



**Legislative Committee
Meeting Agenda
12:00 pm, November 16, 2012**
Workforce Alliance Administrative Offices
Commissioner Chip Westfall, Chairman

1. **Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:** *Commissioner Chip Westfall*
2. **Approval of Minutes from October 26, 2012:** *Commissioner Chip Westfall*
Recommended Action: *Approve or modify minutes as needed.*
3. **Kansas Affordable Airfares Update:** *Commissioner Chip Westfall*
An update on testimony provided by REAP to the Legislative Budget Committee will be provided.
4. **2012 Regional Listening Tour Follow-up:** *Joe Yager*
The Committee will be provided an update on the follow-up to participants of the regional listening tour.
5. **Review of 2013 Legislative Priorities:** *Commissioner Chip Westfall*
The Committee is asked to review the 2013 Legislative Priorities.
Recommended Action: *Discuss and identify next steps.*
6. **Review of 2012 Election:** *Joe Yager*
Staff has prepared a report on the 2012 elections in the region.
7. **2012 REAP Policy Summit:** *Joe Yager*
The Committee is asked to discuss and provide input into the agenda and content of the summit which is scheduled for December 13, 2012.
 - A. *Agenda*
 - B. *Topics and Speakers*
 - C. *Costs and Sponsors***Recommended Action:** *Discuss and provide direction.*
8. **December Legislative Committee Meeting:** *Commissioner Chip Westfall*
The REAP Policy Summit is scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2012 and the next Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 21, 2012.
Recommended Action: *Discuss and take appropriate action.*
9. **Unscheduled Topics:** *Committee Members*
Committee members are encouraged to provide updates or request discussion on issues that may be relevant.
10. **Adjourn**

Reminder: The Policy Summit is December 13, 2012 at the Drury-Broadview, check-in is 11:00 am.

Legislative Committee
Meeting Minutes –October 26, 2012
Workforce Alliance Administrative Offices
Commissioner Chip Westfall, Chair

1. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements:

Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County, opened the meeting; members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

2. Review of Minutes from the June 6th, 2012 REAP Legislative Committee Meeting

Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County, moved (Council Member Jeff Longwell, City of Wichita) to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Kansas Affordable Airfares Update

Mr. Tom Bruno, REAP Legislative Liaison, gave the committee an update on the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program. He noted that the various supporting partners are developing a plan for support during the legislative session. He also noted that the governor is in support of the program, however, questions do remain over specifics of Southwest Airlines and other funding concerns. Mr. Dale Goter, City of Wichita, offered to help identify the timeline associated with Southwest Airlines.

Several members commented on the need to educate legislators on the importance of the program and the importance of the program to other parts of the state, most notably Garden City.

4. 2012 Legislative Review

Mr. Bruno noted that there was the possibility of 62 new legislators, and also added the large amount of legislators that would have only 2 years of experience. This means that there will be a need for education from all levels and partners, although the sheer numbers will be a challenge. There is good leadership in the Senate for the REAP region and although the region has some strong house members, it is likely that leadership will be from the Kansas City area. There will be a strong need to identify alliances to help work on common issues and to support the issues for our region.

5. 2012 Legislative Committee Regional Listening Tour

Mr. Joe Yager, REAP Chief Executive Officer, provided the committee a report of the results of the 2012 Listening Tour. He noted that the tour was more robust this year and there was the ability to gather a lot of information moving forward. There were 8 stops from June to October, with seven listening tours and one resource fair. Overall there were 120 attendees, 27 different jurisdictions represented and 20 partners. The issues that were mentioned included: housing, transportation and water. A specific item that came from the McPherson Listening Tour was the concept of a forum to improve communities with adaptable change, which may be an opportunity to partner with the Hugo Wall School, and it was noted that REAP could take the role of connecting smaller communities to resources such as this in the future. This was also an opportunity to foster relationships with potential REAP member communities.

6. Potential Legislative Agenda Item Review

Mr. Yager presented the legislative items of other organizations for consideration as the committee discussed it priorities for 2013. Some of the items of note included; concerns for tax cuts at the state level that would shift the burden to the local level, fears that the transportation fund would be raided, maintain the PEAK program, concerns about the HPIP program, local infrastructure as communities deal with the oil and gas boom, and Senate Bill 155 technical credit is seen as a very positive item. Ms. Kelly Bergeron, Workforce Alliance, commented on the bill saying that Workforce Alliance hopes to be the convener and hopes to provide for any potential gaps in funding, books, tools to ensure a trained youth workforce. Mr. Yager added that this fits in alignment with the legislative priority of a business driven agenda.

7. Review and Discussion of 2013 Work Plan

Mr. Yager provided a review of the previous year’s workplan and of the items completed to help in formulating the upcoming plan. Council Member Longwell added that one concern might be to address the needs of REAP partners from smaller communities that due to time constraints cannot always attend and to figure out ways to encourage participation from the smaller communities.

