleming	WSU
Mr. Mike Jacobs	WSU
Ms. Becky Eby	WSU
Ms. Paula Downs	WSU
Ms. Kate Flavin	WSU
Ms. Lorien Showalter	WSU

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Item

REAP Committee Reports

Background

Since the April 11, 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 May, however, the Committee has received various updates from the Chair which are highlighted below.

REAP Assessments for 2012

In accordance with the REAP Bylaws and Fiscal Procedures, the annual fees for membership are assessed each calendar year using official population figures as recorded by the Kansas Secretary of State. State certification of population is expected in early to mid July and staff has been directed to inform member jurisdictions of the assessment amount at the earliest date possible.

Kansas Affordable Airfares Program Fiscal Year 2012

In order to continue the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program, REAP again released an RFP that establishes a process for fiscal year (FY) 2012 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012). This RFP was released on April 1, 2011 through State-wide media, Kansas Association of Airports, Kansas Department of Commerce, and the League of Kansas Municipalities, was also forwarded to all members of REAP. Both the RFP and the press release are available on the REAP website at www.reap-ks.org. The deadline for submittals is June 17, 2010.

Recognition of REAP Executive Committee for 2010-11

The following REAP members are recognized for service on the REAP Executive Committee for 2010-2011:

- Mayor Kristey Williams of Augusta, REAP Chair
- Commissioner Garey Martin of Sumner County, REAP Vice-Chair and Treasurer (July 2010 – December 2010)
- Commissioner Dave Unruh of Sedgwick County, REAP Vice-Chair (January 2011 – June 2011) and 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, Treasurer (January 2011 – June 2011) and at-large representative
- Commissioner Chip Westfall of Harvey County, at-large representative
- Commissioner Brad Dillon of Reno County, at-large representative (January 2011 – June 2011)

Next Committee Meeting

The REAP Executive Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, July 6, 2010 to discuss proposals for the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program for fiscal year 2011.

Report of the Legislative Committee

The REAP Legislative Committee met on April 29, 2011. The following highlights information from that meeting.

2011 Legislative Session Review and Report

Mr. Tom Bruno, REAP Legislative Liaison, provided the committee with an update on 2011 legislative priorities. Mr. Dale Goter (City of Wichita), Mr. Andy Schlapp (Wichita State University), and Mr. Jason Watkins (Wichita Metro Chamber) joined Mr. Bruno in a discussion on the session. Each of the participants provided their insight into the role REAP plays in the determining regional legislative priorities. The following are the highlights of that report:

The Kansas Legislature officially adjourned at 6:00 am Friday, May 13. The session proved to be fairly successful for the region. It was noted that there were several major reforms and the legislature approved of all of Governor Sam Brownback's "Road Map for Kansas" economic initiatives, including his expensing plan and rural economic development zones.

Most of the issues of importance to our region had received major focus throughout the session, but didn't find resolution until the final week, which is not unusual due to the use of every issue as possible bargaining chips between the two Chambers. It was noted that it is normal for agreements to be reached on a policy matter only to see official voting held up by one Chamber in attempt to force their counterparts to accept another policy position on unrelated legislation.

One thing that has become clear is the political shift through the electoral process. The state has a conservative Governor for the first time in a long time. The Senate which has been led by moderate Republicans has experienced an increase in the number of conservatives that are more vocal. And, the House has clearly shifted to a conservative base with House Speaker Mike O'Neal holding a powerful voice. It was noted that next session will be highly political as these roles are further defined and new members understand the process.

Some other highlights from the report are as follows:

FY 2012 Budget

- As was noted throughout the session, the budget was the major point of contention. With the state facing a \$500M projected shortfall, the Governor wanted cuts to the FY2011 budget in order to help balance the budgets for this year and next. Neither Chamber passed bills in time and then negotiations on the bill stalled, resulting in the Governor eventually utilizing his allotment authority to balance the current year's budget.
- As the session neared its end, and after many rounds of bargaining between the House and Senate, a budget agreement was finally reached and was readied for consideration by the full legislature. The FY2012 budget cut nearly \$50M in state general fund spending, but the cuts to agencies and especially public schools was much larger due the absence of federal stimulus dollars that had been backfilling state money for the last two years.

