

Legislative Committee Meeting Agenda

Wichita Workforce Center
2021 N. Amidon, Suite 1100, Wichita
September 22, 2016 ~ 11:30 a.m.

1. Welcome: Mayor Terry Somers, Chair
 2. Approval of Minutes from June 9, 2016 Meeting: Terry Somers (pp. 2-5)
Recommended action: approve the minutes from the June 9, 2016 meeting.
 3. 2017 Legislative Agenda Planning: Terry Somers (pg.6)
 4. 2017 Possible 2017 Priorities Discussion Draft: Marla Canfield (pp. 7-8)
 5. Other Business: Legislative Committee Members
 6. Adjourn
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2016 Meeting Dates

11:30 a.m., 4th Thursday of the month

October 27, 2016
November 17, 2016
December 4, 2016

REAP Executive & Legislative Committees Meeting Minutes

Wichita Workforce Center
2021 N. Amidon, Suite 1100, Wichita
June 9, 2016 ~ 11:30a.m.

1. Welcome: Commissioner Carol Voran, Chair
Commissioner Carol Voran, Kingman County, called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of Minutes from May 12, 2016
 - A. Approval of Minutes from Executive Committee Meeting from May 12, 2016
Council Member Carl Koster, Cheney (Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County) moved to approve the minutes from May 12, 2016 Executive Committee meeting. Motion adopted.
 - B. Approval of Minutes from Legislative Committee Meeting from April 6, 2016
Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County (Council Member Diane Wynn, Bel Aire) moved to approve the minutes from April 6, 2016 Legislative Committee meeting. Motion adopted.
3. REAP Legislative Committee Business
Keith Lawing updated the committee on the Special Session to being on June 23, 2016. Discussions are that it will be short as possible and the minimum amount the budget possible to meet the Supreme Court ruling. The legislature will be looking at all funds including transportation and Medicare to fill the gap.
 - A. REAP hosting a reception for elected officials and candidates
At the April 6, 2016 REAP Legislative Committee meeting it was suggested REAP sponsor a “meet and greet” reception for those legislative candidates for office this summer.

In discussing with potential partners and stakeholders it was suggested instead of hosting pre-election reception, REAP plan an event immediately following the November elections. The primary reason is the concern over the effectiveness of a reception during the campaign as many candidates will be busy engaging voters in their respective districts and would not view a REAP event as helping their campaign. A post-election reception would allow REAP to specifically target the individuals that will be representing the region in the Legislative starting in 2017.

Staff researched venues/catering and estimate the cost to host an event would be approximately \$2,300.

If local governments would like to have the candidates at a local event, REAP staff can provide a packet of information for the event.

The committee felt it was time to do something different. Recommended hosting an event after the elections and having more conversations versus formal presentations. It is time to start selling REAP and having some validity to the organization. This event would be a good way to plant seeds. Event time suggestions were late in the day or first thing in the morning. Venue suggestions were: Botanica, Meridian Center, Derby (new convention building). REAP staff will

start working on a venue and agenda and will work with the Legislative Committee during the planning process.

B. 2016 Primary election listing

2016 Primary election listing from the State of Kansas Office of the Secretary of State (pulled 06.06.16) was provided to members. There is one election in the US Senate, with two primary races. There are four races in the US House with four primaries. For state house races: there will be 20 primary elections and 33 general elections. There are 98 candidates running for the state legislature in the REAP region. Nine of the candidates are running without opposition.

4. Executive Committee Business:

A. WIOA Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB) Appointment

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-128) (WIOA) is new federal employment and training legislation that supersedes the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA). WIOA is designed to help job seekers access quality services related to employment, education and training, and supportive services to succeed and to match employers with a skilled workforce they need to compete in the global economy. The counties of Butler, Cowley, Harper, Kingman, Sedgwick and Sumner counties have been designated as the Kansas WIOA Local Area IV by the Governor of the State of Kansas. The Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas (WA) serves as the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB), operates the workforce centers in the region and manages the employment and training programs.

WIOA requires local governments to establish a Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB) to oversee the operations of a local area. The CEOB functions as Grant Recipient for funds under WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs for Local Area IV, and appoints members to the Local Workforce Development Board. Approximately \$3 million is allocated annually to Local Area IV. This funding is critical to serve both employers and job seekers in South Central Kansas.