8. Identification of Legislative Priorities for 2013

Mr. Yager led off the discussion by mentioning that this was the first year that REAP utilized a legislative survey for additional information. Members identified KAAP as the highest priority and added that water, especially the recharge of the Equus beds was also a high priority. The Committee noted that that this year it would be good to pay more attention to water and statewide issues in general. A third issue was support for designated transportation funds. The Committee also identified opportunities to support passenger rail as a potential item. Commissioner Westfall mentioned that there needs to be a good method of communication of locals to state legislators and offered the idea of large conference calls that would act much like a town hall meeting so that the legislators would be aware of the local issues. There was a comment to back away from renewable energy and to continue to support education and research.

Staff was directed to draft a proposal of priorities and to forward those priorities via email to all members prior to submission to the Executive Committee for review.

9. 2013 Legislative Committee Meeting Schedule

The meeting schedule was approved as presented by consent.

10. 2012 REAP Policy Summit

The Committee will review the agenda, major issues, focus topics and potential speakers at the next meeting on November 16, 2012

11. 2013 REAP Legislative Liaison Discussion

Commissioner Unruh moved (Council Member Longwell) to forward a recommendation to the Executive Committee for continuation of Mr. Tom Bruno as the legislative liaison. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Unscheduled Topics

No unscheduled topics were brought up for discussion.

13. Adjourn

Having no other business the meeting was adjourned.

REAP Legislative Committee
Attendance – 10/26/2012

Committee Members

Chair- Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County
Ms. Stephanie Knebel, City of Derby
Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County
Mr. Marv Duncan, Sedgwick County
Council Member Jeff Longwell, City of Wichita
Mr. Dale Goter, City of Wichita

Guests/Staff

Mr. Tom Bruno, Bruno & Associates
Jason Watkins, Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Bill Bolin, SCKEDD
Council Member Pete Meitzner, City of Wichita
Dr. Ed Flentje, WSU
Dr. Nancy McCarthy Snyder, WSU
Mr. Joe Yager, WSU
Ms. Rebecca Likiardopoulos, WSU
Mr. Taylour Tedder, WSU
Ms. Kelly Bergeron, Workforce Alliance

Item

Review of 2013 Legislative Priorities

Background

The REAP Legislative Committee identifies legislative issues of regional concern and monitors the progress on the annual legislative priorities. The following is a brief synopsis of the 2013 priorities:

Maintain Kansas Affordable Airfares Program to assure more flight options, more competition for air travel, and affordable airfares for Kansas.

- KAAP is a partnership with the State with more than \$20 million in local funding being utilized for this program. State involvement began in 2006, annual funding each year since (7 consecutive years for a total of \$35 million in State funding).
- Key partners include the Wichita Chamber of Commerce, City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, Garden City, and Dodge City.

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.

- ASR involves pumping water out of the Little Arkansas River, treating it to drinking-water quality and injecting it into the Equus Beds aquifer. Current consumers of the aquifer are irrigators, municipalities and various industries. Annual requests from the state water plan fund of \$1 million started four years ago. Total appropriations to date amount to about \$3 million.
- Key partner is the City of Wichita.

Sediment and nutrient reduction programs that protect and sustain the region's public water supplies.

- Improving water quality through a coordinated local, state and federal program targeted at reducing sediment and nutrients in surface water to protect public water supplies and reduce treatment costs for drinking water.
- Key partners include the REAP WRC and the Kansas Water Office.

Aviation research at the National Institute for Aviation Research at Wichita State University.

- NIAR is a university-based aviation research center, providing research, design, testing and certification to the aviation industry and government agencies. From 2003-2006 \$7M was approved for aviation related research to support future products. The Kansas aviation industry then requested enhanced funding, and from 2007-2012 received \$29.65M (roughly \$5M/yr).
- Key partner is Wichita State University.

Orthopedic research at the Center of Innovation for Bio Orthopedic Research (CIBOR).

- A joint venture by Via Christi Health System and Wichita State University researchers for the development of medical devices through use of composite materials.
- Key partner is Wichita State University.

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.

- An examination of current appropriations of the state water fund would be a healthy and productive exercise that will lead to consensus among the various categories of water users as agricultural, industrial and municipal users must work together for the overall benefit of the state.
- Key partners include the REAP WRC, LKM and Kansas Water Office.

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.

- To ensure an affordable and abundant drinking water supply, that will protect and sustain the region's high quality groundwater. Note: Air quality added at the Nov. 5th REAP board meeting.
- Key partners include the City of Wichita and REAP WRC.

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.

