



**Water Resources Committee
Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP)
Meeting Agenda
9:30 a.m., September 12, 2011
Wichita State University Hughes Metropolitan Complex
Mayor Dion Avello, Chairman**

- I. Welcome and Introductions:** Chairman Avello

- II. Approval of the Minutes from August 10, 2011 Meeting:** Chairman Avello (pg 2-5)
Recommended Action: Approve or modify minutes as needed.

- III. Water Resources Committee Engagement Discussion:** Chairman Avello (pg 6-7)
Discuss the WRC work plan and future goals for the committee

- IV. Regional Water Planning, Engaging Key Partners:** Mr. Dane Baxa (pg 8)
Recommended Action: Review the summary of discussions from the WRC Technical-Subcommittee meeting and determine next steps.

- V. 2011 Water Resources Committee Bus Tour:** Mr. Dane Baxa (pg 9)
Recommended Action: Review and approve staff to coordinate 2011 WRC bus tour.

- VI. Report of the Executive Officer:** Mr. Dane Baxa

- VII. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates**

- VIII. Adjourn**

The next REAP Water Resources Committee meeting is Monday, October 3, 2011

REAP Water Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes
9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., August 10, 2011
Newton Meridian Center
Commissioner Willis Heck
Mayor Dion Avello

I. Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner Willis Heck, City of Newton, called the meeting to order. Members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

II. Transition of Water Resources Committee Chair

Commissioner Willis Heck, City of Newton, passed the reigns of the Water Resources Committee to Mayor Dion Avello, City of Derby, who was appointed by REAP chair, Mayor Kristey Williams, City of Augusta. Commissioner Heck thanked the Water Resources Committee members and the Hugo Wall School staff for their support over the past three years. Mayor Avello thanked members as well and expressed his eagerness to learn about water issues in the region and leading the Water Resources Committee.

III. Approval of the Minutes from June 6, 2011 Meeting

Mr. John Carder, City of Hesston, moved to approve minutes from the June 6, 2011 meeting without modification. Mayor Terry Somers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. Milwaukee Water Council Presentation

Mr. Dean Amhaus, Milwaukee Water Council, spoke to the committee about water's role in economic development of a region. In his presentation, he was able to explain the significance of water locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. He provided insight of the future of water and current research taking place in Milwaukee to control certain water related issues (such as Asian carp, zebra mussels, and aquaponics). Mr. Amhaus gave a background of the Milwaukee Water Council and water issues in the Great Lakes region. The presentation provided the Water Resources Committee with an example of how to think about using water in our region's economic development.

V. REAP Stormwater Fees survey Results

Mr. Dane Baxa, REAP Water Resources, provided a preliminary survey of stormwater rates in the REAP region. He asked the Committee if they thought stormwater would be of interest to explore maybe more in depth. Overall, the Committee agreed that they would like to see stormwater rates included in the annual water/ wastewater survey and then supplemental information such as best management practices (BMPs) and what other comparable cities are doing with stormwater.

VI. El Dorado Water Feasibility Study

Mr. Kurt Bookout, City of El Dorado, provided the Water Resources Committee with information on the City's two phase feasibility study. Part One of the study is to confirm the capacity of water supply in reservoir. If part one determines that excess water is available, part two of the study will examine the feasibility of transporting and treating water to sell to other public water supplies. He explained the purpose of the study is to maximize the utilization of existing regional water resources. The City of El Dorado and the region, are not utilizing the reservoir to its full

potential. The feasibility study will continue to engage the Water Resources Committee and other stakeholders as it progresses.

VII. Report of Regional Water Committees and Organizations

a. Wichita Water Utility Advisory Committee Update

Mr. Joe Pajor, City of Wichita, shared that the committee met last month to discuss water rates and it is meeting again next week. Expect to see new rates next year, and more meetings with the Wichita Water Utility Advisory Committee.

b. Kansas Water Authority Update

Ms. Karma Mason, KWA, told the Committee that there has been a lot of change in KWA thanks to the new administration. She explained Governor Brownback's interest in the Ogallala aquifer and economic development. The Authority will be meeting this Thursday and Friday (Aug. 11-12) for the budget; there has been many cuts to it. They need to look at new ways of funding and prioritize what the Authority funds. She mentioned that the ASR project had lost funds. Other issues include the drought which has affected 75% of Kansas, new committees forming for research, policy, and support for Authority activities. The two main legislative changes are that KWA can now grant easements and the Kanopolis Access District.

c. Ground Water Management District #2 Update

Mr. Tim Boese, GMD2, explained that water rights were becoming more of an issue because of the drought and people are able to over pump this year however, they would lose that amount from what they can pump next year, which benefits irrigators. He also brought up the impact the drought has had on wells in the Equus area. District wide there has been a 5 foot change, but a median change of 2.5 feet. The Board has brought up water meter regulations and now including meters on non-domestic wells. Senator Moran will hold a regional conservation tour in September. A final remark about the Ogallala Advisory Committee moving soon on several issues (water abandonment and IGUCAs).

