



Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP)

Meeting Agenda

8:00 a.m., January 14, 2013

Hughes Metropolitan Complex
5015 E. 29th Street North, (29th and Oliver)
Commissioner Dave Unruh, Chairman

1. Welcome and Introductions: Commissioner Dave Unruh

2. News and Announcements: Commissioner Dave Unruh

3. Consent Agenda and Committee Reports: Commissioner Dave Unruh

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

- A. Review of REAP Minutes from November 5, 2012
- B. REAP Committees and Taskforces Reports
- C. REAP Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Report
- D. Report of the Chief Executive Officer

Recommended Action: Approve the consent agenda as presented.

4. Presentation of the REAP 2012 Annual Report and 2013 Work Plans: Joe Yager

Members will be presented with a draft of the 2012 Annual Report, including some highlights from 2012 and a brief overview of the adopted work plans for 2013.

5. REAP 2013 Strategic Planning Discussion: Joe Yager

The 2013 work plan identifies determining a process to review the mission and strategic plan that is designed to engage REAP members and stakeholders in discussion on the future direction and sustainability of REAP over the next three to five years as a priority.

6. Around the Region: REAP Members and Partners

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

8. Adjourn

The REAP WRC will meet immediately following the full Board meeting.

The next REAP Board meeting will be the annual retreat at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, February 11, 2013 at the WSU Hughes Metroplex.

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 Meeting Minutes November 5, 2012
Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas
Commissioner Dave Unruh, Chairman

1. Welcome and Introduction.

Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County, called the meeting to order; members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

2. News and Announcements

Commissioner Unruh noted that the Governor was hosting an Oil & Gas Small Business Opportunities Conference on November 27 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds, Encampment Building, in Hutchinson.

He also noted that the City of Bel Aire sent their regrets for not being able to attend and had requested that Members be invited to the Bel Aire Groundbreaking event on Monday November 5 for Phase One of the Sunflower Commerce Park.

3. Special Presentation—Kansas Star Casino Update

Mr. Scott Cooper, general manager of the Kansas Star Casino provided a presentation and update on the developments of the Kansas Star Casino. The Kansas Star has added the Hampton Inn Suites with 150 rooms attached to the casino. Along with this is a 5,000 seat arena that is a public private endeavor with a myriad of tourist possibilities. The Gaming is run by Boyd Gaming and the revenue is currently ahead of projections. 80-90% of the customers to the Kansas Star are from Kansas. The Casino has a tax burden of 25-27% which is reasonable along with this is 15 year commitment to education which has the possibility to be renewed afterward.

4. Special Presentation—Ozone Advance

Ms. Kay Johnson, The Environmental Initiatives Manager for the City of Wichita, provided a presentation on a voluntary and joint initiative that focuses on reducing ozone levels in the regional airshed. The initiative, Ozone Advance, is meant to address the issue of the Wichita MSA potentially being in violation of the federal attainment numbers. The largest sources of air pollution are non-point, much of which come from burning the Flint Hills. To help in addressing this issue, Ozone Advance is an initiative that promotes a proactive approach working with agencies and groups to educate and engage communities. Dr. Flentje added that this could be a role of REAP and that staff could work with the EDC with plans and recommendations that could then be brought before the full board.

5. REAP Staffing Proposal

Commissioner Unruh noted that pages 9-12 of the agenda packet laid out the proposal the Executive Committee compiled that addressed the organizational capacity and functional structure of staffing for REAP. These were proposed as a vehicle to make operation more efficient and effective looking forward. Ms. Kathy Sexton, City of Derby, noted that there were some language that needed clarification on page 11 regarding oversight, supervision and funding. Commissioner Unruh noted that the general concept could be approved and that the language would be revisited. Commissioner Ron Loomis, McPherson County, (Mayor Marcey Gregory, City of Goddard) moved to approved the proposal. The motion carried on a vote of 15-2.

6. 2013 Work Plan, Legislative Priorities and Budget

Commissioner Unruh presented the proposal, on pages 13-20 of the agenda packet, of the Executive Committee from their October 26 meeting regarding the 2013 legislative priorities, committee action items and the proposed 2013 budget. There was some discussion on the legislative priorities which

included T-works, continuation of monitoring HPIP and PEAK, air quality management, and to continue to monitor passenger rail.

Commissioner Brad Dillon, Reno County (Mayor Terry Somers, City of Mount Hope) moved to endorse the 2013 priorities subject to review by the Water Resource Committee on their specific items. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Jeff Longwell, City of Wichita (Commissioner Willis Heck, City of Newton) moved to adopt the 2013 Legislative Priorities. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Dillon (Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County) moved to continue staffing assistance to REAP provided by the Center for Urban Studies, Wichita State University during calendar year 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Dillon (Councilmember Longwell) moved to enter into contract with Bruno and Associates for legislative liaison to REAP for 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Unruh noted that the proposed budget for 2013 was consolidated to account for the structural change in staffing and that the budget and assessments would need to be a high priority in 2013.

Commissioner Dillon (Councilmember Longwell) moved to adopt the REAP budget for calendar year 2013. The motion carried on a vote of 15-2.

7. Consent Agenda and Committee Reports

Commissioner Unruh presented the consent agenda and committee reports which included the review of the REAP minutes from September 10, 2012 and October 1, 2012, REAP Committees and Taskforces Reports, REAP Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Report and the Report of the Chief Executive officer, pages 21-43 in the agenda packet.

Ms. Sexton (Mayor Keith DeHaven, City of Sedgwick) moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion unanimously passed.

8. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates

No unscheduled items were discussed at this meeting.