- The final budget spends nearly \$14B all funds, including state and federal monies. The state general fund budget is just over \$6B and leaves a projected ending balance of \$70M, well below the required 7.5% which would be \$450M.
- Even in good years budgets have winners and losers. In a tough budget year there are understandably more losers and those losses tend to be even more painful. Some longstanding state agencies were either eliminated or folded into larger agencies. KTEC and the Pipeline program were eliminated and while the Kansas Arts Commission and Public Broadcasting were funded by the legislature, the Governor promised to use his line item veto authority to zero-out their funding.

Kansas Affordable Airfares Program

- The Kansas Affordable Airfares Program was one of the high dollar and high stakes items that was included in most negotiations. Ultimately, Senator Carolyn McGinn and Representative Marc Rhoades showed their continued support by securing the funding in the final budget proposal in the amount of \$5 million.

Equus Beds Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Project

- The budget included a net increase of \$11,390 over the Governor's 2012 recommendation of \$652,141, or a final amount of \$663,531. The final amount represents a \$100,000 increase over last year's award of \$563,531.

National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR)

- The \$5 million in funding for NIAR for FY 2012 was approved and included an additional \$5 million in matching funds.

National Center for Aviation Training (NCAT)

- The budget included the \$5 million in aviation training funding for Fiscal Year 2012.

Engineering Growth Initiative

- The "Engineering Growth Initiative," for strengthening the Kansas economy by investing in engineering education was included. The initiative is a public-private partnership that builds upon a \$1 million investment proposed by Governor Brownback's 2012 budget. The state's investment is set to increase to \$4 million in 2013 and \$7 million the next year and each year beyond. That money comes from the state lottery and also requires a dollar-for-dollar match from private business. The goal is to increase the number of engineering graduates from WSU, K-State and KU by 60 percent over the next 10 years. Currently the three schools average 875 engineering graduates annually. Increasing support for the three schools would mean they would increase graduates, who in turn would be more likely to remain in Kansas to work. Deans of the three engineering departments have said they would use the fund for a variety of projects, including building facilities, attracting more faculty and increasing scholarships.

South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation Letter of Appreciation

In an effort to increase awareness and engagement the REAP Legislative Committee took action to authorize a letter of appreciation on behalf of REAP to be forwarded to the members of the South Central Legislative Delegation. This letter is co-signed by the REAP Chair and

Legislative Committee Chair and recognizes the hard work and thoughtful consideration of various items of our 2011 legislative agenda.

2011 Legislative Committee Regional Tour

The Committee was presented with plans for the “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 suggested locations included Hutchinson (Reno and Kingman Counties); Newton (Harvey and McPherson Counties); El Dorado (Butler County); Wellington, Winfield, or Arkansas City (Harper, Sumner, and Cowley Counties); and Wichita (Sedgwick County). Dates and times are being determined.

SAVE THE DATE: Equus Beds ASR Tour and Reception

Please note this Save The Date for a tour of the Equus Beds ASR project on Monday, June 20, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The tour will begin at the farmstead of Sen. Carolyn McGinn north of Wichita near Sedgwick. After stops at various points of the ASR project, the tour will conclude at the McGinn farmstead with a reception acknowledging the legislative support for the aquifer recovery project. Detailed directions will be provided later.

Next Legislative Committee Meeting

The next Legislative Committee monthly meeting has been scheduled for Friday, **June 24, 2011** at a time and location to be determined.

Report of the Economic Development Committee

Due to the recertification taskforce meetings and the annual REAP Water Conference, the REAP Economic Development Committee did not meet in May. The following are updates and action items for the Chief Elected Officials Board as required.

Local Area IV Chief Elected Officials Business

Local Area IV Recertification

In accordance with the agreement between the REAP EDC and Workforce Alliance on the governing principles of the partnership for the effective planning, coordination and implementation of the employment and training system within Local Area IV, we have developed, established and adopted an Operator Certification Process for One Stop Operators in Local Area IV as a systematic approach for conducting oversight and ongoing monitoring of the One-Stop delivery system.

At the January 28, 2011 REAP EDC meeting, the Committee approved to update the local certification process through a recertification process that included creation of a taskforce and conduct on-site review/audit.