VIII. Report of the Executive Officer

Mr. Dane Baxa provided more detail of the Governor's summit on the Ogallala aquifer. He also pointed out the HUD sustainable communities grant meeting on Friday (Aug. 12).

IX. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates

Mr. Kurt Bookout and Mr. Dane Baxa were giving a presentation to the Kansas Water Authority on Thursday (Aug. 11). Mr. Dale Goter, City of Wichita, mentioned a League of Kansas Municipalities legislative policy meeting this month (Aug. 18) and REAP should be represented.

X. Adjourn

Water Resources Committee Attendance for August 10, 2011	
Name	Jurisdiction
Les Mangus	City of Andover
Matt Malone	City of Augusta
Josh Shaw	City of Augusta
Bill Keefer	City of Augusta
Brian Meier	Burns & McDonnell/ LABAC
Bruce Allman	CH2M Hill
Randall Harris	Chisholm Creek Utility Authority
Dion Avello	City of Derby
Kathy Sexton	City of Derby
Kurt Bookout	City of El Dorado
Chuck Brewer	Geotechnical Services, Inc.
Tim Boese	GMD2
Scott Davies	Harvey County
John Carder	City of Hesston
Don Koci	City of Hutchinson
Karma Mason	Kansas Water Authority
Rich Basore	KDHE - Wichita
Byron Warta	Lower Arkansas BAC
Dean Amhaus	Milwaukee Water Council
Kurt Yowell	MKEC
Bryce Winter	MKEC
Terry Somers	City of Mount Hope
Edward Bonham	City of Newton
Suzanne Loomis	City of Newton
Willis Heck	City of Newton
Jerry Martin	City of Park City
Dana Walden	City of Park City
Kathy Raney	City of Rose Hill
Kirk Hayden	City of Rose Hill
Jaci Reimer	City of Sedgwick
Susan Erlenwein	Sedgwick County
Moe Terrebonne	Wichita/ Bel Aire

Joseph Pajor	City of Wichita
Debra Ary	City of Wichita
Dale Goter	City of Wichita
Don Blasi	Wichita Chamber Environment Committee
Hoyt Hillman	Wichita
Dane Baxa	WSU
Misty Bruckner	WSU
Angela Buzard	WSU
Kyle Carr	WSU
Allison Celik	WSU
Kate Flavin	WSU
Kelly Fuller	WSU
Sierra Jackson	WSU
Rebecca Likiardopoulos	WSU
Cecilia Martinez Gomez	WSU
Nancy McCarthy Snyder	WSU
Lorien Showalter	WSU
Taylour Tedder	WSU
Taggart Wall	WSU
Joe Yager	WSU

REAP Water Resources Committee (WRC) 2011 Work Plan

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.
 - i) Partner with private, non-profit, and public sector on water quality and quantity issues that are supported or that could potentially be supported by the WRC.
 - b) Strengthen relationships with existing partners.
 - i) Disseminate the mission of the WRC to regional, state, and national partners by attending or presenting information at special meetings.
 - c) Encourage dialogue on regional economic development.
 - i) Facilitate discussion on the value of water resources in 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.
 - i) Identify water issues with legislative implication and allocate funds when appropriate.
 - ii) Coordinate REAP membership when appropriate to engage in the state legislation process on WRC supported issues.
 - b) Develop relationships with state and federal governmental officials.
 - i) Monitor activities of federal, state, and local agencies affecting water supply and quality in the region and advise members advised of relevant issues and partnership opportunities.
 - ii) Advise members on legislation regarding water conservation as a beneficial use in state water rights policy.
 - iii) Invite state and federal officials to REAP WRC meetings.
 - c) Establish a process to identify policies affecting specific industries.
 - d) Coordinate a unified agenda for regional economic development.
 - i) Support the League of Kansas Municipalities and their legislative priority to re-evaluate the State Water Plan Fund and the Kansas Water Authority
 - ii) Support the State Water Plan Fund be fully appropriated by attending Kansas Water Authority meetings and educating legislators on the issue.

- 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.
 - i) Provide an open forum to discuss regional water issues and invite stakeholders from the private, non-profit, and public sector to sponsor or present information.
 - ii) Conduct meetings with the Technical Sub-Committee and establish special committees as needed.
 - iii) Conduct an annual regional water conference that includes relevant speakers and topics.
 - iv) Develop a communication plan with media contacts to attend WRC meetings and to disseminate information to WRC communities.
 - v) Assemble and disseminate informational resources related to water quality and supply issues including:
 - (1) Annual regional survey of water and wastewater rate information.
 - (2) Financial review of water service territory agreements.
 - (3) Information on the Friends of the Kaw lawsuit with the Environmental Protection Agency.
 - (4) Information on water re-use and conservation initiatives.

