



1. Welcome: Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County, welcomed attendees and asked for introductions on the call.

2. Minutes from the October 25, 2013 Legislative Committee Meeting:

Bob Myers, Newton, (Mayor Kristey Williams, Augusta) moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion adopted.

3. Discussion of the 2014 REAP Legislative and Policy Priorities:

Keith Lawing reviewed draft of the 2014 Legislative and Policy Priorities handout included in the packet. This draft reflects requested changes from the October meeting and subsequent drafts circulated by email. The Committee requested additional changes to include the addition of the words “jobs”, noting the importance of job creation to the regional economy. Additionally, the Committee requested staff look at the possibility of including additional supporting numbers if possible, such as the number of jobs created by SB 155 legislation and training dollars. Under the CTE bullet, the Committee requested the inclusion of all of the Community Colleges in the REAP region that offer CTE training. Overall, Committee members noted they liked the “general” format of the document and that it provides REAP with maximum flexibility to support key legislation as it arises during the session.

The Committee directed staff to update the draft 2014 Legislative Priorities document and provide the draft to the Committee members for review and comment. Additionally, the draft should be included in the January Board of Directors packet for review by the Board.

4. Discussion of Legislative Engagement and Convening Opportunities:

Lawing reviewed potential engagement strategies for legislators included in the agenda packet. The Committee discussed each alternative, including:

- Inviting Legislators to REAP Board of Directors meetings
- Hosting luncheons and /or receptions for the South Central Delegation in Topeka
- Trips to Topeka by REAP members to meeting with Legislators or testify at hearings
- Attend the Saturday morning meetings of the South Central Delegation in the REAP region
- Hosting a weekly conference call update during the session on Fridays and inviting Legislators to be on the call to comment on specific legislation

The Committee discussed REAP’s official position on Kansas Affordable Airfares. After discussion, the Committee recommended their starting position will be continued support of funding for KAAP and implementation as the statute was written, with REAP as the administrator.

The Committee directed staff to pursue opportunities to host delegation lunches and/or receptions in Topeka as funding and scheduling allow. Tom Bruno will assist staff in identifying available sponsorship opportunities and projected costs and report back to the Committee.

5. Summary of the 2013 Legislative Policy Summit

Kelly Bergeron noted the staff report of the 2013 Legislative Policy Summit on December 6th at Terradyne Country Club in Andover. The Committee had no questions or comments on the report.



The report was received and filed.

6. Unscheduled Topics

No unscheduled topics were discussed.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 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
Mayor Kristey Williams, City of Augusta

Guests

Tom Bruno, Bruno & Associates
Dale Goter, City of Wichita
Bernie Koch, Lobbyist- Harvey County

Staff

Keith Lawing
Kelly Bergeron