

## REAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wichita Workforce Center  
 2021 N. Amidon, Suite 1100, Wichita  
 April 12, 2018 ~ 11:30 a.m.

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**1. Welcome: Mayor Shelley Hansel, Chair**

Mayor Shelley Hansel, Chair, called the meeting to order.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Approval of Minutes from Executive Committee Meeting from March 8, 2018

***Bob Myers, Newton, (Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County) moved to approve the minutes from March 8, 2018 Executive Committee meeting. Motion adopted.***

**3. Membership Update and Recruitment Strategy**

Marla Canfield presented the 2018 Budget current membership listing with assessments update and a proposed recruitment strategy.

Staff have made presentations to the following communities: Butler County, Colwich, Augusta

John Waltner and Marla Canfield will begin targeting the following communities for membership:

Colwich
*Halstead
*McPherson
*Sedgwick
*Winfield
*Hillsboro
Augusta
*Butler County
Haysville
*Mulvane
*North Newton

\*Targeted by John Waltner

New membership applications to be presented at the April 19<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting:  
 City of Augusta

Associate Memberships:

Mayor Tom Brown (McPherson)

Kacee Morales (McPherson Economic Development)

Commissioner Ron Hirst (Reno County)

Gary Meagher (Reno County)

There was a discussion around evaluating how the associate memberships are being used and the need to update the bylaws.

#### 4. **Washington Fly-In Invitation**

The Wichita Regional Chamber is planning the annual Washington, DC Fly-In for **May 21-23, 2018**. The purpose of the trip is to advocate pro-business and pro-growth positions on issues vital to South Central Kansas. The indirect benefit is certainly the camaraderie with fellow business and community leaders from our region. The trip is three days, meeting with all six members of the Kansas federal delegation (Representatives Estes, Jenkins, Marshall, and Yoder, and Senators Moran and Roberts). There will also be meals and receptions with our Kansas delegation and staff along with some unique opportunities such as a night tour of the Capitol.

The Chamber personally invited REAP to join the trip this year. Part of the agenda will include discussing transportation and workforce development. Mayor Hansel will attend on behalf of REAP and will report back activities and impact of the trip.

***Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick Count, (Council Member Gib Bergan, Moundridge) moved to approve \$2,500 to send Mayor Hansel on the Washington Fly In. Motion adopted.***

#### 5. Project Wichita

REAP voted to join the Vision Team by approving the \$5,000 support for the project. The Vision Team's role is to guide the community engagement process, ensure the project hears all voices, and helps develop an actionable plan. REAP voted to join the Vision Team by approving the \$5,000 support for the project at the March 8, 2018 Executive Committee meeting. Mayor Terry Somers was selected to serve on the Vision Team on behalf of REAP. At this time the REAP communities of Wichita, El Dorado, and Newton also individually contributed to the project. The Vision Team's role is to guide the community engagement process, ensure the project hears all voices, and helps develop an actionable plan.

There will be town hall meetings and focus groups, they will be at community and neighborhood association gatherings, and, most importantly, go after the opinions of those who won't go to a meeting. Online surveys and social media will play an important role.

#### 6. REAP Staffing Taskforce Update

Mayor Hansel requested a taskforce be created to determine future staffing and organizational staff needs for REAP. Workforce Alliance has been providing the services for 5 years and it is time to evaluate the needs of the organization and structure moving forward. The taskforce met on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please see attached memo from the taskforce with recommendations.

The Task Force believes that the evolution of the REAP organization is such that a face of the organization is needed who also has the time to be as visible with our members and prospective members as he or she is with our partners. In the best of all possible worlds, this would be a person who is already well known and connected within the REAP region or, at the least, would have an unquestioned ability to quickly become known and connected. The taskforce anticipates that this would require an Executive Director who can devote at least 50% of his or her time to these tasks, if not more.

To explore such possibilities, the Task Force recommends that a small number of Executive Committee members, perhaps no more than three, be delegated the assignment to meet with prospective organizations to engage in discussions regarding their interest and ability to provide for our staffing needs. Two such organizations identified by the Task Force would be the Wichita State Public Policy and Management Center and the Greater Wichita Partnership. And, certainly, the Workforce Alliance should also continue to be considered. Executive Committee members may also have ideas as to other possible organizations to whom we might reach out. Some other organizations were considered by the Task Force and were ruled out for various reasons, which can be discussed with the Executive Committee.

It was recommended and supported that the Kansas Leadership Center also be included in the staffing conversations. Also, the process of Project Wichita may lead to some new unidentified opportunities that should be considered.

***Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope, (Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County) moved to appoint Bob Myers, Newton; Ty Lasher, Bel Aire; and John Waltner to serve on behalf of the Executive Committee to meeting with the following organizations: Public Policy Management Center, Kansas Leadership Center, Greater Wichita Partnership, and the Workforce Alliance.***

***Mayor Jeff Longwell, Wichita, (Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County) moved to approve the recommendation of the taskforce with the addition of Kansas Leadership Center.***

7. Blueprint for Regional Economic Growth (BREG) Strategic Update

Representatives from Market Street Planning Services, who have been hired to conduct the Blueprint for Regional Economic Growth (BREG) strategic update, will be in Wichita from April 24<sup>th</sup> through April 26<sup>th</sup>. They would like to invite REAP Members to meet with Katie Thomas from Market Street for a focus group and help provide insight to their team about our region's economy and processes on **Wednesday, April 25 from 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM at the Greater Wichita Partnership office in the Innovation Center, 505 E. Douglas Street, Wichita, KS.**

8. Standing Agenda Items:

- WSU Update

*WSU will provide updates to the progress of the 2018 Work Plan items.*

***Mayor Jeff Longwell, Wichita, (Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County) moved to approve the quarterly payment of \$6,250 to PPMC and John Waltner of \$2,500.***

9. **Other Business: Executive Committee Members**

10. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:49p.m.

**Executive Committee Members Attendance**

Mayor Shelley Hansel, Wellington

Commissioner Dave Unruh, Sedgwick County

Commissioner Chip Westfall, Harvey County

Council Member Gib Bergan, Moundridge

Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hope

Mayor Jeff Longwell, Wichita

Bob Myers, Newton

Ty Lasher, Bel Aire

**REAP Members Attendance**

Mayor Gary Fisher, Moundridge

Randy Frazer, Moundridge

**Staff/ Guests**

Marla Canfield, REAP

Chad Pettera, Workforce Alliance

John Waltner

Craig Crossette, WSU

Debbie Luper, Congressmen Ron Estes