**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

October 20, 2016 ~ 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

**Wichita Workforce Center**

2021 N. Amidon, Suite 1100, Wichita

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements

Commissioner Carol Voran, Kingman County, welcomed attendees and asked for self-introductions.

1. Board of Directors Business
   1. Approval of Minutes from July 21, 2016

*Council member Carl Koster, Cheney, (Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope) moved to approve the minutes from July 21, 2016 as presented. Motion adopted.*

* 1. Regional Transportation Strategic Planning

One of the 2016 REAP work plan items is “Support the Regional Transportation Taskforce”. In July, it was recommended that REAP partner with WAMPO to convene regional meetings in fall. There are two regional events REAP staff recommend hosting in conjunction with WAMPO to discuss regional transportation with local governments in South Central Kansas: one a Transportation forum and Regional event of elected county officials.

After attending a regional transportation planning meeting on October 5, 2016 with BREG/WAMPO/REAP leadership it was determined the next steps should be for REAP in partnership with WAMPO/BREG to convene multiple regional meetings during the fall with economic development agencies and community leaders in the region. A larger regional convening could be hosted to share the information and identify common regional goals in 2017.

Tactics:

* + - * + Conduct 5-6 meetings recommend hosting in conjunction with EDO’s throughout the region.
* Regional meetings hosted/facilitated by EDO’s supported by REAP/BREG in each community asking key questions of stakeholders/businesses/elected county officials for the 10 county area: Cowley, Sumner, Butler, Marion, Harvey, McPherson, Reno, Sedgwick, Kingman, and Harper. The goal is to collect information of needs/assets from each community.
* REAP will provide resources to help plan, coordinate, and support community meetings.
* Suggested invite list:
  + - Local employers from the BREG clusters
    - Transportation planners or public works leaders from local governments with knowledge about transportation infrastructure and challenges
    - Community leaders engaged in economic development planning
* Determine if these can be multicounty:
  + Example:
    - Butler / Sedgwick
    - Sumner / Cowley
    - Reno / Harvey
    - Kingman / Harper
    - McPherson/Marion

Next Steps:

* Craig Bay and Marla Canfield begin outreach to economic development organizations on meeting logistics, outreach and invite list as needed.

The timeframe for the meeting will begin quickly and the goal is to have them done by March 2017. The information collected will be shared with key stakeholders including: KDOT, federal contacts, economic development organizations.

Karyn Page offered to work with group on getting word out to the businesses Kansas Global works with to engage them in the process.

*Received and filed.*

* 1. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) plan as part of the Global Cities Initiative (GCI)

In 2014 REAP supported a Regional Export Plan. The Brookings FDI plan is the next step in implementing the regional export plan. The FDI is a strategy to identify foreign companies interested on locating in South Central Kansas thorough new business expansion or acquisitions/mergers of existing companies. It is a strategy that can strengthen the economic base of a regional economy.

The FDI funding comes from the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, Greater Wichita Partnership, Wichita State University (for data support), and Kansas Global (pro bono administrative overhead). Currently there is a financial gap in implementing the plan. REAP invested $10,000 to support the Export Plan. It was recommend by the REAP Executive Committee to assist with the FDI plan at the same level if funds allow in the 2017 budget.

Kansas Global is leading the development of the FDI plan with technical assistance from Brookings and JP Morgan Chase as part of the global cities initiative. The FDI planning committee includes representatives from economic development agencies and financial institution in the region. The plan should be completed soon and submitted to global cites for implementation in 2017.

Brookings FDI Planning Program summary:

* One of only 30 metros in the nation selected to participate in the Brookings GCI program.

Selected through competitive application process

6 cities in our cohort: (Wichita), Charleston, Louisville-Lexington, Chicago, Phoenix, Indianapolis,

Brookings provides coaching, data and guidance

Through peer review, we exchange info and ideas with cities in our cohort

* Region is 10 counties: Butler, Cowley, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, Marion, McPherson, Reno, Sedgwick, and Sumner
* Regional Export Plan was built in 2014.  The next step is to build a FDI plan.
* *This is a collaborative effort.*
* Decide together what is important for the region
* The five-year plan will create an export eco-system that connects export services to manufacturing and service companies, creating a long term global competitive advantage.

Karyn Page talked about how this is bringing new money into South Central Kansas. In the first month $7 million in new exports. The 10-county South Central Kansas region showed a 5.85 percent increase in exports, and exports in the 5-county Wichita MSA increased by 6.8 percent.

*Members approved to support allocation of funding for FDI plan implementation in the 2017 budget.*

* 1. Proposed 2017 Work Plan and Meeting Schedule

Keith Lawing summarized the proposed 2017 Work Plan:

Role of REAP

1. To be a regional catalyst for strategies and actions to increase state and federal investments for economic development and job creation in South Central Kansas;
2. To be the regional convener on issues, projects and strategies that impact the economy in South Central Kansas

In 2017, the Board of Directors *(full REAP Membership*) will meet quarterly with potential for two additional regional events.