9. Adjourn

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

REAP Attendance 10/5/2012

Members/ Alternatives

Chair – Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County
Mayor Kristey Williams, City of Augusta
Mr. Dale Shaffer, City of Benton
Ms. Kathy Sexton, City of Derby
Mr. Herb Llewellyn, City of El Dorado
Ms. Marcey Gregory, City of Goddard
Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County
Mr. David Kauffman, City of Hesston
Mayor Bob Jackson, City of Kechi
Commissioner Ron Loomis, McPherson County
Mayor Terry Somers, City of Mount Hope
Commissioner Willis Heck, City of Newton
Commissioner Jim Nickel, City of Newton
Commissioner Brad Dillon, Reno County
Ms. Kathy Raney, City of Rose Hill
Mayor Keith DeHaven, City of Sedgwick
Commissioner Richard Ranzau, Sedgwick County
Mr. Cody Sims, City of Wellington
Councilmember Jeff Longwell, City of Wichita

Guests

Mr. John Walter, Harvey County
Mr. Anthony Swartzendruber, Harvey County
Ms. Gina Bell, Harvey County
Ms. Irene Hart, City of Hutchinson
Mr. Harland Priddle, K-96 Corridor Assoc.
Mr. Daniel J. Shea, Kingman County

Mr. Randy Riggs, City of Newton
Mr. Marv Duncan, Sedgwick County
Councilmember Lavonta Williams, City of Wichita
Councilmember Pete Meitzner, City of Wichita
Ms. Kay Johnson, City of Wichita
Mr. Dale Goter, City of Wichita
Mr. Mike Jacobs, City of Wichita
Mr. Andy Schlapp, WSU
Ms. Kelly Bergeron, Workforce Alliance
Mr. Bill Bolin, SCKEDD
Mr. Scott Cooper, Kansas Star
Ms. Megan Strader, Kansas Star
Mr. John Todd, Citizen
Mr. Gerald H. Holman, Chamber of Commerce
Mr. John Stevens, District 86
Mr. David Traster, Foulston Siefkin
Mr. Jim Heinicke, Jim Heinicke LLC
Mr. James Kilpatrick, Kansans for Liberty

Staff

Dr. Nancy McCarthy-Snyder, WSU
Dr. Ed Flentje, WSU
Mr. Joe Yager, WSU
Mr. Dane Baxa, WSU
Ms. Paula Downs, WSU
Ms. Rebecca Likiardopoulos, WSU
Mr. Taylour Tedder, WSU

**REAP Board Meeting
January 14, 2013
Item #3B**

Item

REAP Committees and Taskforces Reports

Background

Since the November 5, 2012 Board meeting, the REAP Committees received information or acted upon the 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 met on January 9, 2013. The following is a report of various updates on behalf of the Committee:

REAP 2012 4th Quarter Treasurer's Report

The Executive Committee is charged to serve as the treasury for REAP, collect all REAP revenues, make disbursements in accord with the budget adopted by REAP, and conduct financial management of REAP assets in accord with REAP fiscal procedures.

Under the agreement with the Center for Urban Studies, Wichita State University, staff support is provided to REAP in calendar year 2012. In accordance with this agreement, REAP will make payments on a quarterly basis to Wichita State University for this support.

In addition, under the agreement approved February 13, 2012 with H. Edward Flentje, consultation and assistance is provided to REAP in the capacity of Senior Consultant in calendar year 2012.

In accordance with these agreements, REAP will make payments on a quarterly basis to Wichita State University and H. Edward Flentje for this support.

The Executive Committee took action to approve payments for the third quarter of 2012 to 1) Wichita State University in the amount of \$23,017.25 for REAP staffing and \$17,767.00 for Water Resources staffing; 2) Hugo Wall School in the amount of \$24,741.17 for REAP Operating expenses and \$4,554.47 for Water Resources Operating expenses; and 3) H. Edward Flentje in the amount of \$2,500.00 for Senior Consulting Services, with \$1,250 from the REAP Operating account and \$1,250 from the Water Resources account.

Please note that the financials for the 2012 4th Quarter are attached on pages 12-17.

Kansas Affordable Airfares Program Update

The Executive Committee is charged to administer the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program. In accordance with actions taken by REAP at the July 9, 2012 meeting, the third release of funding to Sedgwick County and Garden City were completed on January 8, 2013.

REAP Staffing Update

At the November 5, 2012 REAP Board meeting action was taken to approve a structural change to the organization of staffing through the creation of an Executive Director and Assistant Director position. Staff was also directed to initiate the process to accomplish these changes.

The Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs at Wichita State University has officially advertised for a public affairs associate to serve as the Assistant Director for REAP. This position will assist the REAP Executive Director with program development, communication and administrative support for the broad implementation of REAP's operations and ensuring that its goals are achieved. The Assistant Director will report directly to the Executive Director.

Required Qualifications: Master's degree in public administration or closely related field; demonstrated experience working as a member of an organizational team; excellent oral and written communication skills; experience with governmental and administrative issues; demonstrated ability to conduct applied research.

Preferred Qualifications: Successful work experience in local government; and successful experience developing and coordinating conferences and other special events.

As of January 4 there were nearly 40 applicants and staff is in the evaluation process of these applicants. It is expected that three or four individuals will be identified for interviews and the interview panel will include a REAP member. Staff anticipates completing the process by mid-February.

REAP Strategic Planning Process for 2013

The 2013 work plan identifies determining a process to review the mission and strategic plan that is designed to engage REAP members and stakeholders in discussion on the future direction and sustainability of REAP over the next three to five years as a priority. The Committee held initial discussions regarding the process for accomplishing this goal.

Assessment Discussion

The 2013 work plan identifies the examination of available resources for REAP and recommendation of sustainable funding sources to provide REAP necessary operating resources for the future as a priority. The Committee began discussions on a process for evaluating the assessment structure and directed staff to develop potential scenarios for consideration.

Report of the Legislative Committee

The REAP Legislative Committee met on November 16, 2012 and held the Annual Policy Summit on December 13, 2012. The following highlights information from the Committee.

2012 REAP Policy Summit

It was determined in the 2011-13 REAP Strategic Plan that REAP will guide state and national policies that impact regional economic development by engaging local leadership to represent the region at the state and national level through awareness, communication and coordination. The Committee identified use of an annual regional legislative policy summit that includes relevant speakers and topics as an activity for this goal to be completed in 2012.

