



**Water Resource Committee
Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP)
Meeting Agenda
9:30 a.m. , July 8th, 2013**
Hughes Metropolitan Complex
5015 E. 29th Street North, (29th and Oliver)
Mayor Marcey Gregory, Chairwoman

1. Welcome and Introductions: *Mayor Marcey Gregory*

2. Approval of Minutes from the March 11th Meeting: *Mayor Marcey Gregory*

Recommended Action: *Approval or Modify minutes as necessary*

3. 2013 REAP Regional Water Conference Wrap Up: *Rebecca Likiardopoulos*

4. Water Work Team Update: *Paula Downs, Project Director, Sustainability Grant*

5. Organizational Assessment: *Jim Heinicke*

6. Transition team: *Jim Heinicke*

7. Upcoming Meeting Topics:

- State Water Plan
- Representation on Kansas Water Authority

8. Unscheduled Topics: *REAP Members and Partners*

9. Adjourn

The next WRC meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, September 9, 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.

Water Resources Committee Agenda Notes

Item 3 Water Conference Feedback

Please find enclosed a memorandum summarizing the REAP Water Conference. The Committee is asked to provide any comment and feedback on the conference.

Item 4 Prosperity Plan

Enclosed is a summary of the planning being conducted by the Water Work Team (which includes the REAP Water Technical Committee members). Paula Downs, Project Director, will give an update on the water elements of the Prosperity Plan activity.

Item 5 Management Partners Consultant Report

In April, REAP hired the consulting firm, Management Partners, to conduct an assessment of REAP to identify opportunities for improvement. The consultant assessed current conditions through a SWOT analysis, reviewed relevant documentation, and conducted interviews with members, staff and leadership. Management Partners has concluded their work and provided a report that identifies REAP's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. In addition, Management Partners provided recommendations for the organization moving forward.

The Committee is asked to provide feedback on the report in general plus any specific commentary on the Water Resources aspect of the study.

This report was to be discussed at the July 8 REAP meeting immediately prior to the Water Resources Committee meeting. As a result of multiple interviews with REAP members and other partners, the consultant made the following findings as to the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats facing REAP. These findings are shown in Figure 1. Elements specifically related to the Water Resources Committee are highlighted in yellow.

Figure 1: REAP SWOT Analysis Results

Strengths

1. REAP has a long, well established history of achieving projects of important value to local governments in south central Kansas.
2. Interviewees most commonly cited information exchange about common issues, with a regional focus as the primary value of REAP.
3. Interviewees described the recent Water Conferences as an example of meaningful regional policy discussion.
4. The Community Sustainability grant program affords a strong opportunity for broad engagement in regional issues.
5. The support from the Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs has enabled REAP to operate effectively and efficiently.
6. There is strong interest in redefining the role of REAP and reinvigorating the organization.
7. REAP has begun to think more strategically, with the adoption of a strategic plan.

<p>Weaknesses</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a prevailing feeling that REAP has suffered from a lack of effective management leadership for several years. 2. The organization is perceived as an organization for elected officials, to the exclusion of other public officials who could bring strength to the organization. 3. REAP has not responded effectively to public policy initiatives that weaken its operating base and challenge its political legitimacy. 4. Many interviewees thought that the lobbying program was an effective part of REAP but expressed concern about how the program was being carried out. 5. There does not appear to have been an effective response to opposition to the Community Sustainability program. 6. The lack of a coordinated response to public challenges of the Community Sustainability grant program has led to additional division within REAP. 7. The political debate over the grant program seems to be causing an unwillingness to take “ownership” of the initiative. 8. Some interviewees questioned the validity of the program and REAP’s role. 9. Many members of the Water Resources Committee feel that the organizational merger was not performed well, leading to internal dispute. 10. The REAP strategic plan could better serve to provide operating focus on the most important regional issues 11. The role of the Economic Development Committee does not appear to be well defined, relative to the economic development capabilities and initiatives of the larger governments in the area. 12. Linkage to the economic drivers of the local region through other quasi-public and non-profit agencies could be strengthened. 13. Review of Board and committee minutes seem to focus more on procedural and technical matters than on the discussion of policy issues.
<p>Opportunities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current staff vacancies and the loss of initiative in key program areas afford the opportunity to reassess effectiveness. 2. The vast majority of persons interviewed confirm the need for REAP as a regional forum. 3. A key opportunity is the potential to rethink, and refine REAP’s strategic direction. 4. REAP may gain from the resources of other programs within Wichita State University. 5. The future strength of REAP can be enhanced by broader engagement with other public and non-profit sectors, such as the Water Districts and area human service providers.
<p>Threats</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Loss of the Aviation grant program administrative revenue will reduce the operating budget by \$25,000 per year. 2. The possible loss of funding for executive support for the Workforce Alliance would reduce the operating budget by \$16,000 per year. 3. Continued decline in REAP could lead the University to reconsider both its sponsorship of REAP and its highly favorable support contract. 4. Continued loss of membership will weaken both the political power base of the organization and further reduce operating revenues.
<p>Source: Management Partners: Report on Organizational Analysis; June 2013</p>	

