



### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Mayor Marcey Gregory, Goddard, called the meeting to order and asked for self-introductions.

### 2. Approval of Minutes from November 4, 2013

*Bob Conger, Kechi, (Cody Sims, Wellington) moved to approve the minutes from November 4, 2013. Motion adopted.*

### 3. Discussion of the 2014 REAP Regional Water Conference

The Regional Water Conference is scheduled for Thursday, May 29, 2014 at the Meridian Center in Newton. The day will begin with registration and breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be served. Keynote speakers include J.D. Strong, Executive Director, Oklahoma Water Resource Board on the passage of the Water for 2060 Act: Oklahoma's Vision for water. Additionally, the Kansas Water Office will provide and updated and collect additional feedback on the Governor's 50 year vision for the future of water in Kansas.

The total cost for the conference is estimated at \$3,500. REAP members may attend for free. Non REAP members are asked to pay a \$75 registration fee. Vendors will be recruited for a vendor area. The Prosperity Plan will contribute to the costs of the event, covering all expenses except for food. It is hoped that the event will be revenue- neutral.

*The Committee directed staff to pursue additional speakers, including legislators, that might speak during the legislative update at lunch on water issues and to proceed with finalizing arrangements for the conference.*

### 4. REAP Water/Wastewater 2014 Rate Survey

The Hugo Wall School, Wichita State University, conducted the 2014 Water/Wastewater rate survey. This survey is conducted annually. The draft survey results were presented to the Committee for review and comment. Highlights include:

#### Water

- 7 communities or 30.4% reported changes to their water rates structures
- Average base rate for residential water service is \$15.13, an increase of 7.5% or \$1.05
- Average gallons included in base rates decreased by 35% from 1,666 to 1,082
- Most communities use chlorination for water treatment; with two exceptions

#### Wastewater

- 14 communities or 60.8% reported changes in wastewater rates
- Average base rate for wastewater service inside city limits increased 7.2% to \$19.69
- Average base rate for wastewater service outside city limits increased almost 28.6% to \$30.62

#### Stormwater

- There were no changes to the stormwater survey



National Comparison

According to a recent Black and Vetch survey of the 50 largest American cities comparing average residential usage, Wichita ranks 11th lowest for combined water and wastewater rates. The typical combined water and wastewater rate is 31% lower than the national average.

*The Committee requested the results of the survey be finalized and sent out the REAP membership and posted on the REAP website.*

**5. Legislative Update: Water Issues**

A report of the current water legislation and action was included in the packet. The Committee reviewed the legislation and requested that staff and the REAP lobbyist keep them informed of new or emerging issues and developments.

**6. Reports from Regional Water Organizations**

The organizations/entities scheduled to speak were not present at the meeting. The item was deferred to the March meeting.

**7. Future of Water in Kansas Visioning Exercise**

Due to time constraints at the meeting the exercise was not conducted.

**8. Other Business**

No other business was brought forward by the Committee or staff.

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

**Attendance**

Members/ Alternates

Mayor Marcey Gregory, Goddard, *Chair*  
Kent Brown, Clear Water  
Bob Conger, Kechi  
Cody Sims, Wellington  
Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope

Guests

Taylor Bolt, Wichita State University  
Angela Buzard, Wichita State University  
Paula Downs, Wichita State University  
Brandon Mills, Wichita State University

Staff

Kelly Bergeron