The Policy Summit was held on **Thursday, December 13, 2012 at the Drury-Broadview Hotel in Downtown Wichita**. The following are some of the highlights of the event:

- More than 90 people attended the half-day event, including several state legislators.
- The summit provided a glimpse into the **current political landscape** through the eyes of some of our legislators, including: *Representative Jim Ward (District 88); Representative David Crum (District 77); Senator Ty Masterson (District 16)*. Mr. Mark Dugan, Chief of Staff for Lieutenant Governor Colyer and Assistant Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, also joined in on the discussion to provide some thoughts on the upcoming session from the perspective of the administration.
- *Jeremy Hill, Director of the Center for Economic Development and Business Research at Wichita State University* provided a presentation on the **State and Local Economic Environment**. This was a comprehensive presentation on the economic uncertainties and challenges that we are facing.
- *Ms. Kathy Sexton, Manager for the City of Derby* provided a presentation on **understanding of the requirements of local governance**, including the reality that on a daily basis city and county officials are faced with downturns, providing the necessary services to citizens and balancing budgets.
- A panel of experts from our region provided information on our **transportation infrastructure**. The discussed that through air, rail, and road investments, we have a structure in place that is a vital component of many of our communities, our region's, and State's economic future. These vital investments included: Affordable Airfares (*Mr. Lynn Nichols, CEO of Yingling Aviation*); Rail (*City of Wichita Council Member Pete Meitzner and City of Newton City Manager, Mr. Randy Riggs*); and Roads (*Mr. John Schlegel, Director of the Wichita Area Metro Planning Organization*).
- A panel of experts from our region provided information on **research and training as it pertains to workforce development**. The panel, which was moderated by *Mr. Keith Lawing, Executive Director of the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas*, and included: *Dr. John Tomblin, National Institute for Aviation Research; Mr. Brian Black, Spirit AeroSystems; and Dr. Tony Kinkel, Wichita Area Technical College*, discussed this critical infrastructure, the number of employees who possess the skills, and a strong commitment from the State and local jurisdictions for investment in workforce development.
- Finally, we asked *Dr. Ed Flentje, Wichita State University* to lead a discussion by a regional panel of experts on legislative history and issues related to water (*Mr. Dale Goter, Wichita and Ms. Lisa French, Kansas Water Authority*) as well as the importance of local and regional water planning (*Mr. Bob Layton, Manager of the City of Wichita; Mr. Kurt Bookout, El Dorado*).

All presentations are being put together and will be made available on a [special page on the REAP website](#).

Legislative Priorities for 2013

The following are the adopted REAP legislative priorities for 2013:

- Maintain Kansas Affordable Airfares Program to assure more flight options, more competition for air travel, and affordable airfares for Kansas.
- Advance legislative and administrative action to secure state financial participation in:
 - 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.
 - sediment and nutrient reduction programs that protect and sustain the region's public water supplies.
 - aviation research at the National Institute for Aviation Research at Wichita State University.
 - orthopedic research at the Center of Innovation for Bio Orthopedic Research (CIBOR).
- Support a reevaluation of current state water policy including Kansas Water Authority representation; revenue sources and distribution for the state water plan fund; and, the process for adopting the annual state water plan fund budget.
- Promote science-based, common sense policies that protect the safety of the region's water supply and air quality; recognizing that the region's job creation potential should not be unnecessarily jeopardized.
- Support a stronger system of business-driven technical training and education in Kansas including enhanced funding support, better alignment and articulation of education and training programs, and transition programs to better serve adult learners.
- Support the continued funding of the Kansas T-Works comprehensive transportation program and utilization of these funds for transportation purposes.
- Support continued evaluation of the feasibility of expanded and existing passenger rail service throughout the State of Kansas.
- Support home rule authority to provide cities and counties the ability to fund service for local residents.
- Support existing business incentives that affect the ability to retain or expand existing businesses or the recruiting of new businesses (i.e. To include but not limited to High Performance Incentive Program -HPIP, Promoting Employment Across Kansas -PEAK).
- 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.

South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation Meeting and Reception

REAP was invited to present its 2013 legislative priorities to area legislators at the annual delegation meeting scheduled for January 10, 2013 at the Hughes Metroplex at Wichita State University. REAP Chair, Commissioner Dave Unruh (Sedgwick County) and REAP Legislative Chair, Commissioner Chip Westfall (Harvey County) were scheduled to present at approximately 4:10. In addition, REAP again served as a co-host of a reception for elected officials in the region at the conclusion of the delegation meeting.

Next Legislative Committee Meeting

The Legislative Committee will meet on **Friday, January 25, 2013**, at Noon at the Workforce Alliance Administrative Offices.

Report of the Economic Development Committee

The REAP Economic Development Committee met on November 29, 2012. The following highlights information from the Committee.

Local Area IV Chief Elected Officials Business

Through an agreement entered into by counties in Local Area IV as defined by the State of Kansas, the Economic Development Committee (EDC) has been designated to serve as the Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB), as defined in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) in Local Area IV, which includes Butler, Cowley, Kingman, Harper, Sedgwick and Sumner counties. All EDC members are asked to participate, however, only those designated elected officials of the CEOB shall have a vote.

The Workforce Alliance requests that the CEOB consider and act on the following items.

Adoption of the Local Area IV Integrated Workforce Plan

WIA requires that the governor of each state submit a WIA/Wagner-Peyser (WP) Act State Plan to the U.S. Department of Labor that outlines a five-year strategy for its workforce investment system. Following the submission of the State Plan, each Local Area must develop and submit a comprehensive plan to the Kansas Department of Commerce that identifies and describes certain policies, procedures, and activities in the local area, and that is consistent with the State Workforce Investment Board's Strategic Vision for the Implementation of the Workforce Investment and Wagner-Peyser Acts. The local area plan must provide an opportunity for public input and comment before the plan is submitted.