Subsequent to making these findings, Management Resources then made recommendations for a change in organization and meeting arrangements. Changes in responsibilities of committees and organization of meetings are shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: BOARD STRUCTURE AND MEETING LOGISTICS
Recommendations by Management Partners

<i>Entity</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Function</i>	<i>Frequency of Meetings</i>
Board	Serve as official corporate body to govern affairs of REAP.	1. Review and approve annual budget.	Semi-annual or quarterly
		2. Set major policy directions.	
Business Meetings		3. Confirm Executive Director and staff.	
		4. Approve legislative policy.	
Topical Sessions	Focus on priority topic area	5. Review all task force work charges.	
		6. Adopt and maintain by-laws.	
Executive Committee	Provide oversight of agency operations	7. Perform annual performance evaluation of organization.	
		8. Identify community partners invited to participate in task forces and committees.	
Technical Advisory Committee	Provide insights and technical advice to Board, Executive Committee, and staff.	1. Conduct educational sessions to provide information, gain consensus and obtain feedback on priority issues.	Bi-monthly
		2. Invite all members, partners and area local governments to participate.	
Standing Committees	Provide a vehicle for regular, on-going investigation and analysis of key topic areas.	1. Develop administrative policy and oversee financial management.	Monthly
		2. Oversee staffing.	
Policy Task Forces	Study and make recommendations on priority topics approved by Board.	3. Delegate work assignments to the Executive Director.	
		4. Approve topics for bi-monthly topical meetings.	
Technical Advisory Committee	Provide insights and technical advice to Board, Executive Committee, and staff.	5. Monitor various committees and task forces.	Monthly or as needed?
		6. Review work charges for new Task Forces as developed by Technical Advisory Committee.	
Standing Committees	Provide a vehicle for regular, on-going investigation and analysis of key topic areas.	7. Conduct annual performance evaluation of Executive Director.	
		8. Identify community partners invited to participate in task forces and committees.	
Policy Task Forces	Study and make recommendations on priority topics approved by Board.	1. Provide feedback and direction on technical issues facing REAP.	Monthly or as needed?
		2. Advise the Board/Executive Committee regarding the need for various task forces.	
Standing Committees	Provide a vehicle for regular, on-going investigation and analysis of key topic areas.	3. Oversee development of the work charge for each task force to be implemented.	
		4. Legislative Committee	
Policy Task Forces	Study and make recommendations on priority topics approved by Board.	a. Develop annual legislative agenda.	Monthly or as needed?
		b. Coordinate with area legislative partners.	
Standing Committees	Provide a vehicle for regular, on-going investigation and analysis of key topic areas.	c. Monitor legislative issues in conjunction with Topeka representation.	
		2. Water Resources Committee	
Policy Task Forces	Study and make recommendations on priority topics approved by Board.	a. Develop annual agenda of water issues	Monthly or as needed?
		b. Conduct research and make findings on priority water issues.	
Policy Task Forces	Study and make recommendations on priority topics approved by Board.	1. Task forces are created for a specific work charge developed by the Technical Advisory Committee and approved by Executive Committee and Board.	Varied based upon task and needs of the Task Force
		2. Conduct research and make findings as identified in the task force work charge.	
Policy Task Forces	Study and make recommendations on priority topics approved by Board.	3. Involve relevant partners and interested parties in the work of the task force.	
		4. Policy identification will emerge as a result of REAP's regional planning initiatives.	
Policy Task Forces	Study and make recommendations on priority topics approved by Board.	5. Task forces will be dissolved when the work charge is completed.	

Specific Recommendations Regarding Water Resource Committee

The following specific recommendations for the Water Resources Committee arose out of the report. The consultant recommends continuing the Water Resource Committee and expanding the discussion beyond REAP members to include interested water partners of various types in the region.

Figure 3: Management Resources Recommendation: Expand and Continue the Water Resources Committee

Advantages

- **The Committee has proven to be a successful forum to discuss regional water issues and the annual Water Conference is a highlight of the year for REAP.**
- **Expanded participation would create basis for additional dialogue.**

Implementation

- **Expand participation to include all interested members as well as any regional water districts.**
- **Staff the Committee with a professional hydrologist on at least a half-time basis**
- **Use the Community Sustainability and strategic planning programs to define the future role of the Committee.**
- **Inclusion of the professional staff from member jurisdictions will foster greater dialogue about technical and operational issues confronting regional water resource capabilities.**

REAP Water Resource Committee Meeting Minutes March 11, 2013
Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas
Mayor Marcey Gregory, Chair

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mayor Marcey Gregory, City of Goddard, called the meeting to order; members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

2. Approval of the Minutes from January 14, 2013 Meeting

Mayor Marcey Gregory, City of Goddard, motioned (Mr. John Waltner, Harvey County) to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Water Resources Committee Staffing Update

Mr. Yager, Wichita State, informed the committee that REAP is reviewing applications for the Assistant Director position. He announced the board members will be informed as soon as the new position is filled.