The Workforce Alliance is requesting adoption, approval of the attached agreement and appointment of elected officials to serve on the CEOB. The CEOB functions as Grant Recipient for funds under WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs for Local Area IV, and appoints members to the Local Workforce Development Board.

The proposed CEOB agreement is enclosed. It is based on templates used in other regions and was prepared with the assistance of legal counsel. As proposed there will be no more than 15 and no fewer than seven members on the CEOB in Local Area IV. Each appointment will last 3 years consistent with the strategic planning cycle. Unless stated otherwise, terms begin on July 1 and end on June 30. When vacancies arise it is up to the organization with the opening to appoint a new member. A position on the CEOB is considered vacant on the date the term expires, a member becomes ineligible, a member is removed, or a member resigns or dies. The vacancy shall be filled by the appointing county through reappointment or replacement within sixty (60) days of the creation of the vacancy.

As proposed the membership of the CEOB will consist of:

- Active Councils of Local Governments in Local Area IV may appoint one (1) member to the CEOB.

- Up to two (2) members from counties of Butler, Cowley, Harper, Kingman, Sedgwick and Sumner counties. Those appointed must be an elected official (commissioner/mayor/council member) in the county which they are appointed to represent.

The engagement of Active Councils of Local Governments on the CEOB will be a tremendous asset in the development and implementation of employment and training strategies in this region. Since April 10, 2014, Wichita Mayor Jeff Longwell, has carried out these duties on behalf of the REAP Executive Committee and it is recommended he continue to represent REAP on the CEOB.

Council Member Carl Koster, Cheney (George Kolb, Valley Center) moved to approve the CEOB model as prosed for Local Area IV and appointment Mayor Jeff Longwell, Wichita, to serve on CEOB. Motion adopted.

B. Regional Transportation Planning

On April 25, REAP/WAMPO hosted a transportation planning meeting. Invited to the meeting were regional economic development agencies, REAP members, WAMPO members, local community leadership, BREG, private industry, state agencies. Misty Bruckner, WSU, facilitated the conversation and a written summary of the meeting will be provided. Participants discussed enhancing regional transportation cooperation and how to get a process moving forward.

The primary action steps that came out of the conversation:

1. Develop a framework
2. Identify regional priorities
3. Action steps for a regional focus on transportation policy issues.

It was recommend REAP take the lead position in developing the framework for a regional transportation model and to begin a coordinated strategy. There will be presentations at upcoming REAP and WAMPO meetings.

A copy of the draft action steps/goals REAP developed to start working on plan to address regional transportation needs.

Committee members agreed to the plan and staff will move forward with the action steps.

IKE Airport and promotion of new fares was discussed. Members can sign up at: <http://www.flywichita.com/news-and-promotions/> to get news on fares from all of the airlines. On <http://www.flywichita.com/> there is a link to find the flights from Southwest Airlines without having to go to their website.

5. Other Business

REAP Recruitment - Staff recommend as part of an outreach and awareness plan for REAP, a strategic plan and tactics, requesting meetings and presentations with existing member communities and the opportunity to introduce the organization and the importance of regional collaboration and cooperation. Members of REAP are requested to attend and directly engage in this strategy.

Additionally, staff requests the assistance of the members in referring potential associate members and city and county members who may be interested in joining REAP. The Committee is asked identify three to six target businesses in your communities that might be potential associate members or interested in joining the regional collaborative. Attached is a list of local governments that are not REAP members and regional partners to consider inviting associate members.

Strategy for recruitment:

- Initial outreach to potential and former members of REAP
- Staff send packet of REAP information to targeted local government officials
- Direct contact by REAP member to community
 - Examples: mayor to mayor, commissioner to commissioner, city manager to city manager
- Invitation to REAP event or convening
- Set up presentation in the community attended by REAP members and staff

Members agreed to target certain local governments for recruitment: North Newton, Augusta, Haysville, and Pratt County. It was also suggested to staff to determine if community colleges, private universities could benefit from REAP members and how they could be used in future planning.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:00p.m.

Attendance

Commissioner Carol Voran, Kingman County, Chair
Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope, Chair
Mayor Marcey Gregory, Goddard
Mayor Rex Satterthwaite, Bentley
Commissioner Brad Dillion, Reno
Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County
Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County

Council Member Diane Wynn, Bel Aire
Council Member Carl Koster, Cheney
Council Member Romina Becker, Bel Aire
Kathy Sexton, Derby
KayLene Haug, K96 Corridor
George Kolb, Valley Center

Staff/ Guests

Misty Bruckner, WSU
Marla Canfield, REAP

Keith Lawing, REAP

Item

2017 Legislative Agenda Planning

Background

REAP contracted for legislative consulting services from 2000-2015, and specifically Bruno and Associates since 2006. There was not an obvious and large scale regional legislative priority identified for the 2016 legislative session. As most are aware, 2016 was first year since 2005 that the region did not requested state support for commercial air service from Eisenhower Airport.

