

REAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wichita Workforce Center

2021 N Amidon Ave #1100

Wichita, KS 67203

October 27, 2022, 2022 ~ 11:30 am

1. Welcome and Introductions: Mayor Tom Brown, Chair (11:36 a.m.)
2. Approval of Minutes from Executive Committee Meeting from September 28, 2022:
Mayor Tom Brown, Chair

ACTION TAKEN: Council Member Tom Jones (Park City) made a motion to approve September 8, 2022, REAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. Russ Kessler (Haysville) seconded. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Build Back Better Grant Overview: Debbie Franklin, Wichita State University
 - ARPA funded awarded 529 proposals nationwide 8 from KS/Kansas City, MO
 - WSU proposal was the only one selected for phase 2
 - One of 21 that received the award nationally
 - Transform our regional economy and supercharge advanced manufacturing through a collection of collaboratives, aligned project
 - The world is flying 26,000 commercial aircraft, forecast over the next 20 years will need to build 40,000 more
 - South Kansas Coalition: Empower equitable adoption of productivity-enhancing technologies for sustainable, precision manufacturing competitiveness profitability
 - Build economic diversity and ensure long-term supply chain resilience
 - Major components: Develop a complete solution to the adoption of additive manufacturing through guidance and data, hybrid technical training, and on-site factory support
 - Future factory high-velocity machining, and Future Factory Lab w/industrial commons
 - Technology and Innovation Building - The building is 85,000 and will be located on the WSU Innovation Campus
 - 4-year team with \$51.4million in smart manufacturing technologies
 - South Central Kansas growth clusters: transportation, manufacturing, petroleum, and coal products manufacturing

4. Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs Programs: Dr. Melissa Walker, Director
 - Dr. Walker discussed the Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs program
 - Mini MPA program begins in January 2023 - Looking for people who want to learn more about local government. The cost is \$1,050 and meets for 16 weeks
5. RFP for REAP Government Relations Services: Laura Rainwater

Laura presented a summary of the process of the RFP to hire government relations services for REAP for the next 2 years.

 - Committee appointed by REAP Chair to evaluate proposals submitted
 - The committee used a scoring rubric to evaluate three submitted proposals
 - Based on the scoring, the committee recommends hiring Gencur Svaty Public Relations

ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Russ Kessler (Haysville) motioned to approve Gencur Svaty Public Affairs to represent REAP. Tom Jones (Park City) seconded. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. 2023 REAP Legislative Policy Platform and Priorities: Mayor Tom Brown, Chair
 - Mayor Brown briefly mentioned the legislative policy platform and priorities, mentioned helping students get into the smart manufacturing business
 - Laura mentioned Andy presented an email regarding higher education
 - Keith Lawing: Less focus on aviation and more on how to attract and retain workforce for all sectors
 - Dr. Justin Henry: Fully funding state aid for K-12 school districts as this directly impacts workforce readiness and property tax policy for South Central Kansas
 - Include funding to build a regional mental health hospital in South Central Kansas
 - Support legislation to assist and support a stronger workforce pipeline, attract new workforce, and support current behavioral healthcare staff
 - Other minor edits to the REAP 2022 Legislative Platform will be made and a revised 2023 REAP Legislative and Policy Priorities Platform will be presented at the November 10, 2022, REAP Executive Committee meeting
7. Committee Reports
 - A. Airport Advisory Board: Randy Frazer (Arkansas City) & Valerie Wise, Eisenhower Airport
 - September traffic increased
 - For the year, passenger traffic is up 26%
 - The average U.S. domestic airfare increased in the second quarter of 2022 to \$397, up 22% from the second quarter of 2021 inflation-adjusted fare of \$326
 - Eisenhower National Airport, the average inflation-adjusted domestic fare in Q2 2022 increased 19% to \$442.45 from Q2 2021

- Airlines reporting earnings are increasing, Salina is in jeopardy of losing service
- Airline costs have increased considerably during 2022
- Jet fuel prices have increased 135% from an average of \$1.75/gallon during 2015-2019, to a high of \$4.12/gallon in June
- Labor shortages are forcing higher wages for pilots, crew, and mechanics

B. Transit Advisory Committee: Council Member Troy Tabor (Andover)

- Digital insight, Route 15 detour closed for two years due to the Amidon bridge closure
- Route 15 will be free while the bridge is under construction
- Smart Cards still in the process
- August peaked due to school in session
- USD 259 increased ridership
- Choice riders had a huge increase
- KPTA conference held here in Wichita - highest in attendance in a long time
- Fire event of a CCW bus smoking coming from the top. Wichita fire department was called no fire to put out. The investigation was done. The bus was not powered on, not charging, and had not been in service since September 15. It was sitting in the bay and had been there for over 48 hours. The manufacturer will be coming in to do a complete checkup as to why it started smoking. The staff handled the whole situation very well.
- Met with WSU for more service on game nights. Routes 202 and 202A run one hour before weekday games and half hour after games. Will utilize the off-campus areas. This will help ridership. Meetings are being held on campus for the disabled community 21A route deviations from our parking areas with handicap accessibility to buildings on campus.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

8. Community Updates

- Mayor Brown reminded everyone to get out and vote
- Council Member Nick Engel (Derby) and Mayor Brown summarized their experiences on the Chamber's City-to City visit to Minneapolis
- REAP will recognize Harvey County Commissioner Chip Westfall at an upcoming meeting. Commissioner Westfall is retiring after his term is over. He has been a huge supporter of REAP and understands the importance of regional collaboration

South Central Kansas Legislature Delegation meeting at WSU on December 15, 2022, from 1-5 PM Attached is the REAP Committee Draft minutes from February 2nd meeting.

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- The Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition held a fall update meeting on work progress in addressing regional mental health challenges. The workforce/talent pipeline is a top priority

9. Adjourn (12:55 p.m.)

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 11:30 a.m.

Attendees:

Name	City	In Person	Zoom
Mayor Tom Brown, Chair	McPherson	X	
Commissioner Pete Meitzner	Sedgwick County	X	
Council Member Nick Engel	Derby	X	
Kyle Fiedler	North Newton	X	
Diane Tinker Hurst	WSU Tech		X
Dr. Randy Smith	Cowley Community College		X
Marc Howell	SCKEDD	X	
Council Member Mike Hoheisel	Wichita		X
Melissa Walker	WSU		X
Debbie Franklin	WSU	X	
Mayor Russ Kessler	Haysville	X	
Council Member Tom Jones	Park City	X	
Ashley Bryers	WAMPO	X	
Valerie Wise	ICT Airport	X	
Commissioner Don Schroeder	Harvey County	X	
Tim Boese	GMDZ		X
Sean Fox	Park City	X	
Dr. Justin Henry	USD 265 Goddard	X	
Keith Lawing	Workforce Alliance	X	
Mayor Ashley Velazquez	Kechi		X
Tonya Witherspoon	WSU		X
Kennisha Rolfe	REAP	X	
Laura Rainwater	REAP	X	