

**Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Noon, October 25, 2013**  
Wichita Workforce Center  
Commissioner Chip Westfall, Chair

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**1. Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:** Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County, welcomed attendees and asked for self-introductions.

**2. Minutes from the June 21, 2013 Legislative Committee Meeting:**

*Mayor Kristey Williams, Augusta, (Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County) moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion adopted.*

**3. Discussion of the 2013 Legislative Policy Summit:**

Keith Lawing reviewed the information included in the agenda report in the packet. The 2013 Legislative Policy Summit is scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2013, at Terradyne Country Club in Andover. The venue has agreed to lower their usual rental fee from \$1800 to \$300 because of the importance of the event and the audience. The suggested schedule of events is:

- Registration and breakfast at 9:30 a.m.
- 10:00 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- 10:15 a.m. Presentation and Panel Discussion- what's happening in the counties
- 11:45- noon: Lunch and Panel Discussion on Transportation
- 1:30 p.m. Presentation and Panel Discussion on Water – 50 year State Water Plan
- 3:00 p.m. Adjourn and Reception- Hereford House Restaurant

The committee and members of REAP are encouraged to make direct contact with their Representatives and Senators and invite them to attend the event. An email with an electronic registration link will be sent out along with the agenda and speakers list prior to the event. Historically, between 80 and 100 people have attended the policy summit. Staff will plan for 80 attendees until a final headcount is concluded two days prior to the Summit.

Staff will contact previous years' sponsors requesting sponsorship of the current year's event. If Committee members have connections with particular sponsors or ideas for new event sponsors please let staff know so that they may be contacted. The estimated total cost for the event is between \$4,500 and \$5,000, depending on the number of attendees registered for the Summit.

*The Committee directed staff to proceed with planning the event including contracting with Terradyne for space, food, reception, technology, soliciting sponsors, and arranging speakers.*

**4. 2014 REAP Legislative Agenda Planning**

Lawing discussed potential Legislative Priorities for 2014 with the Committee. They narrowed down the prior list year to four items, which are areas of common concern, driving the regional economy, including transportation, water, energy, and workforce development. Staff will draft the 2014 priorities and send to Committee members for review. Staff suggests that the page be updated into an infographic instead of a pocket card, which can be linked to the new REAP website, where additional details and information can be listed.

*The Committee directed staff to proceed with drafting the 2014 Legislative Priorities and providing the draft to the Committee members for review and comment.*

**5. 2014 Topeka- Based Representation**

The Committee discussed the current contract with the REAP lobbyist, Tom Bruno of Bruno and Associates, which expires in December 2013. Committee members discussed the need to cut back expenses and the potential for less representative needs during this session. Members also discussed the importance being directly involved with policy makers and the need to build personal relationships with Representatives and Senators and REAP.

*After discussion, the Committee directed staff to negotiate with the current representation for a shortened time period and/or a lesser amount for the 2014 legislative session. To compensate, staff will spend additional time at the Capitol and identify opportunities for REAP members to have formal and informal contact with legislators, including hosting receptions for the delegation.*

*Additionally, staff will arrange for the Committee, Tom Bruno, and the individual communities lobbyists and representatives to attend a round table meeting and discuss the regional and jurisdictional priorities to increase the awareness of REAP and REAP member’s priorities.*

**6. Upcoming Events in the Region**

No upcoming events were announced by the Committee.

**8. Unscheduled Topics**

No unscheduled topics were discussed.

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

**Attendance**

**Committee Members**

Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County, Chair  
Stephanie Knebel, City of Derby  
Bob Myers, City of Newton  
Rick Rekoske, City of Bel Aire  
Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County  
John Waltner, Harvey County  
Mayor Kristey Williams, City of Augusta

**Guests**

Council Member Pete Meitzner, City of Wichita  
Bill Bolin, SCKEDD

**Staff**

Keith Lawing  
Kelly Bergeron