- (5) Research regional expenditures on water and waste water.
 - (6) Develop a local government's guide to water related agency tasks and responsibilities in Kansas.
 - b) Conduct outreach on the purpose and accomplishments of REAP.
 - i) Send out meetings reviews following all WRC meetings.
 - ii) Disseminate "WaterWise," bi-monthly newsletter and include regional, state, and national municipal water related articles.
 - 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.
 - i) Review and discuss interconnection for meeting long-term water supply needs in our region.
 - ii) Discuss interconnection for redundancy in water supply for regional water providers.
 - iii) Research and disseminate information on our regional water supply and demand.
 - iv) Review and assess models of interconnection and consolidation of water supplies.
 - b) Determine REAP's role in regional planning.
 - c) Engage professional staff in multiple jurisdictions for sustainable planning.
 - i) Facilitate educational forums with local jurisdiction planners on regional planning initiatives.
- 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.
 - i) Solicit REAP WRC members for agenda item ideas before WRC meetings.
 - ii) Facilitate speakers and WRC members to discuss and report on issues at meetings.
 - iii) Respond to research requests on regional or state water issues.

Regional Water Planning, Engaging Key Partners

Background

In May 2011, REAP designated the Water Resources Committee to lead regional water planning efforts in South-central Kansas that will:

- Create efficiencies in water infrastructure investments
- Maximize the utilization of existing water resources
- Align long term goals for water quantity and quality in the region
- Discuss growth issues regionally and find common interest between public water supplies
- Provide educational opportunities on regional water planning
- Use guiding principles of affordability, quality, sustainable water supply for the region

For the Water Resources Committee to continue leading regional water planning efforts, the first step identified was to engage all key regional, state, and national stakeholders. One of the key regional stakeholders identified were public water supplies (PWS). PWS in the region include city municipalities, rural water districts (RWDs) and public wholesale water supplies (PWWS). The Water Resources Committee needs to address engagement of all public water supplies in the region to move forward with regional water planning efforts that will meet the identified goals.

Public water supplies such as rural water districts have been approached on issues in the past. REAP worked with RWDs to develop guidelines for service territory agreements. REAP staff has also contacted RWDs to attend REAP WRC meetings (specifically on regional water planning efforts) and to attend the REAP Water Conferences. The WRC has not yet determined a reason to include, or developed a process to meaningfully engage all PWS in the region.

Technical Sub-Committee Summary of Discussion

Reviewing the goals of the regional water planning effort, the technical sub-committee discussed why and how the WRC could genuinely engage other public water supplies (outside of municipalities) in the region. The technical sub-committee made suggestions of **why** all PWS should be included in regional planning discussions:

- All PWS impact long term water supply
- All PWS develop, finance, and maintain water infrastructure investments
- Reduce redundancies in service territories between PWS
- RWDs serve customers bordering many REAP municipalities
- Cities are growing into RWD boundaries

The technical sub-committee also identified steps for how the WRC could engage all PWS in the region:

- 1) Determine if the WRC wants all PWS included in long term, regional water planning discussions
- 2) Identify and contact PWS in the region (RWDs and PWWS)
 - a) Explain the WRC regional water planning efforts
 - b) Determine their needs and long term plans for serving customers in the region
 - c) Determine if they have value in participating in regional water planning efforts
 - d) Coordinate engagement efforts with the Kansas Rural Water Association
- 3) Determine what level of engagement the PWS in the region should have in planning discussions
- 4) Re-evaluate WRC structure to meaningfully engage all PWS in future WRC dialogue

2011 Water Resources Committee Bus Tour

Background

During the fall of 2010, REAP partnered with Greenway Alliance and K-State Research and Extension for a stormwater solutions bus tour to Kansas City. After receiving positive feedback from the event, Mr. Baxa wanted to make an educational tour an annual event for REAP. This fall, he suggested coordinating a regional bus tour on how economic development impacts regional water resources South Central Kansas.

The WRC Technical-Subcommittee met on September 7th to discuss coordinating a bus tour in our region that aligns with the educational priorities of the 2011 WRC work plan. It was discussed that the development of the Kansas Star Casino has had a significant impact on regional water supply, wastewater, stormwater, as well as an impact on future economic development due to shallow groundwater tables. All aspects of regional water resources were being impacted by a large economic development site in South-central Kansas, and should be further researched by the WRC.

There was consensus that an afternoon bus tour on a Thursday in late October, early November be coordinated. The tour will begin picking up participants in Wichita and travel to El Dorado (the water supply source), stopping at Augusta, and ending at the Kansas Star Casino site and Wyldewood Cellars winery in Mulvane. It was recommended that staff coordinate tour logistics with each location and develop an outline for education materials and speakers for review at the October REAP WRC Meeting.

2011 REAP Water Resources Educational Bus Tour Outline

Theme – Water’s Role in Economic Development

Date –October 27, November 3, or November 10 depending on availability

Time – 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm

Locations – Wichita, El Dorado Augusta, Mulvane, Kansas Star Casino, and Wyldewood Cellars

Expected Number of Participants - 50 to 60

Sponsorships - Find partner organizations/sponsors, or develop a fee for non-REAP participants

2011 Water Resources Committee Bus Tour Budget	
Description	Estimated Expenses
Charter Bus Rental	\$1,500
Food and Beverages	\$300
Rental Fees	\$200
Total Estimate	\$2,000