Per the direction of the EDC, members of the Certification Taskforce are as follows:

Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County (EDC/CEOB Chair)

Mayor Kristey Williams, Augusta (REAP Chair)

Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope

Mr. Allen Bell, Wichita

Ms. Kerri Falletti, Cowley First

The recertification process included background on the certification process and pertinent rules, laws, and regulations, as well as an overview of the center operations, structure, and finances. The taskforce also took guided tours of the four workforce centers. The on-site reviews occurred on Friday, April 8, 2011 at the Wichita center; Friday April 15, 2011 at the Sumner County center and Winfield center; and Thursday, April 28, 2011 at the Butler County center.

Following these presentations and tours the taskforce was asked to review the Business Plan Review. Staff was directed to formulate a draft report that was forwarded to members of the taskforce so that they could come to a consensus and make a recommendation to the REAP EDC at the regularly scheduled May meeting.

Due to scheduling conflicts the REAP EDC May meeting was cancelled, therefore, the taskforce has asked that the report be made available to all REAP members for review. The taskforce report and recommendation for re-certification is online at: www.reap-ks.org/economic.

The REAP EDC will discuss and take appropriate action at the June meeting.

Recommended Action: Receive the report of the recertification taskforce.

Modifications to the Lease for the Wichita Workforce Center

The WIA budget for the Workforce Alliance for Program Year 2011 will decrease by approximately 35% next year. This reduction in funding made it necessary to reduce operating costs for Program Year 2011.

The largest fixed operational cost for the Workforce Alliance is the lease currently held for the Wichita Workforce Center. WA staff have been working with the building manager and the landlord's representatives to modify the lease terms for the next Program Year (July 2011 through June 2012). Amendments to the lease have been negotiated with the landlord to reduce the lease costs from the current annual amount of \$680,730 to \$315,103 beginning July 1, 2011 for the term of one year. The Workforce Alliance Executive Committee has already approved these modifications.

The amendments to the lease include:

The Workforce Alliance will lease the 1st floor, 2nd floor, IT Equipment Room on 3rd floor, and the ResCare space on 4th floor. This equals approximately 29,015 square feet of space. The WA will pay an annual rate of \$10.86 per square foot for a total of \$315,102.90 for 12 months. The Workforce Alliance will have access to and provided the use of approximately 30,485 square feet of space contained within the lower level and 3rd floor, but will pay the landlord no rental fee for the use of the space. The Landlord is free to market the space contained within the lower level and 3rd floors. If the Landlord secures a tenant for that space, The WA will either have to pay to use the space going forward or vacate the space and return to the Landlord to be leased. The Workforce Alliance will also have to surrender up to 20 parking spaces if the Landlord secures a tenant for the space. WA is not making a lease payment.

The Workforce Alliance has also agreed to pay the utility costs for the period of time WA occupies space for which no lease payment is made. This amount agreed to will be \$1.63 per square foot for a total of \$49,691 during the 12 month period. This figure was arrived at by using the past utility costs for the facility. The WA will also pay for janitorial services for the space occupied, but no rental payment at a cost of \$0.06 a square foot annually for a total of \$1,829 for the 12 month period.

The total cost savings are forecasted to be approximately \$314,000 due to the modifications of this lease and will be shared by all partners with leased space at the Wichita Workforce Center for Program Year 2011.

The Workforce Alliance will review terms of this amendment in January of 2012 if not sooner.

Recommended Action: Authorize the WA Executive Director to sign modifications as presented to the lease for the Wichita Workforce Center pending final legal review.

Recommended Action: Approve the recommended actions as presented in the Chief Elected Officials business.

Next Economic Development Committee Meeting

The next Economic Development Committee monthly meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 23, 2011, however, due to scheduling conflicts staff is working to reschedule.

Report of the Water Resources Committee

The REAP Water Resources Committee did not meet in May due to the annual water conference. The following is information of importance to the Committee and upcoming events.

2011 REAP Regional Water Conference: Water's Role in Economic Development

The Committee thanks all those who could attend the 2011 REAP Regional Water Conference: "Water's Role in Economic Development." The conference was a success with more than 120 people in attendance and positive initial comments about the featured speakers, including, Tracy Streeter, Director of the Kansas Water Office who kicked off the conference when the scheduled speaker was unable to attend due to weather. In addition Kansas Wildlife and Parks Secretary Robin Jennison spoke about water's role in attracting tourism in Kansas, and Kansas Senator Carolyn McGinn gave some closing remarks regarding 2011 water related legislation.

