

REAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wichita Workforce Center
2021 N. Amidon, Suite 1100, Wichita
September 26, 2019 ~ 11:30 a.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions: Commissioner Chip Westfall, Vice Chair

Commissioner Westfall called the meeting to order at 11:36 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes from Executive Committee Meeting from August 8, 2019

ACTION TAKEN: Bob Myers (Newton) moved to approve the minutes from August 8, 2019 Executive Committee meeting. Seconded by Mayor Terry Somers (Mount Hope). Motion carried 9-0.

3. City-To-City Report

Mayor Tom Brown and REAP Executive Laura Rainwater provided reports on their recent trip to San Antonio September 11-13. The structure of the 2019 trip differed slightly from past City-to-City visits. On the second day of the trip, attendees separated into three tracks in order to take a deeper dive into the following topics: Economic Development, Mental Health & Homelessness, or Education.

Mental Health & Homelessness Track (Mayor Brown):

- Haven For Hope – Complex of many community partners in one location
 - 22-acre campus for people experiencing homelessness
 - Nobody is turned away
 - One of a kind approach brings multiple service providers to a single location thus increasing accessibility and efficiency of resources
 - Approximately 1,700 people are served daily
- Transformational Campus (across the street from Haven For Hope)
 - Short-term residential housing on campus
 - Substance abuse, mental health treatment and healthcare
 - Employment services
 - Education & life-skills training services
- Recovery Oriented
- Collaboration is the reason for success – They work with over 140 partner organizations to provide over 300 comprehensive services
- Funded through city, county and federal grants and many private donations
- Centralized and collaborative communications are paramount for success
- Bottom line – reduces jail over-crowding, reduces medical costs and ER visits and lowers the number of court cases

Economic Development Track (Laura Rainwater): Full report attached to Minutes

- Richard Perez, President & CEO of the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, provided an overview of the business climate in San Antonio. Key industries include: Travel & Tourism (The Alamo is the #1 tourist destination in Texas!), Aerospace, Healthcare & Bioscience, Manufacturing and Military.
- Assistant City Manager, Lori Houston's presentation highlighted the City's \$2.9 billion budget which was approved by City Council earlier in the morning. According to Houston, the budget reflects the City's continued commitment to providing public services and programs that enhance the quality of life for the residents of San Antonio. Guided by City Council direction and community input, the budget maintains the existing City property tax rate while enhancing programs and services. It is focused on strong families and children, affordable housing, streets and sidewalks, public safety, and property tax relief.

Action items to consider:

- Continue to engage but continue to report. Celebrate the wins. Create dashboard to keep track of progress
- City within a City tour – Tour Wichita
- Riverfront Legacy Master Plan – Think Big
- Expedite development process
- Consider tax on undeveloped buildings
- Promote/market Wichita culture and history
- Invest in Wichita's history
- Technology jobs will create a vibrant workforce
- Public sector needs to be bold
- We need to define the Arkansas River's authenticity
- To grow the region, we need to invest in cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing and technology
- Technology is the future
- Regional city-to-city tour coordinated through REAP so our communities can learn about what is going on around our region

4. Ongoing Agenda Items:

- A. John Waltner Update:** Meetings with Pratt Chamber of Commerce have resumed. A meeting has been scheduled on October 29 with Pratt City Manager, Bruce Pinkall, Mayor Doug Meyer and Kim DeClue, Chamber Director to meet with Keith Lawing, Laura Rainwater and John Waltner.
- B. Partners for Regional Collaboration Meeting:** Group met on September 18 to begin planning the December 6 Regional Convening. More information was shared during the discussion on Agenda item #6 below.

5. Broadband Access Toolkit Development

As a result of the Convening, REAP staff will be working with industry and policy makers to design a collaborative "tool kit" for elected officials which will explain the differences between

types of internet/data/cellular services and possible ways to finance expansion. This toolkit will be made available to all REAP members. Staff will also meet with REAP Technical Advisory Committee members and regional partners to identify possible legislative priorities related to this topic.

6. December 6 Regional Convening: 2020 Regional Legislative Policy Summit on Regional Workforce Development Strategies hosted by REAP and Kansas Global Trade Services, Old Cowtown Museum – Grand Hall

A DRAFT Agenda was discussed with the Executive Committee for the December 6 and January 9 meetings with the South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation.

Suggestions for additions include:

- Need to tie-in specific asks to legislators
- Access to childcare
- Capital investments in facilities
- Funding Add in Butler community college and McConnell Air Force Base

7. Other Business

- Economic Outlook Conference - Thursday, Oct. 3, 7:30-11:30 a.m. at Century II
- Workforce Innovation Conference – Oct. 7-8. Scott Stump, Dept. of Education Assistant Secretary, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, will be taking a tour of the Brooks Center in Newton on October 7 in the morning
- Oct. 10 REAP Executive Committee meeting moved to Nov. 21

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Meeting Attendance

Chip Westfall, Chair, Harvey County	Bob Myers, Newton
Mayor Tom Brown, McPherson	Lucas Neese, Lindsborg
Mayor Vice Haines, El Dorado	REAP Members Attendance:
Mayor Rex Satterthwaite, Bentley	Sean Fox, Park City
Mayor Terry Somers, Mount Hopr	Kelly McElroy, Newton
Cindy Claycome, wichita	Staff/Guests:
Tom Jones, Park City	John Waltner, Harvey County/REAP
Ty Lasher, Bel Aire	Keith Lawing, REAP
	Laura Rainwater, REAP