

**Water Resources Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2012**  
Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas  
Mayor Marcey Gregory, Chair

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**1. Welcome and Introductions**

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

**2. Approval of the Minutes from July 9, 2012 Meeting**

Mr. Kent Brown, City of Clearwater, moved (Mayor Keith DeHaven, City of Sedgwick) to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Water Resources Committee Staffing Update**

Mayor Gregory asked Mr. Joe Yager, REAP Chief Executive Officer, to explain the latest on staffing changes for REAP and the WRC. Mr. Yager explained that due to REAP Executive Officer of Water Resources Dane Baxa's transition to the grant there is a vacancy in staffing. He identified that historically for REAP, changes in staffing have accompanied some other important changes in the organization. In this case the REAP Executive Committee has directed staff to evaluate a process to align these positions for more efficient and effective use of resources.

He noted that water and water issues are of high importance because of the integral role water plays in economic development. It was also noted that while the WRC has its own assessments that pay for the WRC position, it may not be the most effective or efficient use of those funds as the WRC is not as aligned with REAP as the other committees. If the WRC was more interconnected it would be more effective and this would work well with integrated staffing. By moving the organizational structure of staffing there would be the ability to provide a more integrated, efficient and effective operation. This would help to continue to increase the value and outcomes of the WRC.

**4. WRC Capacity Discussion**

Ms. Kathy Sexton, City of Derby, asked how the funding work with a new structure to ensure the proper amount of time is allotted to water and water issues. Mr. Yager responded that there are several potential methods for dealing with the funding issue and as long as there are the two separate assessments there would need to be a method that showed the value of that assessment. Mr. John Carder, City of Hesston noted that the separate funding sources makes the issue more complicated. While in the past the WRC has kept funding separate that may not be as effective as now that the committee is more established and it may be good to go to a common funding structure, perhaps by increasing the overall REAP funding and use the unified voice to be more effective. Dr. Ed Flentje, Wichita State University, echoed this statement by noting that there has been an evolution in the committee and that a consolidation with REAP would allow for a more integrated view of water in light of legislation issues and economic development.

Mr. Yager followed by asking the committee what the needs of the WRC are and how staff could best ensure that water priorities and needs are being met. Mr. Kurt Bookout, City of El Dorado,

mentioned that he felt comfortable with the idea, but would like to see a stronger proposal, since there were still a lot of unanswered questions. Chairwoman Gregory stated that the executive committee wanted the input and recommendation of the WRC as REAP is recognizing the importance of water.

Mr. Carder moved (Ms. Sexton) to recommend to the REAP Executive Committee that consolidation of staffing occur with assurances of expenditures utilized for Water Resources Committee purposes. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **5. WRC 2012 Year in Review**

Mr. Yager provided the committee with the highlights from the past year as preparation of the 2013 workplan discussion.

#### **6. WRC 2013 Work Plan Development Discussion**

Mayor Gregory requested discussion of priorities and issues to be included in the 2012 annual survey of membership. Mr. Baxa mentioned that the annual water conference was an important aspect of the committee and also being a voice working to help develop the state water plan. Dr. Flentje added that urban representation is minimal in the Kansas Water Authority and REAP would be a good conduit for the urban voice to be heard at the state level. He also asked if WRC should be working with the grant on regional water planning efforts. Mr. Baxa responded that may be an opportunity for the WRC.

Mayor Gregory noted that the annual survey would be forwarded following the meeting and encouraged all members to respond to help provide input in the discussion on priorities for next year.

#### **7. Reservoir Roadmap for Lower Arkansas and Walnut Basins Follow-up**

REAP WRC members were invited to participate in a GLANCE session hosted by the Kansas Water office as a discussion of the Reservoir Roadmap. Mr. Yager offered a quick synopsis of the session and Mr. Bookout noted that combining the Lower Arkansas and the Walnut Valley was a good plan and very forward thinking.

#### **8. REAP WRC Sponsorship of the Governor's Water Conference Update**

Mr. Yager presented options for marketing materials to be on hand at the booth the WRC will have at the conference. Mayor Gregory noted that the best asset the WRC can promote is the ability to make information available to all communities.

#### **9. Report of the Executive Officer**

Mr. Yager noted that staff will prepare for the upcoming Governor's water conference; he also mentioned the upcoming meetings for the Walnut Basin Advisory Committee, Lower Arkansas Basin Committee both on September 12, the GMD #2 meeting on September 11 and the Kansas Water Authorities' upcoming meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **10. Sustainable Communities Planning Update**

Ms. Paula Downs mentioned that the grant was moving forward. She also noted that they are currently assembling work teams and are planning to do a needs assessment in the near future.

## **11. Unscheduled Topics**

No unscheduled topics were brought up for discussion.

## **12. Adjourn**

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

### **REAP WRC**

*Attendance – 9/10/2012*

#### **Committee Members and Guests**

Chair-Mayor Marcey Gregory City of Goddard

Mr. Dale Shaffer, City of Benton

Mr. Brian Meier, Burns & McDonald

Mr. Kent Brown, City of Clearwater

Ms. Kathy Sexton, City of Derby

Mr. Herb Llewellyn, City of El Dorado

Mr. Kurt Bookout, City of El Dorado

Mr. John Carder, City of Hesston

Mr. Don Koci, City of Hutchinson

Mayor Terry Somers, City of Mount Hope

Ms. Dana Walden, City of Park City

Mr. Jerry Martin, City of Park City

Ms. Clare Paul, PEC

Ms. Kathy Raney, City of Rose Hill

Mr. Kirk Hayden, City of Rose Hill

Mayor Keith DeHaven, City of Sedgwick

Ms. Susan Erlenwein, Sedgwick County

Mr. Larry Mangan, City of Wellington

Council Member Lavonta Williams, City of Wichita

Mr. Mike Jacobs, City of Wichita

Mr. Zack Daniel, WSU

Mr. Dane Baxa, WSU

Ms. Paula Downs, WSU

Dr. Ed Flentje, WSU

Ms. Rebecca Likiardopoulos, WSU

Dr. Nancy McCarthy Snyder, WSU

Mr. Taylour Tedder, WSU

Mr. Joe Yager, WSU

Mr. John Willoughby, 100th District Candidate