In addition a panel discussion moderated by Robert Layton, Wichita, featured REAP Member Kent Hixson, Mulvane, as well as the city managers from Salina and Paola who gave their unique collaborative solutions to address water issues in their communities. There was also a business panel discussion moderated by Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County, featuring representatives from USD 259, Via Christi, and Spirit AeroSystems who discussed their organizations conservation efforts and the impact it plays on our region's water supply. Ron Appletoft from Johnson County Water One also presented on the history and lessons learned developing a regional public water supply.

Additional information and presentations are available online at <http://reap-ks.org/conference.html>.

Summary of May 9th REAP Membership Roundtable Discussion

At the May 9, 2011 REAP meeting, members discussed addressing regional water supply, demand, and redundancy in water supplies in the region. Below is a summary of their discussions.

It was determined that there is value for REAP to address regional water supply, demand, and redundancy among water supplies. The benefits of REAP addressing the issues were:

- Having a **neutral party to facilitate and build trust** amongst regional water providers.
- Creating **efficiencies** through redundancies between water providers.
- **Maximizing utilization** of existing water resources.
- **Aligning long term goals** for water quantity and quality in the region.
- Discussing growth issues regionally and finding **common interest** between water providers.
- Providing **education and learning opportunities** on regional water planning.
- **Focusing dialogue** on an affordable, high quality, sustainable water supply for our region.

The roles that REAP can play during this process are:

- Taking the **lead role in facilitating regional dialogue** by convening technical experts, engineers, state and federal agencies, and making recommendations to the REAP board.
- Providing **unbiased research and discussion forums** to build trust among partners.
- Maintaining **focus of discussion** on affordable, quality water in the region.

To continue this dialogue, additional research of information, policy issues, and partnerships include:

- Identifying state agencies and other partners for coordination.
- Conducting or identifying research of water financing, supply, and demand in the region.
- Identifying state water laws, regulations, and opportunities for regional water planning.
- Expanding research on maximizing the use of the El Dorado Reservoir.

On June 6th, following the full REAP meeting at approximately 9:30 a.m., the Water Resources Committee will convene to identify specific next steps for continuing the regional water planning dialogue.

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June 6, 2011
Item #3 D

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*

- The GWEDC Steering Council met on May 16, 2011. The agenda included a 2010 audit report, project/prospect updates, and IDEA reports in which 35 businesses have been visited in 2011. It was also noted that GWEDC received the BREI (Business Retention and Expansion International) Award for ‘business excellence’ for the IDEA program. In addition, a marketing update was provided that included discussion of the Kansas Department of Commerce FAM Tour (familiarity tour that provides an internal audience an opportunity to note Wichita’s assets) slated for June 9 and the attendance at the Paris Air Show also held in June. Finally, an economic update was provided.
- For additional GWEDC updates, go to their website www.gweduc.org.

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

- The Advisory Board is scheduled to meet Monday, June 6, 2011.

KansasBio *Submitted by: Mr. Joe Yager*

- KansasBio is a sponsor of the Governor’s Economic Summit on Animal Health “Leading the Way in World Class Health, Safety & Research” on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at the Kansas Farm Bureau in Manhattan, KS.
- Governor Sam Brownback has recognized the animal health sector as a significant industry in Kansas by holding a roundtable discussion of the continued growth and development of animal health, safety and research. Representatives from the Governor’s Administration, Kansas State University, the private sector, community partners and the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) effort will be on hand to share their insights and plans for the future.

Visioneering Wichita *Submitted by: Mr. Joe Yager*

- The Visioneering Steering committee met **May 9**.
- **Family Strengthening Alliance** – The Visioneering Family Strengthening Alliance is one of the partners planning the Kansas Family Strengthening Summit scheduled for June 8th and 9th at Newman and Friends Universities. June 8th will be a day of presentations from national, regional and local experts about families and relationships. June 9th will be a series of workshops with many being led by the Wednesday presenters. CEU credits will be available. Additional information is available at: www.thefamilystrengtheningcoalition.com.