The current local plan expires on December 31, 2012. The new plan is effective January 1, 2013, to December 31, 2017. The draft plan was posted for public comment on November 15, 2012, and submitted to the CEOB electronically for review on November 19, 2012. The public comment period will end on December 14, 2012. Any comments received will be reviewed and considered by WA staff and the Local Workforce Investment Board (LWIB). A final version of the plan will be submitted to the Kansas Department of Commerce on December 14, 2012 at the close of business.

An outline of the plan follows this report and lists the major areas discussed within the document. Because it is lengthy, WA staff will bring a hard copy of the plan to the meeting for review.

CEOB Action: Authorize the Chief Elected Official to sign the Local Area IV Integrated Workforce Plan prior to its submission to the Kansas Department of Commerce.

EDC Role with Workforce Alliance Update

The Committee received an update regarding the recent meetings between WA Executive Director Keith Lawing and REAP CEO Joe Yager regarding the role the EDC has with the Workforce Alliance. Issues concerning insurance, oversight responsibilities, and official delegation were all discussed. In addition, Lawing and Yager have met with REAP Chair Commissioner Dave Unruh (Sedgwick County) and REAP EDC Chair Council Member Jeff Longwell (Wichita). It was determined that the first step would be to ensure a reauthorization by

the Counties in Local Area IV to allow for REAP to continue to serve in the role of the CEOB. Following this a proposal to make the CEOB more efficient while maintaining REAP's involvement will be crafted and presented to the EDC in the coming months.

Discussion of Committee Purpose

In the 2012 EDC work plan it was identified to review the current purpose of the REAP Economic Development Committee and develop a Committee mission/purpose statement. At the October 25 Committee meeting there were several suggestions regarding the name, purpose, and direction of the Committee. Staff compiled information for the Committee to discuss and provide direction.

Review and Discussion of 2013 Work Plan

The Committee provided insight into the Work Plan priorities and activities that should be focused on in 2013.

Next Economic Development Committee Meeting

The next Economic Development Committee monthly meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 31, 2013**, at Noon at the Workforce Alliance Administrative Offices.

Report of the Water Resources Committee

The REAP Water Resources Committee met on November 5, 2012. The following is a report on behalf of the Committee:

Water Resources Committee Staffing Update

The Committee received and discussed actions taken by REAP. In a move to be more effective and efficient, REAP and WRC will be brought closer together especially in legislative issues. Overall in the REAP structure, the WRC has become more proactive on legislative issues, but there was not a seamless way to integrate this in the overall structure. This highlighted the separation and inefficiencies in the organizational structure. In order to move forward and increase capacity, the Executive Committee chose to have an executive director and assistant director of REAP. The assistant director will be the point person for water and will help on the other committees to help integrate operations. It was noted that REAP took action on this item, so we can now move forward with WSU to get the position filled. Water is an important issue to all of REAP and we want to uphold a strong commitment to it. The concerns concerning funding and the dual assessment structure are a work plan item for the full board and the Executive committee will be looking at overall funding over and above assessments.

Review and Discussion of 2013 Work Plan

The WRC discussed and provided direction to staff on the 2013 Work Plan. There was discussion on the issue of agriculture and municipal interests and the WRC role in helping to find a balance in the state water plan. The WRC identified analyzing water use and needs in the region and employing mutual education of water needs to both agricultural and municipal users as a priority. The Committee discussed and determined that the conferences serve different purposes and that the WRC conference's goal is to educate our local elected officials on water needs in the region and is still relevant. It was noted that the Committee should examine the

Kansas Water Authority and what role the WRC could play in working with it and the Kansas Water Office in coming up with a state water plan.

2012 WRC Meeting Schedule

The Committee reviewed the meeting schedule for 2013 and noted that the committee will continue with the current dates and times as staff was directed to see if there is a better time or day and bring the discussion back at the January meeting.

Review of Governor's Water Conference

Governor Brownback hosted the 1st Annual Water Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas. The event was held October 30-31, 2012 at the new Hilton Garden Inn & Conference Center in Manhattan, Kansas.

In an effort to promote REAP WRC with a larger portion of the state to engage in water issues, the WRC was a platinum level sponsor at the first annual governor's water conference. This sponsorship allowed REAP WRC to provide information to attendees on the mission and goals of the committee.

There were over 500 attendees at the conference with more than 10 legislators in attendance as well. The keynote address was delivered by Governor Brownback on the future of Kansas Water. Senator Pat Roberts echoed much of the Governor's remarks over lunch emphasizing the need for sound agriculture policies. Much of the focus of the conference was on the continue decline of the Ogallala Aquifer, the value of water especially for agricultural uses and a need for localized planning to best utilize water resources. The US Army Corps of Engineers presented on the need for joint efforts with communities in tackling the needs of water infrastructure as funding continues to decrease. Other items of note included the relationship between water and energy, hydraulic fracturing, and reservoir initiatives.

Next Water Resources Committee Meeting

The WRC will meet **Monday, January 14, 2013** following the REAP Board meeting.

Report of the Bylaws Taskforce

The REAP Bylaws Review Taskforce did not meet since the last REAP Board meeting. With the changes to the organization in regards to staffing the taskforce will need to reconvene to determine appropriate revisions for consideration. There is no official timeframe for completion at this time.