* Thursday, January 19, 2017- Board of Directors Meeting: 12:30-2:00
* Thursday April 20, 2017- Board of Directors meeting: 12:30-2:00
* Thursday, July 20, 2017- Board of Directors meeting: 12:30-2:00
* Thursday, October 19, 2017- Board of Directors meeting: 12:30-2:00
* *TBD- Legislative Policy Summit*
* *TBD- Regional Transportation Forum*

**Proposed Items for the 2017 Work Plan**

1. Serve as a catalyst to support the development of a regional strategy to brand and market South Central Kansas to promote economic growth. Tactics include continuing to partner with BREG and local economic development organizations to promote regional dialogue and planning to grow the regional economy.
2. Create partnerships to design and implement regional legislative strategies, working with chambers of commerce, economic development agencies, and other regional partners to identify mutually supportive legislative priorities.
3. Provide support to raise awareness about the importance of commercial air service to the regional economy and the role of Eisenhower Airport as a regional economic development asset.
4. Raise awareness of regional transportation planning South Central Kansas in relation to state policy, possible legislation, and best practices. Partner with BREG/WAMPO to convene local government, private business, and regional leadership to work on a regional transportation strategy.
5. Identify and implement services for REAP Members related to best practices, community development and leadership.
6. Identify and develop strategies to generate revenue to support REAP operations.

*Members approved proposed 2017 Work Plan and directed REAP Executive Committee to develop a budget to support implementation.*

* 1. Local Elected Officials Reception

At the 09.08.2016 REAP Executive Committee meeting it was discussed and agreed that REAP would co-host a local elected officials reception with the Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce.   The event is taking place in lieu of the annual REAP Policy Summit as a way to engage local elected officials and state representatives.   The Wichita Metro Chamber hosts this reception annually, and is the first time REAP is partnering on this event.   The reception is typically well-attended and a great opportunity for dialog with other elected officials and build relationships.   Formal invitations were sent to REAP members, please be on the lookout for those.  Let staff know if you have any questions/comments about the reception.

The event will be held November 10th, 2016 at 5:30pm at Botanica Wichita – Lotus Hall.

*Received and filed.*

* 1. Hugo Wall School Update: Misty Bruckner

Misty provided a report on the Grant Finding Support, Procurement Support, Water Survey, City Fee Survey. She also provided attendance to the Professional Development Trainings offered by Hugo Hall School. The PPMC is researching performance measurements for REAP druing the final quarter.

1. Regional Spotlight Topic:

For the past 10 years the **Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce** has coordinated a **City-to-City Leadership Visit. The 2015 trip was to Greenville, North Carolina. In 2015 REAP sponsored John Waltner, Harvey County Administrator, to attend the Greenville trip. There was recognition and acknowledgement of the importance to include more regional leadership on future City to City visits.**

**This year’s tour was to** Nashville, Tennessee. The three-day trip took place September 19-21 and will focused on learning about how leaders in that community are approaching workforce training, developing a healthy business environment, and strengthening the region's economy.  The 2016 REAP budget included funds to sponsor two REAP members to attend. At the April 21, 2016, REAP Board of Director’s meeting it was approved to send Mayor Shelly Hansel, Wellington and Mayor Vince Haines, El Dorado. In addition, officials from Derby, Harvey County and Wichita participated in the trip.

Events on the trip included panel discussions about workforce development, downtown development, entrepreneurship, and a visit with Mayor Megan Barry.

Those in attendance and their takeaways:

* Kathy Jewett (XLT Ovens) – Nashville is proud. They feature technology and medical industries. Strong in entrepreneurship. Not afraid to say what they do great!
* Council Member Pete Meitzner (Wichita) – Changed in past 25 years. They took chances: i.e., old highways turned into walking path to arena. Built eco-friendly buildings (grass roofs).
* Mayor Shelley Hansel (Wellington) – Do what they do well: technology and healthcare. Wichita Chamber does a great job in organizing and getting people together.
* Mayor Vince Haines (El Dorado) – Strength of youth employment programs in the community. Nashville had an identity crisis in the 90’s and took risks to develop and grow.
* Anthony Swartzendruber (Harvey County) – 90’s was a downturn, but started to grow. 156% increase in population, 150% increase in income. They have quarterly economic development meetings to focus on growth.
* Mayor Randy White (Derby) – Networking was excellent. 250,000 people work in healthcare, 82,000 in manufacturing, and 60,000 in music. Transportation is the #1 problem. Nashville grew quickly and didn’t prepare for the growth.

Lessons learned:

* + - 1. Don’t forget who you are
      2. Stay strengths focused
      3. Have a good flood plan
      4. Develop urban living
      5. Ask the hard questions

The 2017 trip will be to Raleigh, North Carolina.

1. Adjourned at 2:05pm

**Board Members and Alternates**

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| Commissioner Carol Voran, Kingman County, Chair | Council Member Carl Koster, Cheney |
| Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County | Council Member Tom Jones, Park City |
| Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County | Council Member Donna Clasen, Maize |
| Commissioner Brad Dillon, Reno County | Council Member Diane Wynn, Bel Aire |
| Mayor Shelley Hansel, Wellington | Bob Conger, Kechi |
| Mayor Rex Satterthwaite, Bentley | Bob Myers, Newton |
| Mayor Marcey Gregory, Goddard | John Waltner, Harvey County |
| Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope | Scott Hildebrand, Valley Center |
| Mayor Vince Haines, Eldorado | Karyn Page, Kansas Global |
| Council Member Pete Meitzner, Wichita | Willis Heck |
|  | Kaylene Haug, K96 Corridor |

**Guests/Presenters/Staff**

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| Mayor Randy White, Derby | Phil Nelson, WAMPO |
| Kathy Jewett, XLT Ovens | Kelly Bergeron, Newton |
| Anthony Swartzendruber, Harvey County | Randy Frazer, Moundridge |
| Barby Jobe, Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce | Gary Plummer, Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce |
| Toni Porter, Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce | Mike Zamrala, Senator Moran’s Office |

**Staff**

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| --- | --- |
| Keith Lawing, REAP | Misty Bruckner, WSU |
| Marla Canfield, REAP | Craig Cosette, WSU |