- **College Mecca** – Visioneering is participating in the Talent Dividend which has a goal of increasing college graduation by 1%. The College Mecca Alliance applied for a \$200,000 RWJ Foundation grant that has to do with health and the Talent Dividend. The grant is to address health outcomes identified in the County Health Rankings. The area focused on is social & economic factors related to education. It must involve a policy or system change. The alliance has identified a universal articulation agreement as the policy change.
- The College Mecca and Young Professionals are working together to plan a downtown event in August to invite freshmen and sophomores from the local universities and colleges. The idea is to introduce them to all there is to do downtown.
- **2011 Pinwheel City Award** – Wichita has been awarded the 2011 Pinwheel City Award for outstanding work with child prevention. It was awarded to only one city across the nation. This was a result of the work of the Wichita Child Abuse Fatalities Community Response Team. The team was formed in 2008 as a response to the 8 child abuse deaths that occurred that year. It was created to carry out a prevention plan developed by the Birth-K Alliance. It was determined that one triggering event was the child crying. They began reaching out to childhood professionals, using traditional and social media to communicate the message of preventing child abuse fatalities and reaching out to social service system professionals with child abuse prevention materials and information. One of the education pieces was the Period of PURPLE Crying which teaches crying is a normal part of child development and discusses ways to deal with a crying child. As a result Wichita child abuse fatalities dropped to 1 in 2010 and none so far in 2011.
- **2011 City to City Trip** – This year's city to city trip will be to Pittsburgh, PA, Sept 14 – 16. Areas of focus are: (1) revitalization of their downtown; (2) reclaiming their rivers; (3) foundations – how they have had patient capital; (4) workforce; (5) and cultural avenues.
- **Healthy Community Design** – Matt Jordan, Kansas Leadership Center, led a discussion about Healthy Community Design to encourage the Committee to think about the future of Visioneering Wichita.
- The Steering Committee will begin meeting monthly for a while to continue the discussion about healthy community design. The next meeting is **June 13**.

REAP Board Meeting
June 6, 2011
Item #3 D

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.

T-WORKS- South Central Kansas Projects

Governor Sam Brownback, Lt. Governor Jeff Colyer, and Transportation Secretary Deb Miller held a meeting in Wichita on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 to announce the projects selected under the expansion and modernization program of T-WORKS. The event in Wichita kicked off a four-day, five-city tour to announce projects funded under the state's transportation program T-WORKS.

The list of expansion and modernization projects can be viewed on the T-WORKS website at <http://www.ksdo.org/t-works/>. Projects for other regions of the state also will be posted on the T-WORKS website and updated daily after announcements. In addition, the complete list and map have been included in this packet for your review.

Governor's Flint Hills Visioning Summit

Mr. Harland Priddle, K-96 Corridor, attended the 2011 Governor's Flint Hills Visioning Summit on May 17 held at Camp Wood, Elmdale and provided an overview. He was kind enough to share with us his memorandum that is attached which details his observations and summation of the event.

Wichita Area Economic Outlook Conference

The Center for Economic Development and business Research at Wichita State University has announced that the Wichita Area Economic Outlook Conference is scheduled for Oct. 6, 2011, from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Century II. More information will be available as conference time approaches.

Membership Updates

REAP staff continues to compile current membership data and will now be scheduling visits to council/commission meetings in the coming weeks and months. Please contact [Mr. Joe Yager](#), REAP CEO, or [Mr. Dane Baxa](#), REAP EO-WRC, if you would like to schedule a presentation or meeting with your community.

REAP Meeting Schedule

Meeting schedules for 2011 are available on the REAP website, www.reap-ks.org.

Please note that the next REAP meeting is scheduled for **Monday, July 11, 2011**. Staff is working on securing meeting space at the National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR) at Wichita State University. The meeting will include a tour of the facility so please plan accordingly. More information will be provided as staff secures the facility and speakers.