REAP Treasurer's Report

REAP Expenditures by Quarter, 2012

Expenditures	Adopted	1st Quarter Jan-Mar	2nd Quarter Apr-Jun	3rd Quarter Jul-Sep	4th Quarter Oct-Dec	2012 Year End Totals	Percentage Expended	Description
Staffing								
Executive Officer	\$76,019.00	\$19,004.75	\$19,004.75	\$19,004.75	\$19,004.75	\$76,019.00	100%	Compensation and benefits
Graduate assistant	\$16,050.00	\$4,012.50	\$4,012.50	\$4,012.50	\$4,012.50	\$16,050.00	100%	Compensation and benefits
<i>Staffing Subtotal</i>	<i>\$92,069.00</i>	<i>\$23,017.25</i>	<i>\$23,017.25</i>	<i>\$23,017.25</i>	<i>\$23,017.25</i>	<i>\$92,069.00</i>	<i>100%</i>	
Operating								
Current office expense	\$9,210.00	\$2,302.50	\$2,302.50	\$2,302.50	\$2,302.50	\$9,210.00	100%	Computing, telephone, fax, equipment, etc.
Consultation and technical assistance*	\$10,000.00	\$833.50	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$4,583.50	46%	Additional assistance through WSU/other
Other operating—general	\$4,000.00	\$1,254.95	\$1,761.21	\$1,199.49	\$1,626.00	\$5,841.65	146%	Meeting expense, memberships, travel, etc.
Other operating—KAAP	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	100%	Accounting, auditing, reporting, legal counsel
Legislative liaison	\$26,000.00	\$3,303.18	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,785.52	\$22,088.70	85%	Topeka-based representation, receptions, travel
Project funds	\$1,580.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$27.15	\$1,527.15	97%	
<i>Operating Subtotal</i>	<i>\$55,790.00</i>	<i>\$7,694.13</i>	<i>\$8,313.71</i>	<i>\$6,251.99</i>	<i>\$25,991.17</i>	<i>\$48,251.00</i>	<i>86%</i>	
Total	\$147,859.00	\$30,711.38	\$31,330.96	\$29,269.24	\$49,008.42	\$140,320.00	95%	

* REAP entered into an independent contract for Senior Consultant assistance on 2-13-12, initial quarter expenditures are pro-rated.

REAP Treasurer's Report

Revenues to Date, 2012

Revenues	Projected	Received	Percentage	Description
Annual membership assessments	\$103,831	\$101,725	98%	Membership dues
Special assessments	\$0	\$0	n/a	Special assessments
Workforce oversight agreement*	\$16,000	\$5,450	34%	CEOB oversight duties
Kansas Affordable Airfares Program	\$25,000	\$25,000	100%	KAAP administration
Other revenues received	\$1,200	\$1,879	n/a	Other revenues received
Carryover funds	\$1,828	\$4,443	243%	Prior-year carryover
Total	\$147,859	\$138,497	94%	

Notes:

Other revenues received accounts for interest through 9/30/12 and \$1,750 of the \$4,750 sponsorship money for the Policy Summit.

Workforce agreement runs on fiscal year, July 1 to June 30. Invoice submitted in amount of \$5,450 is outstanding and final qtr was recently billed.

2012 REAP Available Funds

	Total Revenues	Total Expenditures	Total Encumbrances	Total Available Funds	Percentage Available
2012 to Date (12/31/12)	\$138,497.32	\$140,320.00	\$0.00	(\$1,822.68)	-1%

REAP Banking Account Balances

	Operating	KAAP	Water Resources	Project
2012 to Date (1/9/13)	\$48,446.64	\$1,320,245.60	\$75,581.91	\$50,028.07

** Balances include interest through 12/31/12.*

REAP Treasurers Report

Assessments of REAP Members for Calendar-Year 2012

(as of 12/31/12)

Jurisdiction	Population	Assessment	Paid Assessment
Andover	11,791	\$3,766	\$3,766
Augusta	9,274	\$1,603	\$1,603
Bel Aire	6,769	\$1,440	\$1,440
Bentley	530	\$234	\$234
Benton	880	\$257	\$257
Butler County	65,880	\$4,647	\$4,647
Cheney	2,094	\$336	\$336
Clearwater	2,481	\$361	\$361
Colwich	1,327	\$286	\$286
Conway Springs	1,272	\$283	\$283
Derby	22,158	\$4,440	\$4,440
El Dorado	13,021	\$3,846	\$3,846
Garden Plain	849	\$255	\$255
Goddard	4,344	\$1,282	\$1,282
Halstead	2,085	\$336	\$336
Harvey County	34,684	\$2,367	\$2,367
Haysville	10,826	\$3,704	\$3,704
Hesston	3,709	\$1,241	\$1,241
Hutchinson	42,080	\$5,735	\$5,735
Kechi	1,909	\$324	\$324
Kingman County	7,858	\$1,696	\$1,696
Maize	3,420	\$1,222	\$1,222
McPherson County	29,180	\$2,230	\$2,230
Mount Hope	813	\$253	\$253
Mulvane	6,111	\$1,397	\$1,397
Newton	19,132	\$4,244	\$4,244
Park City	7,297	\$1,474	\$1,474
Reno County	64,511	\$4,613	\$4,613
Rose Hill	3,931	\$1,256	\$1,256
Sedgwick	1,695	\$310	\$310
Sedgwick County	498,365	\$15,459	\$15,459
Sumner County	24,132	\$2,103	\$0
Valley Center	6,822	\$1,443	\$1,443
Wellington	8,172	\$1,531	\$1,531
Wichita	382,368	\$27,854	\$27,854
Total		\$103,831	\$101,725