- The National Center for Aviation Training (NCAT) fuses Kansas' aviation experience and expertise with cutting-edge instructional techniques and technology.
- Alignment at the State for education and training to benefit the workforce development system.
- Key partners include Sedgwick County and Workforce Alliance.

Support continued evaluation of the feasibility of expanded and existing passenger rail service throughout the State of Kansas.

- Item mentioned at the October 26th Legislative Committee in regards to developing the potential of the Wichita MSA into a regional destination along the I-35 corridor.
- Key partner is the City of Wichita.

Support home rule authority to provide cities and counties the ability to fund service for local residents.

- As the tax burden continues to shift from the state to the local level, this hope to ensure the ability for cities and counties to obtain funds to serve local residents.

Oppose any changes to existing business incentives that would negatively 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 and Promoting Employment Across Kansas -PEAK).

- Key partners include the regional economic development partners and REAP EDC.

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.

- The reauthorization of WIA presents an opportunity to refocus the workforce investment system to focus on skill enhancement, connection on programs, and promote long-term, inclusive economic growth.
- Key partner is the Workforce Alliance.

Election Highlights, November 2012

Harvey County

Commissioner DIST. 2 Randy Hague
Commissioner DIST. 3 Ron L. Krehbiel (i)
Bond- Burrton Consolidated Fire District #5- YES

Butler County

Commissioner DIST. 2 Peggy R. Palmer (i)
Commissioner DIST. 3 Ed Myers
City of Augusta Sales Tax - YES
City of Douglass Sales Tax - YES

Sedgwick County

Commissioner DIST. 2 Tim Norton (i)
Commissioner DIST. 3 Karl Peterjohn (i)
Wichita Water Fluoridation- NO
Valley Center Sales Tax- NO

State of Kansas Results

United States House of Representatives 002
R-Lynn Jenkins (i)
United States House of Representatives 003
R-Kevin Yoder (i)
United States House of Representatives 004
R-Mike Pompeo (i)

Constitutional Amendment Boat Tax - "YES"

Kansas Senate

001 R-Dennis D. Pyle (i)
002 D-Marci Francisco (i)
003 D-Tom Holland (i)
004 D-David Haley (i)
005 R-Steve Fitzgerald
006 D-Pat Pettey
007 R-Kay Wolf
008 R-Jim Denning
009 R-Julia Lynn (i)
010 R-Mary Pilcher-Cook (i)
011 R-Jeff Melcher
012 R-Caryn Tyson
013 R-Jacob LaTurner
014 R-Forrest J. Knox
017 R-Jeff Longbine (i)
018 D-Laura Kelly (i)
019 D-Anthony Hensley (i)
020 R-Vicki L. Schmidt (i)
021 R-Greg A. Smith
022 D-Tom Hawk
023 R-Rob Olson (i)

Reno County

Commissioner DIST. 2 James D. Schlickau (i)
Commissioner DIST. 3 Brad Dillon (i)
Hutchinson Sales Tax Question- YES
Hutchinson Sexual Orientation Question- NO

Harper County

Commissioner DIST. 2 Carla Pence (i)
Commissioner DIST. 3 Lee Adams (i)

Kingman County

(not available)

024 R-Tom Arpke (i)
025 R-Michael O'Donnell
027 R-Leslie D. "Les" Donovan Sr. (i)
028 R-Mike Petersen (i)
029 D-Oletha Faust-Goudeau (i)
030 R-Susan Wagle (i)
034 R-Terry Bruce (i)
035 R-Jay Scott Emler (i)
036 R-Elaine S. Bowers
038 R-Garrett Love (i)
040 R-Ralph Ostmeyer (i)