SOUTH CENTRAL

Modernization & Expansion Projects

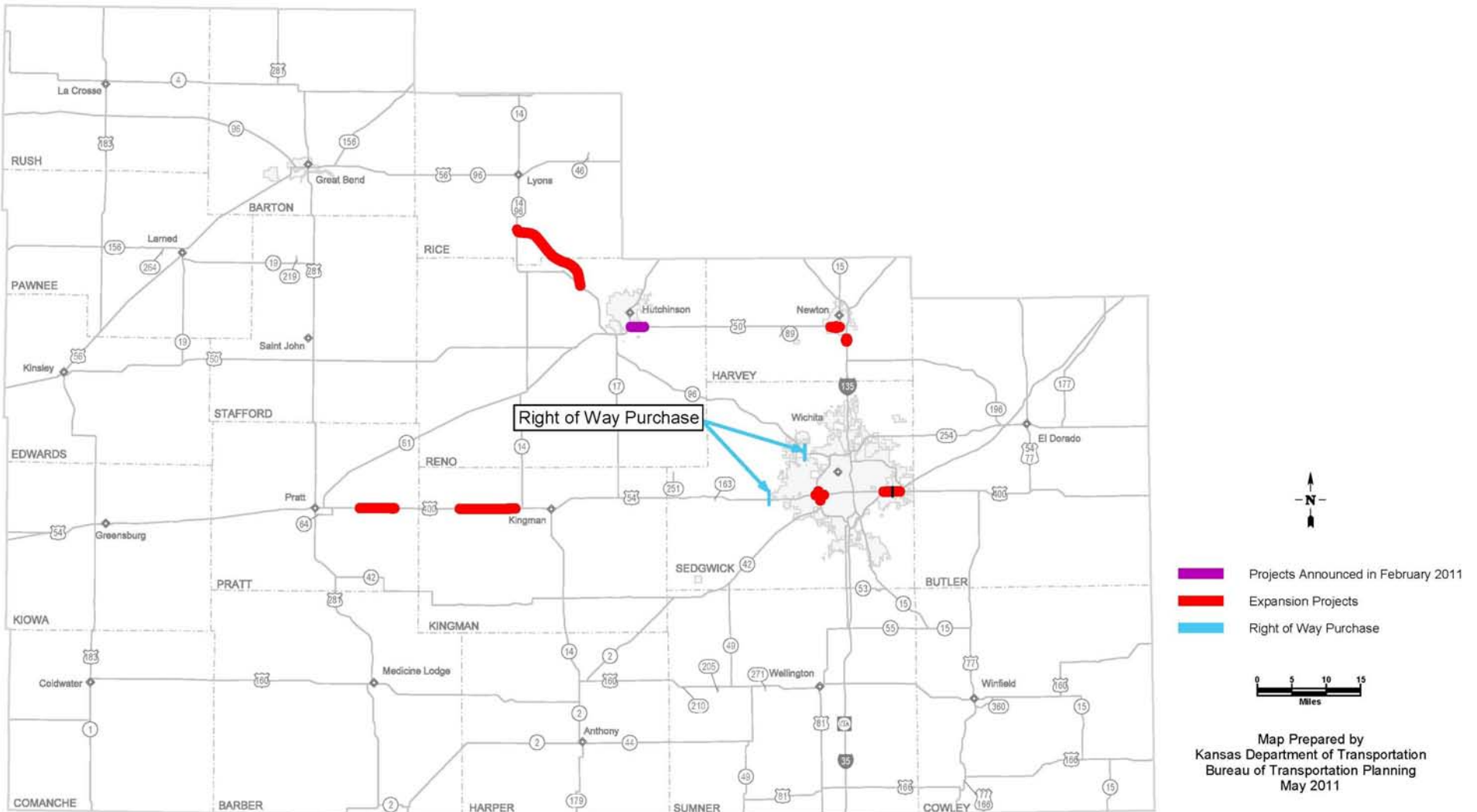
Type	Selected Project Description	Miles	Construction Cost Estimate (in millions)	Economic Impact (in millions)	Let Year
E	<p>I-135: reconstruct interchange at 36th Street in Newton</p> <p>The interchange improvements provide significant economic benefits to the region by opening access to the new industrial area and accommodating increasing over-length trucks associated with the wind turbine development. Design work is already underway.</p>	-	\$14	\$220	2014-2020*
E	<p>I-235: US-54 (Kellogg) Interchange: construct I-235 southbound flyover and US-54 eastbound flyover</p> <p>This project helps improve east-west connections in Wichita and is one of Wichita's two, top priorities. The existing interchange is an old design and safety issues grow with increasing traffic. There is good regional support for this project and Wichita supports reconstructing only a portion of the interchange to address the most pressing operational and safety concerns. Sedgwick County will contribute \$11.6 million towards construction of this project.</p>	2	\$116	\$88	2014-2020*
E	<p>US-50: 4-lane freeway, new interchange from 1 mile west of Anderson Rd to Old Main in Newton</p> <p>KDOT has already begun design work and buying right-of-way for this project due to the development along the corridor. This is one of the region's top priorities.</p>	1	\$31	\$11	2012
E	<p>US-50: reconstruct to 4 lane with interchanges K-61 east to Airport/Yoder Rd. in Reno County</p> <p>This project was announced in February. It will support traffic associated with industrial park area, including the Siemens Wind Turbine plant. It will be let to construction in June 2011.</p>	3	\$50	\$133	2011
E	<p>US-54 reconstruct 4-lane with Webb Rd. interchange from Cypress to Wiedemann in Sedgwick County</p> <p>This is one of Wichita's two top priorities. It extends the 4-lane of US-54 which is critical to addressing growing congestion and supports economic development in the region. The economic impacts associated with this project are strong when compared to the cost. Wichita will provide \$15.6 million toward construction and \$63 million for project development to be utilized on this project and the one listed below.</p>	1	\$82	\$260	2014-2020*
E	<p>US-54: reconstruct 4- lane with Greenwich interchange from Wiedemann to 127th Street in Sedgwick County</p> <p>This is one of Wichita's priorities and is considered phase II of the project listed above. It extends the 4-lane of US-54 which is critical to addressing growing congestion and supports economic development in the region. The economic impacts associated with this project are strong when compared to the cost. Wichita will provide \$15.6 million toward construction and \$63 million for project development to be utilized on this project and the one listed above.</p>	1	\$95	\$366	2014-2020*