REAP Treasurer's Report

Water Resources Expenditures by Quarter, 2012

Expenditures	Adopted	1st Quarter Jan-Mar	2nd Quarter Apr-Jun	3rd Quarter Jul-Sep	4th Quarter Oct-Dec	2011 Year End Totals	Percentage Expended Description
Staffing							
Executive Officer	\$55,018.00	\$13,754.50	\$13,754.50	\$13,754.50	\$13,754.50	\$55,018.00	100% Compensation and benefits
Graduate assistant	\$16,050.00	\$4,012.50	\$4,012.50	\$4,012.50	\$4,012.50	\$16,050.00	100% Compensation and benefits
<i>Staffing Subtotal</i>	<i>\$71,068.00</i>	<i>\$17,767.00</i>	<i>\$17,767.00</i>	<i>\$17,767.00</i>	<i>\$17,767.00</i>	<i>\$71,068.00</i>	100%
Operating							
Current office expense	\$7,110.00	\$1,777.50	\$1,777.50	\$1,777.50	\$1,777.50	\$7,110.00	100% Computing, telephone, fax, equipment, etc.
Consultation and technical assistance*	\$5,000.00	\$833.50	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$4,583.50	92% Additional assistance through WSU/other
Other operating—general	\$8,000.00	\$874.91	\$799.98	\$806.56	\$384.82	\$2,866.27	36% Meeting expense, memberships, travel, etc.
Legislative liaison	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00	100% Topeka representation, receptions, travel
Project funds	\$15,000.00	\$1,967.00	\$2,689.88	\$3,303.19	\$392.15	\$8,352.22	56%
<i>Operating Subtotal</i>	<i>\$40,110.00</i>	<i>\$5,452.91</i>	<i>\$9,517.36</i>	<i>\$7,137.25</i>	<i>\$5,804.47</i>	<i>\$27,911.99</i>	70%
Total	\$111,178.00	\$23,219.91	\$27,284.36	\$24,904.25	\$23,571.47	\$98,979.99	89%

* REAP entered into an independent contract for Senior Consultant assistance on 2-13-12, initial quarter expenditures are pro-rated.

^ REAP expenditures for the Legislative Liaison were not captured in the 3rd quarter and will be reflected in the 4th quarter.

REAP Treasurer's Report

Water Resources Revenues to Date, 2012

Revenues	Projected	Received	Percentage Description
Annual membership assessments	\$81,692	\$76,045	93% Membership dues
Special assessments	\$0	\$0	n/a Special assessments
Other revenues received	\$4,000	\$3,295	82% Other revenues received
Carryover funds	\$127,214	\$80,944	64% Prior-year carryover
Total	\$212,906	\$160,284	75%

Notes:

The other revenues denotes interest earned on the account through 9/30/12 and \$3000 in conference registration and sponsorships.

2012 REAP Water Resources Available Funds

	Total Revenues	Total Expenditures	Total Encumbrances	Total Available Funds	Percentage Available
2012 to Date (9/30/12)	\$160,283.99	\$98,979.99	\$0.00	\$61,304.00	38%

REAP Treasurers Report

Assessments of Water Resources Committee for Calendar-Year 2012

(as of 12/31/12)

Jurisdiction	Population	Assessment	Paid Assessment
Andover	11,791	\$3,884	\$3,884
Augusta	9,274	\$1,696	\$1,696
Bel Aire	6,769	\$1,508	\$1,508
Benton	880	\$366	\$366
Butler Co.	65,880	\$800	\$800
Clearwater	2,481	\$486	\$486
Conway Springs*	1,272	\$395	\$395
Derby	22,158	\$5,662	\$5,662
El Dorado	13,021	\$3,977	\$3,977
Goddard	4,344	\$1,326	\$1,326
Harvey Co.	34,684	\$800	\$800
Hesston	3,709	\$1,278	\$1,278
Hutchinson	42,080	\$7,156	\$7,156
Kechi	1,909	\$443	\$443
Kingman Co.	7,858	\$800	\$800
Maize	3,420	\$1,257	\$0
McPherson	13,155	\$3,987	\$0
McPherson Co.	29,180	\$800	\$800
Mount Hope	813	\$361	\$361
Newton	19,132	\$4,435	\$4,435
Park City	7,297	\$1,547	\$1,547
Rose Hill	3,931	\$1,295	\$1,295
Sedgwick	1,695	\$427	\$427
Sedgwick Co.	498,365	\$800	\$800
Sumner Co.	24,132	\$800	\$0
Valley Center	6,822	\$1,512	\$1,512
Wellington	8,172	\$1,613	\$1,613
Wichita	382,368	\$32,678	\$32,678
Total		\$82,087	\$76,045

* The City of Conway Springs became a member for 2012 and was not originally accounted for in previous assessments.

REAP Board Meeting
January 14, 2013
Item #3C

Item

REAP Sustainable Communities Grant Report

Background

By entering into the Fiscal Year 2011 Sustainable Communities cooperative agreement REAP officially began the 36 month (February 15, 2012 to February 14, 2015) grant performance period making funds available for the purposes of the grant.

Work Plan Development Update

- Logic Model that addresses activities, measures and outcomes for the grant, was submitted with our semi-annual reports. We are waiting for feedback from HUD.
- The budget document will be updated and submitted to HUD to better reflect how funds will be spent during the project. This document will be formally updated at the end-of-year reporting period, January 2013.

Financial Oversight Update

- There is currently a reimbursement request being prepared for expenses and payroll ending December, 2012.
- Payroll expenses are sent to Sedgwick County on a monthly basis. Reimbursement for “non-personnel” expenses will be requested no less than quarterly.

Grant Workshop Session

- Paula Downs and Dane Baxa attended the grantee convening in Washington, DC December 3 – 5. This was a planned expense incorporated into the Budget.
- Staff attended general education sessions along with break-out sessions on specific project topics, such as: communications; community engagement;, etc.
- Staff met with grantees from across the country to talk about project approach, lessons learned, outside the box options, and what did and didn’t work well in plan preparation.

Annual Reporting

- HUD requires annual reporting which consists of completing documents that addresses performance, goals and progress on the grant. Year-end reports are due by January 31, 2013.
- Staff is working on the documents for submission.

Consortium Leadership Team

- The governance of the grant sets out that REAP will appoint a Consortium Leadership Team (CLT). John Waltner, Harvey County Administrator, was appointed as the CLT chair.

- The CLT had three (3) meetings in 2012. CLT meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month in 2013, beginning January 10th. Meetings will be held at the MetroPlex from 9:00 – 10:30.
- The CLT has been working on: the project kick-off event to be held on February 1st; confirming work team co-chairs and members; and overseeing progress on hiring communication and planning consultants.