4. Update on Wichita's Long-term Drought Plan

Mr. Ben Nelson, City of Wichita, led the committee through Wichita's Long-Term Drought Plan. He informed the committee that the water levels at the Cheney Reservoir had dropped and experts are uncertain when the reservoir will return to normal levels. Mr. Nelson stressed that Wichita has developed a long-term drought plan to ensure the city has a sustainable water source. Mr. Nelson noted that the city is monitoring its water levels. Mr. Nelson announced that if the drought continues and the city does not take action, the Cheney Reservoir will be exhausted by 2015. Mr. Nelson discussed the city's current water usages and possible plans to use gray water to maintain the cities golf courses. He announced that Wichita is looking at purchasing water from other sources and is reviewing desalination plans. Mr. Nelson informed the committee of Wichita's proposed water restrictions for outdoor usage. This plan includes a ban on residential lawn watering. Mr. Nelson noted that Governor Sam Brownback has encouraged Wichita to share the plan with other communities in the state. Mr. Dana Baxa, Wichita State University, asked Mr. Nelson if Wichita is seeking new water rights. Mr. Nelson replied that Wichita is in the conceptual stages of the plan and has not identified any specific water rights. Mr. Koci asked Mr. Nelson if he believed Wichita's plan would work for the Barton County water fields. Mr. Nelson replied that Wichita is looking to reviews sights with roughly 50,000 acre feet and the water fields are used mostly for agricultural purposes. Mr. Nelson added that the plan has not been approved by the city council and would likely only affect the residents of Wichita. He stressed that the proposed plan could change if the area sees more rain. He asked the committee members to distribute this information to their elected officials.

5. REAP Annual Water Conference Update

Mayor Gregory thanked Ms. Cody Sims, City of Wellington for recommending Wellington High School for the site of the 2013 REAP Regional Water Conference. Mr. Yager announced that the conference would focus on drought management and discussed the layout of Wellington High School and noted that it is ideal for the conference. Mayor Gregory instructed Mr. Yager to secure a keynote speaker. Mayor Gregory noted that she was impressed with Shell's presentation at the Governors Water Conference. Mr. Dane Baxa, suggested the conference seek out an expert in groundwater extraction. Mr. Yager identified Salina and Hays as other cities conducting draught management plans.

6. Role of the WRC and Sustainable Communities Water Work Team

Ms. Paula Downs, Wichita State University, announced that the Prosperity Initiative is seeking co-chairs for the water Work Team. Mr. Dane Baxa noted the Natural Resources Work Team has been created but suffers from low attendance. He announced that members will receive follow-up emails and phone calls in the near future to help boost attendance. Mr. Yager encouraged committee members to attend the Water Work Team meetings.

7. Key Issues in Water Legislation for 2013 Session

Mr. Yager led the committee through an update of water related legislation in the Kansas House and Senate. Mr. Yager invited all committee members to attend the Legislative Committee meetings. He noted that our legislative updates are posted on the REAP website. He invited the committee members to contact staff if they have any questions on pending legislation. Mr. Dan Koci, asked Mr. Yager if there was a better way to distribute the legislative updates. Mr. Yager responded that the report could be emailed out to committee members.

8. Partners Reports

Mr. Joe Yager reminded the committee of several Basin Advisory Committee Board meetings throughout the region. He recommended that committee members attend these meetings and bring the information back to their communities and elected officials.

9. 2013 Water, Wastewater, and Storm Water Rate Survey Report

Ms. Rebecca Likiardopoulos, led the committee through the 2013 Water Survey. She noted that most communities saw no change in water rates between 2012- 2013. Mr. Mike Jacobs, City of Wichita asked why REAP had not collected gray water rates for communities. Mr. Yager noted that the committee had not expressed interest in gray water rates. He added that they would be included in the next survey.

10. Water Conservation Tips

Mr. Yager announced that staff had created a water conservation tip sheet for the region. He asked that committee members pass the information on to their peers.