E= Expansion Project M= Modernization Project PE= Preliminary Engineering Work Only Project announced in Feb. 2011

Type	Selected Project Description	Miles	Construction Cost Estimate (in millions)	Economic Impact (in millions)	Let Year
E	<p>US-54: Upgrade to 4-lane expressway through the Byron Walker Nature Preserve in Kingman County.</p> <p>KDOT has selected this as project as an expressway rather than adding less expensive passing lanes to be consistent with the vision of the corridor. In addition to the engineering design being complete and right-of-way having been purchased for this section of US-54, environmental permits have been issued to construct improvements through the Byron Walker Nature Preserve. By constructing the improvements now, it eliminates the risk of the permits lapsing.</p>	8	\$44	\$9	2012
E	<p>K-96: construct new 2-lane on 4-lane right of way from Hutchinson to Sterling</p> <p>Advocates were quick to suggest that the smaller scope of building 2-lanes on 4-lane right-of-way would be acceptable, and at that scope this was the most highly supported project in the region. KDOT has completed a conceptual study of the corridor and rates the project as having an engineering priority due to the curves and deteriorated pavement on the existing highway. Many in the region see this as the first step in completing the long advocated for Northwest Passage.</p>	15	\$63	\$118	2014-2020*
E	<p>US-54: 4-lane expressway from 5 miles east of Pratt to 1 mile east of Cairo</p> <p>Significant investment has been made in this corridor through previous transportation programs. During local consult participants stressed the importance to "finish what it (KDOT) had started." Design work is already underway.</p>	5	\$34	\$6	2013
PE	<p>Northwest Bypass in Wichita from Goddard east and northeast to K-96: State will assist with the purchasing of right-of-way.</p> <p>The State of Kansas agrees to provide two dollars for every one dollar of funds contributed by Sedgwick County, City of Goddard and City of Maize, but not to exceed a maximum of \$1,350,000 per year for five years (FY2011- FY2015, for a total of \$6,750,000). A substantial amount of design work and right-of-way acquisition was done on this proposed bypass during the Comprehensive Transportation Plan but those funds have all been expended and there are still right-of-way tracts to be acquired.</p>				
	TOTAL	36	\$529	\$892	

E= Expansion Project M= Modernization Project PE= Preliminary Engineering Work Only Project announced in Feb. 2011
 No construction dollars available

South Central Kansas Modernization and Expansion Projects





HARLAND E. PRIDDLE

Priddle & Associates

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD Governor's Flint Hills Visioning Summit

I attended the 2011 Governor's Flint Hills Visioning Summit on May 17 held at Camp Wood, Elmdale, Kansas. Approximately 200 attended the Summit. Following are my observations and comments:

- a. **General Overview of the Program.** This was an excellent event with high level participation from state and federal agencies as well as communities and organizations. Linda Craghead, Assistant Secretary for Parks and Tourism, did an excellent job of managing the event. Presentations were made by several agencies outlining their programs for promoting tourism and economic development. These presentations focused on the unusual and unique asset we have in the Flint Hills as a tourism attraction as well as possible economic development in the area. These very informative presentations were designed to acquaint the conferees with background and did not address specific actions that could be taken to increase tourism or development in the region.
- b. During his opening comments and the feed back session hosted by Governor Brownback, several key issues and challenges were presented. Following is a summary of these comments:
 - (1) Governor Brownback's personal presentations and participation provided an excellent basis for the attendees to recognize the importance of the very valuable flint hills area and the opportunity it provides for promoting our state. He indicated that **we must identify the strengths and opportunities, prioritize these opportunities and commit to the development of plans to promote the area.**
 - (2) While there was a high level of interest in several opportunities for promoting the Flint Hills with specific events (i. e. Symphony in the Flint Hills, Trail Rides through the area, Discovery Center in Manhattan), there does not appear to be a common organization to move this forward. In my opinion, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism will be leading this effort in the future. This would be very beneficial but there remains a need for the region to establish a group such as a Flint Hills Regional Tourism Partnership to promote the entire area, specific events and programs; trail rides, bike trails, hiking trails, cook out on the prairie to suggest a few. At the present, the Flint Hills Regional Council has been established but it is limited in membership and does not include some of the major counties (Chase, Lyon, Greenwood, and Butler to name a few). Their web site does not address tourism as part of their mission and vision. While the Flint Hills Regional Council may be necessary, their members are from the membership governing bodies and should not, in my opinion, be responsible for managing the development of tourism in the Flint Hills Region. The FHRC could and should play a major role in the development of economic opportunities available in the region that includes other areas in addition to tourism. **RECOMMENDATION: I suggest the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, with the Director of Tourism acting as the organizational leader, consider establishing a Flint Hills Regional**

Tourism Partnership with membership from all counties within the Flint Hills Region. Their mission and objectives would be, as mentioned by Governor Brownback in his opening comments; identifying, prioritizing and committing to the development of packaging the tourism opportunities in the Flint Hills Region. This group would be the action group for moving tourism forward. This Partnership may also be able to work with other regional organizations such as the South Central Kansas Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) in providing sponsors for specific events (i.e. 5k Run in the Flint Hills, Biking through the Flint Hills, etc)

- (3) **The Kansas Turnpike route dissects a major portion of the Flint Hills. A Flint Hills Information Center should be placed at a strategic location; mile marker 110-the cattle pens area, as an example.** This information center would give the traveler an opportunity to view an area that remains untouched for centuries and is unique to the entire United States. Special seasonal events, such as “Witnessing the Burning of the Prairie, Cattle Wrangling, Cook out on the Prairie, etc, could be provided. I would suggest that private funding should be explored for this center. We have individuals and organizations in our state that have a high level of interest. For example on April 20, 2001, Koch Industries was the underwriter for a program aired on public television-KPTS, Last Stand of the Tall Grass Prairie. As part of this project, an excellent book entitled, “Last Stand of the Tallgrass Prairie” was published. I was privileged to attend the premier showing of the program at the Exploration Center in Wichita and have a copy of the book. This book explores the prairie’s unique ecology and chronicles the lives of the people who settled there in generations before us. **RECOMMENDATION: Establish a working group that will include representatives from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism to develop a plan that would provide for the development of an information center on the Kansas Turnpike.**
- (4) The development of agri-tourism type of events carries with it a challenge in several areas. In the Flint Hills, the land is privately owned. Any use of the land will require an incentive for the landowner to participate. The issue of liability for events on private land will also be an issue. A detailed review of this issue should be conducted as the promotion of events and activities are developed in the Flint Hills region. The State of Kansas has enacted some relief from this liability but a more in-depth review should be conducted. It will remain a major issue with private landowners who are being asked to participate in such things as trails rides and other such events. **RECOMMENDATION : Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism assume the responsibility for reviewing this issue.**

While there were many other subjects discussed and explored, these comments represent some of the major subjects and challenges in developing the Flint Hills as an attraction.


Harland E. Priddle
President