Election Highlights, November 2012

Kansas House of Representatives

001	R-Michael Houser	066	D-Sydney Carlin (i)
002	D-Robert "Bob" Grant (i)	067	R-Tom Phillips (i)
003	D-Julie Menghini	069	R-J.R. Claeys
004	R-Marty Read	071	R-Diana Dierks
005	R-Kevin Jones	072	R-Marc Rhoades
007	R-Richard J. Proehl (i)	073	R-Clark Shultz (i)
010	D-John Wilson	075	R-Will Carpenter
011	R-Jim Kelly (i)	076	R-Peggy Mast (i)
012	R-Virgil Peck (i)	079	D-Ed Trimmer (i)
014	R-Keith Esau	081	R-Jim Howell (i)
017	R-Brett M. Hildabrand	083	D-Carolyn Bridges
018	R-John Rubin (i)	084	D-Gail Finney (i)
019	R-Stephanie Clayton	085	R-Steve Brunk (i)
021	R-Barbara Bollier (i)	086	D-Jim Ward (i)
022	D-Nancy Lusk	087	R-Mark Kahrs
023	R-Kelly R. Meigs (i)	088	D-Patricia M. Sloop
024	D-Emily Perry	089	D-Roderick A. Houston
025	R-Melissa A. Rooker	090	R-Steve Huebert (i)
028	R-Jerry Lunn	091	R-Gene M. Suellentrop (i)
029	R-James Todd	092	D-Nile Dillmore (i)
030	R-Lance Kinzer (i)	093	R-George F. (Joe) Edwards II
031	D-Louis E. Ruiz (i)	095	D-Tom Sawyer
033	D-Tom Burroughs (i)	096	D-Brandon Whipple
036	D-Kathy Wolfe Moore	097	R-Leslie Osterman (i)
038	R-Willie Dove	098	R-Phil Hermanson (i)
039	R-Charles Macheers	100	R-Dan Hawkins
040	R-John Bradford	102	D-Jan Pauls (i)
041	D-Melanie Meier (i)	105	R-Mark E. Hutton
042	R-Connie O'Brien (i)	106	R-Sharon Schwartz (i)
043	R-Bill Sutton (i)	110	R-Travis Couture-Lovelady
044	D-Barbara W. Ballard (i)	111	R-Sue E. Boldra
047	R-Ramon C. Gonzalez Jr. (i)	112	R-John Edmonds
049	R-Scott Schwab (i)	114	R-Jack Thimesch
050	R-Joshua Powell	115	R-Ronald Ryckman (i)
051	R-Ron Highland	116	R-Kyle D. Hoffman (i)
052	R-Shanti Gandhi	117	R-John L. Ewy
053	D-Annie Tietze (i)	119	R-Brian A. Weber (i)
054	R-Ken Corbet	121	R-Arlen H. Siegfried (i)
055	D-Annie Kuether (i)		
056	D-Virgil Weigel		
057	D-John Alcalá		
058	D-Harold Lane (i)		
059	R-Blaine Finch		
060	R-Don Hill (i)		
062	R-Randy Garber (i)		
063	D-Jerry Henry (i)		
064	R-Vern Swanson (i)		
065	R-Allan Rothlisberg		

i denotes incumbent

Item

2012 REAP Policy Summit

Background

It was determined in the 2011-13 REAP Strategic Plan that REAP will guide state and national policies by engaging local leadership to represent the region at the state and national level through awareness, communication and coordination. The Legislative 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 Committee Chair directed staff to develop in conjunction with several partners the 2012 Summit to prepare for the 2013 legislative session. *The Policy Summit has been scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2012 at the Drury-Broadview Hotel in Downtown Wichita.*

A. Agenda

Following is a draft schedule:

11:00 AM	Registration
11:30 AM	Welcome and Introductory Remarks
12:00 PM	Plated Lunch
12:20 PM	Presentations
2:30 PM	Break
2:40 PM	Presentations
3:50 PM	Closing Remarks
4:00 PM	Reception/REAP Celebration
6:00 PM	End and Cleanup

B. Topics and Speakers

The issues that have been identified below are looked at as an opportunity to highlight the strengths and needs of South Central Kansas. Many of the issues will be simple updates, but some will be more in depth discussions. Following is a draft of those potential issues:

Policy Focus Topics

- State and Local Economic Environment
- Shifting Burdens on Local Government

Proposed Individual Topics to Highlight

- Affordable Airfares – business representative
- Transportation
- Research and Training – potential panel of Tomblin, Kinkle, and KDOC
- Manufacturing – potential panel of Aviation/AgCo/Siemans
- Taxation – AGH, local business, local government
- McConnell AFB
- Water Resources – Kansas Water Office

Special Presenters

- Senate Leadership Perspectives
- House Leadership Perspectives
- Delegation Leadership – Representative Pete DeGraaf (current delegation chair)

C. Costs and Sponsors

Last year's 2011 Legislative Policy Summit had a total cost of \$1907.70, including the Drury's fee, Hors d' Oeuvres Menu, Snack Break, Bar and Beverages. Recommendation for this year's 2012 Legislative Policy Summit cost is \$3959.40 including the Drury's Fee with extra wireless microphones, Plated Lunch Menu, Hors d' Oeuvres Menu, Snack Break, Estimated Bar Cost and Beverages.

Last year's sponsors included: Bruno & Associates, Cox Communications, City of Derby, Go Wichita, Harvey County, City of Newton, Quikprint, REAP, Schaefer Johnson Cox Frey & Associates, Sedgwick County, Visioneering Wichita, Westar, City of Wichita, Wichita Area Builders Association, Wichita Downtown Development Corporation, Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce, Wichita State University and Yingling Aviation. Sponsors provided a \$250 contribution.

This year, staff suggests identifying sponsors who would be willing to be highlighted for different segments of the summit, such as the lunch and the reception.

Recommended Action

Discuss and provide direction.