Project Kick-Off Event

- Event will be held on Friday, February 1st from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. at the National Center for Aviation Training facility.
- Event will include an elected official breakfast from 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. with the Keynote Speaker.
- Keynote Speaker is Dean Katerndahl, Director of Government Innovations Forum, with the Mid-America Regional Council.
- The specific agenda is still being finalized, but the event will include a presentation by WSU- Hugo Wall School on; financial performance indicators, demographics, and affordability of the REAP jurisdictions within the Sustainable Community Grant area.

Request for Proposals

- The planning effort will require consultant assistance in the areas of planning and communications. The RFP's have followed the Sedgwick County (grant fiscal agent) processes.
- The Communication RFP was reviewed and approved by CLT members. Shockey Consulting was awarded the contract. They are initially working on: brand/logo development; talking points/messaging; and kick-off event materials. We have draft brand/logo designs that are being reviewed by the CLT Communications Team.
- The Planning RFP has been reviewed by CLT members and a recommendation is being made to the Sedgwick County Board of Bids and Contracts on Thursday, January 3rd. The RFP will go before Sedgwick County Commissioners on Wednesday, January 9th.
- Consultants will work with the CLT, Work Teams, and the Project Team to develop information necessary to successfully complete the regional plan.

Website Design/Set-Up

- A purchase order was issued to 360Wichita to develop and host a website in order to provide information about the planning effort. They are building the technical portion of the website.
- A preliminary URL has been secured and we are preparing information to place on the website when it goes "live".
- The Communications Consultant is developing the brand/logo and initial set-up information for the website. Staff will be confirming a "go live" date within the next few weeks.

REAP Board Meeting
January 14, 2013
Item #3D

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.

REAP Assessments for 2013

In accordance with the REAP Bylaws and REAP Fiscal Procedures, the annual fees for membership are assessed each calendar year and the official population figures used for state purposes, as recorded by the Kansas Secretary of State. Invoices have been forwarded to each member jurisdiction. Members were forwarded a packet that included a letter, invoice for 2013, 2013 work plan and legislative priorities, 2013 budget, and 2013 meeting schedule.

KDOT Local Consult Meetings Information Available

Eight Local Consult meetings were held across the state. During each meeting, participants were asked to prioritize highway projects. Please click [here](#) to view a summary these Local Consult meetings and the list of projects that were identified as priorities in each region. Currently, KDOT staff is doing analysis of the projects and it is expected that they will announce the projects selected for preliminary engineering work at a later date.

EPA Ruling on Air Quality for Region

At the November 5, 2012 REAP Board meeting members received a presentation on air quality data and potential Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designation on noncompliance. An area deemed noncompliant is subject to meeting additional environmental requirements by the EPA, such as car emissions inspections. In the past city officials have estimated those regulations would cost the regional economy \$10 million annually for 10 years. Kansas City has had to follow stricter regulations for decades because of noncompliance.

Since that meeting it was reported on January 3, 2013 that the EPA has approved KDHE's request to exclude four days from April 2011 when calculating air quality data over a rolling, three-year average. This ruling agreed with state officials that prescribed burnings in the Flint Hills and drifting smoke from wildfires in Texas and Mexico contributed to ozone levels that exceeded the federal standards in Kansas in 2011. Several years ago, the EPA turned down a KDHE request to exclude several days and told the state the request was denied because Kansas didn't have a smoke management plan, Gross said. Since that time the state has implemented such a plan, completing it in 2011.

REAP Meeting Schedule

Meeting schedules for 2013 are available on the REAP website, www.reap-ks.org. Please note that the next REAP meeting is scheduled for **Monday, February 11, 2013** at 8:00 AM at the **Hughes Metropolitan Complex**, (29th and Oliver).



ANDOVER, 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, VALLEY CENTER, WELLINGTON, WICHITA

2013 Calendar of Events

REAP Board of Directors:

*8:00 a.m., Hughes Metropolitan Complex
5015 E. 29th St Wichita, Kansas*

Monday, January 14, 2013
Monday, February 11, 2013
Monday, March 11, 2013
Monday, April 8, 2013
Monday, May 13, 2013
Monday, June 10, 2013
Monday, July 8, 2013
Monday, September 9, 2013
Monday, October 7, 2013
Monday, November 4, 2013

Economic Development Committee:

*12:00 p.m., Workforce Alliance
150 N. Main St Wichita, Kansas*

Thursday, January 31, 2013
Thursday, February 28, 2013
Thursday, March 28, 2013
Thursday, April 25, 2013
Thursday, May 30, 2013
Thursday, June 27, 2013
Thursday, July 25, 2013
Thursday, August 22, 2013
Thursday, September 26, 2013
Thursday, October 24, 2013
Thursday, November 21, 2013
Thursday, December 19, 2013

Executive Committee:

Time & Location TBD

Tuesday, January 8, 2013
Tuesday, April 2, 2013
Tuesday, July 2, 2013
Wednesday, September 25, 2013
Tuesday, December 3, 2013

Legislative Committee:

*12:00 p.m., Workforce Alliance
150 N. Main St Wichita, Kansas*

Friday, January 25, 2013
Friday, February 22, 2013
Friday, March 29, 2013
Friday, April 26, 2013
Friday, May 24, 2013
Friday, June 21, 2013
Friday, October 25, 2013
Friday, November 22, 2013
Friday, December 20, 2013

Water Resources Committee:

*9:30 a.m., Hughes Metropolitan Complex
5015 E. 29th St Wichita, Kansas*

Monday, January 14, 2013
Monday, March 11, 2013
Monday, July 8, 2013
Monday, September 9, 2013
Monday, November 4, 2013

REAP Events:

Regional Water Conference
Thursday, May 23, 2013

Legislative Policy Summit & Year-End
Celebration
December 2013



ANDOVER, 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, VALLEY CENTER, WELLINGTON, WICHITA

REAP 2013 Work Plan *Adopted November 5, 2012*

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) is comprised of thirty-four city and county governments in nine counties of South Central Kansas, which include Butler, Cowley, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, McPherson, Reno, Sedgwick and Sumner counties. Since its inception, REAP has been guided by the following mission:

To guide state and national actions that affect economic development in the region, and to adopt joint actions among member governments that enhance the regional economy.