11. Unscheduled Business Items and Updates

Mr. Yager presented the committees financial assessment. Mr. Yager noted that Wichita State University has changed its accounting methods. He announced that the Executive Committee had voted to merge the water resource committee and REAP bank accounts into one general fund. Mr. Yager announced that REAP has created a Facebook and Twitter page. He encouraged all members to like REAP on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

12. Adjourn

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

REAP WRC Attendance 3/11/2013

Members/Alternatives

Chair-Mayor Marcey Gregory, City of Goddard

Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope

Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Sedgwick County

Mr. Randall Oliver, City of Cheney

Mr. Kurt Bookout, City of El Dorado

Mr. Rick Lonrath, City of Andover

Mr. Dan Koci, City of Hutchinson, LABAC

Mr. Daniel Shea, Kingman County

Mr. Cody Sims, City of Wellington

Mr. Mike Jacobs, City of Wichita

Mr. Joe Pajor, City of Wichita

Guests

Ms. Sue Schlapp, Department of Commerce

Mr. Brian Meier, BMD/LABAC

Ms. Lisa French, Cheney Lake Watershed

Mr. Byron Sarta, LABAC

Mr. Rob Reschke, Kansas Water Office

Mr. Hoyt Hillman, SWAB

Mr. Charlie Brown, PEC

Ms. Debra Ary, City of Wichita

Mr. Ben Nelson, City of Wichita

Staff

Dr. Nancy McCarthy Snyder, WSU

Mr. Joe Yager, WSU

Mr. Dane Baxa, WSU

Ms. Paula Downs, WSU

Ms. Rebecca Likiardopoulos, WSU

Mr. Brandon Mills, WSU

TO: Jim Heinicke, Interim Director
FROM: Rebecca Likiardopoulos
SUBJECT: 2013 REAP Water Conference Report
DATE: July 1, 2013

The REAP Water Resources Committee, held the 6th annual Regional Water Conference on May 23rd at the Wellington High School. The conference was a success with more than 80 people in attendance and positive feedback about the featured speakers, including; Sharlene Leurig, Senior Manager for Ceres, who kicked off the conference with a presentation on Financing Sustainable Water Infrastructure: Drought and Other Impacts. In addition Tracy Streeter, Director of Kansas Water Office spoke about the Governor's Drought Response Team and the Statewide Drought Status. Joe Pajor with the City of Wichita gave a local perspective, sharing Wichita's drought planning and the community engagement strategies.

Conference surveys have been emailed to all conference participants, and overall 97% of respondents found the conference topics and the information presented relevant.

Those who attended came mainly because of:

- Interest in the topic 76%
- Networking opportunity 53%
- Education provided 47%.

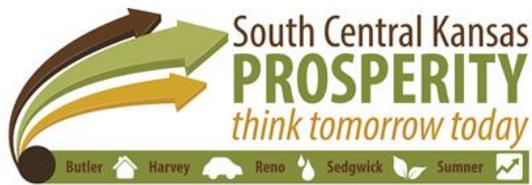
The presentations and agenda can be found at <http://reap-ks.org/2013waterconference.html>.

Attached is the actual expenses for the conference.

2013 REAP Regional Water Conference Actual Budget

Wellington High School, Wellington, KS - May 23, 2013

Expenditures	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Proposed	2013 Actual
Room Rental	135.00	325.00	0.00	877.23	570.00	150.00
Food (breakfast and lunch)	2,466.20	790.80	1,091.00	2,465.99	1,500.00	2,427.50
Printing	130.40	187.16	190.00	165.00	190.00	221.00
Supplies	95.94	18.75	32.16	0.00	20.00	0.00
Audio/Visual	55.00	18.50	459.00	35.00	0.00	66.15
Keynote Dinner				1,381.47	200.00	0.00
Keynote Speaker expenses	523.54	40.00	1,000.00	427.00	400.00	685.60
Additional speaker honorariums/mileage reimbursement/gifts		446.36	318.75	626.86	500.00	286.61
Table cloth rental	112.00	286.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other expenses	n/a	60.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL Expenditures	\$3,518.08	\$2,172.97	\$3,090.91	\$5,978.55	\$3,380.00	\$3,836.86
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2013 nonmember registration fees: 17@ \$30						510.00
TOTAL WRC Expense						\$3,326.86



Work Team Summary

July 2013

www.thinktomorrowsunday.org

Water Work Team Summary

The June 19 meeting was chaired by Robert Conger, The City Administrator for the City of Kechi. Agenda materials included a summary of potential opportunities and barriers for the Team to discuss as well as a summary of components of a regional water plan. The Team's primary goal was to come to a consensus regarding the focus areas of team activities. They discussed the several issues including defining the value of water; collecting accurate supply/demand information; regional drought/emergency management; water conservation; representation in state water policy; adequate water quality/supply information for drinking water supplies.

The Team identified several resources to use moving forward including a KDHE Survey Tool that would engage all of the region's public drinking water supplies. The next Work Team meeting will take place on July 17 at the Hughes Metroplex, in which the work team will prioritize focus areas that will guide the upcoming planning activities.