Possible regional legislative and policy priorities are likely to be in the areas of skills training/workforce development, transportation infrastructure and water quality/conservation as these are all topics that do not respect traditional political boundaries and impact the regional economy. REAP staff are part of the Blueprint for Regional Economic Growth (BREG) implementation teams and there could be some regional policy priorities that emerge from this initiative.

Questions for the Committee to consider and discuss:

1. What are the basic goals for REAP in the area of policy advocacy and influencing state investments to support the regional economy?
2. What is the best way to develop regional legislative priorities?
3. How can REAP best work with other partners and stakeholders on regional legislative priorities?

In consideration of the questions above and other related issues, the next steps for the Legislative Committee should be to provide REAP members with recommendations for 2017 regional legislative priorities, suggested actions on coordinating with regional partners, and REAP's role in supporting legislative services and policy advocacy strategies for the region. The next REAP Board of Directors meeting is October 20, 2016.

Outreach/Engagement Tactics to Consider

- Partner with the Wichita Metro Chamber on the November 10th networking reception for the South Central Delegation. This event happens annually and with REAPs involvement it will now include local governments.
- Reception at the annual delegation meeting in January.
- REAP day in Topeka:
 - Sponsor a South Central Delegation lunch
 - Set up meetings with key officials of the state (i.e., Kansas Department of Transportation and Kansas Department of Commerce Secretaries).
- Align regional priorities with area chambers of commerce.

Item:

REAP Legislative Committee Possible 2017 Priorities Discussion **Draft**

- **WATC/WSU Merger**
REAP supports legislation to merge Wichita Area Technical College and Wichita State University. In order to increase educational opportunities from the GED to the PhD to Kansans, help satisfy the workforce needs of south central Kansas and create a stronger partnership between higher education and industry, WATC and WSU are seeking legislative action to merge the two institutions and create a new School of Applied Science and Technology within Wichita State University while increasing the level of service to private industry and receiving the same level of funding from the State of Kansas.
- **Innovation Campus**
REAP supports legislation that helps grow the Kansas economy and provide additional educational opportunities to students at WSU by continuing to allow and encourage development of the Innovation Campus.
- **Research and Development/Quality of Life/Workforce**
REAP supports legislation that impacts and improves these three critical areas that will help satisfy the needs of workforce, industry and grow the Kansas economy.
- **NIAR funding**
Continue to talk about NIAR funding.
- **Medicaid Expansion**
Support expansion of the Kansas Medicaid program, which will complement the counties' efforts in public health by bringing federal dollars to Kansas, providing vital revenues to our local hospitals, and extending healthcare coverage for at-risk Kansans.
- **Preservation and Protection of Water Supplies**
Support reasonable, scientifically-based regulations to protect the quality and quantity of water. Such regulations should take into account cost-benefit analyses and should not be unduly restrictive. Additionally, we support legislation and regulations to protect sensitive or important groundwater areas from possible contamination by humans, animals, or other sources. We also support efforts at all levels of government to protect and preserve water resources, including partnerships aimed at remedying sedimentation and other problems that affect public access to water
- **Tax / Spending Lid**
Local spending and taxing decisions are best left to local officials representing the citizens that elected them. REAP strongly opposes any state imposed limits on the taxing and spending authority of cities and support repeal of the property tax lid.
- **Forfeiture funds**
Forfeiture should be used to purchase additional law enforcement vehicles and equipment as well as providing additional law enforcement education and training but only if such purchases

are for additional and special purposes and not to replace old vehicles or cover other normal operating expenses.

- **Comprehensive Transportation Program**
Support the continued funding of the Kansas T-Works comprehensive transportation program. We oppose any further use of these funds to balance the State's general fund budget. Any reduction in T-Works funding would jeopardize existing programs.
- **Airport Funding**
Support the continued use of state economic development dollars (EDIF funds) to enhance airport facilities and services.
- **Rail Service**
Support existing and enhanced passenger and freight rail services in Kansas.