The following is the adopted work plan for 2013; it assigns elements of the plan to the four standing committees: Executive, Economic Development, Legislative, and Water Resources.

Executive Committee

- Administer the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program and assure that all statutory requirements for programming, evaluation, accounting and auditing, financial management, and reporting are met.
- Administer the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant program and assure that all requirements for programming, evaluation, accounting and auditing, financial management, and reporting are met.
- Serve as the treasury for REAP, collect all REAP revenues, make disbursements in accord with the budget adopted by REAP, and conduct financial management of REAP assets in accord with REAP fiscal procedures.
- Determine the organizational capacity to support the future structure and needs of REAP.
- Examine available resources for REAP and recommend sustainable funding sources to provide REAP necessary operating resources for the future.
- Determine a process to review the mission and strategic plan that is designed to engage REAP members and stakeholders in discussion on the future direction and sustainability of REAP over the next three to five years.
- Carry out public relations and communication strategies about REAP activities to local governments and citizens in South Central Kansas.
- Conduct on-going community visitations to provide updates to councils and commissions on the purpose, goals, and status of REAP.
- Engage Topeka-based representation.
- Implement revised REAP/Workforce agreement, as necessary.
- Assure representation by REAP in regional organizations concerned with economic development, including:
 - Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition;
 - Mid-Continent Airport Advisory Board;
 - Visioneering Wichita; and
 - Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Economic Development Committee (EDC)

- Utilize funding through the sustainability grant to contract for an analysis of the regional economy and business climate.
 - Utilize results of analysis to inform REAP members, REAP communities, and partners on business recruitment and regional marketing.
- Review and analyze recent experiences in business recruitment in the region with particular attention to incentives used in recruitment.
 - Utilize results of analysis to inform REAP members, REAP communities, and partners on business recruitment and regional marketing.
- Conduct ongoing review and assess workforce programs in the region and advise REAP members of assessment.
 - Utilize results of assessment to inform REAP members, REAP communities, and partners of available regional workforce programs.
- Implement revised REAP/Workforce agreement, as necessary.
- Review other regional economic marketing agencies.
- Review and determine appropriate role for REAP to engage in Ozone Advance initiative.

Water Resources Committee (WRC)

- Research water, wastewater, and stormwater rate information in the region.
- Conduct annual water conference that includes relevant speakers and topics; including, but not limited to the following hot-topic items:
 - Oil and gas activities;
 - Utilization of reuse technology;
 - Water conservation plans; and
 - Agriculture and municipal water use.
- Educate WRC members on state water plan funding, governance, and economic impact and make recommendations as needed for moving forward.
- Evaluate expansion of the composition of the WRC membership.
- Evaluate and determine role and participation of the WRC with the sustainability grant and overall long-term planning.
- Identify WRC members to serve on the REAP Legislative Committee and evaluate process for determining water related legislative priorities to increase participation.

Legislative Committee (LC)

- Evaluate process for determining legislative priorities to increase participation.
- Conduct annual legislative policy summit that includes relevant speakers and topics.
- Conduct annual Listening Tour and develop report to identify issues of importance.
 - Utilize report to inform REAP members, REAP communities, partners, and other participants of results.
- Increase communication between local government officials and state legislators.
- Evaluate process for conducting town hall style meetings.
- Evaluate sponsorship of Topeka based events during the legislative session.
- Identify and make REAP members aware of legislative issues of significance to South Central Kansas and promote engagement.
- Monitor progress on legislative priorities for 2013 and give guidance to legislative liaison as issues arise.
- Recommend legislative priorities to REAP for the 2014 legislative session.

REAP Three Year Strategic Plan: 2011-2013

Adopted February 14, 2011

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) is comprised of thirty-seven city and county governments in nine counties of South Central Kansas, which include Butler, Cowley, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, McPherson, Reno, Sedgwick and Sumner counties. Since its inception, REAP has been guided by the following mission:

To guide state and national actions that affect economic development in the region, and to adopt joint actions among member governments that enhance the regional economy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

REAP Three Year Strategic Plan: 2011-2013

***Mission:** To guide state and national actions that affect economic development in the region, and to adopt joint actions among member governments that enhance the regional economy.*

- 1) **Provide a unified voice** to promote regional economic development.
 - a) Collaborate with private, non-profit, and public sector stakeholders on regional economic issues.
 - b) Strengthen relationships with existing partners.
 - c) Encourage dialogue on regional economic development.
 - d) Instill regional identity through coordinated branding.

- 2) **Guide state and national policies** that impact regional economic development.
 - a) Engage local leadership to represent the region at the state and national level.
 - b) Develop relationships with state and federal governmental officials.
 - c) Establish a process to identify policies affecting specific industries.
 - d) Coordinate a unified agenda for regional economic development.

- 3) **Engage stakeholders** on issues shaping our regional economy.
 - a) Provide regional forums that connect REAP membership with private, non-profit, and public sector stakeholders.
 - b) Conduct outreach on the purpose and accomplishments of REAP.
 - c) Involve REAP membership in educational opportunities.

- 4) **Support inter-jurisdictional planning** on issues affecting economic development.
 - a) Promote the benefits of a sustainable regional economy.
 - b) Determine REAP's role in regional planning.
 - c) Engage professional staff in multiple jurisdictions for sustainable planning.

- 5) **Lead the region** in addressing future economic needs.
 - a) Create a vision for regional economic development through REAP.
 - b) Determine the organizational capacity to support the future structure and needs of REAP.
 - c) Be proactive in identifying and discussing emerging issues.