

REAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wichita Workforce Center
2021 N Amidon Ave #1100
Wichita, KS 67203
July 28, 2022 ~ 11:30 am

1. **Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Agenda:** Mayor Tom Brown, Chair
REAP Chair, Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at **11:32 a.m.**

2. **Approval of Minutes**
Approval of Minutes from Executive Committee Meeting from May 12, 2022.

ACTION TAKEN: Mayor Pat Stivers (Maize) made a motion to approve the May 12, 2022 REAP Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. Council member Tom Jones (Park City) seconded. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **Stepping up Kansas:** Audra Goldsmith, Senior Policy Analyst
- Launched in 2015
 - 45 states and 540 counties
 - The objective is to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in local jails
 - Work with the Kansas Stepping Up Leadership Team to determine state-level policies that can be adjusted or implemented to improve local-level efforts to reduce the number of people with SMI in jails
 - Benefits include connections with sites across Kansas and nationally to facilitate peer learning and provide concrete examples of successful strategies and policies
 - Goal: Every County Has Accurate, Accessible Data
 - The Four Key Measures & Potential System Improvements: Reduce number of bookings for SMI, shortened ALOS, increase connections to care and reduce recidivism
4. **Wichita State University Innovation & Economic Prosperity (IEP):** Diana Tinker-Hurst, Project
- The IEP designation program helps higher education institutions better know, measure, tell, and enhance their economic and community development impact while recognizing institutions that have demonstrated a substantive, sustainable, and institution-wide commitment to and strategy for regional economic engagement, growth, and economic opportunity
 - IEP helps community to demonstrate the extent and the value of Wichita State's commitment to increasing the economic prosperity of our city, county, state and region.
5. **Natural Gas Utilities:** Lauren Clary, Community Relations Manager, Kansas Gas Service, James Williams, Black Hill Energy
- Kansas Gas Service headquarter in Oklahoma, 100%, regulated and has over 2.3millin customers in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.
 - CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) one of the cleanest burning alternative transportation fuels today

- Company Goal: Emission reduction goal by 2035 expect to achieve 55% reduction in emissions due to leak from distribution pipelines
- RNG (Renewable Natural Gas) creates community value. Provides potential for revenue generation through state and federal program, which create market demand for RNG and the renewable credits associated with RNG production.
- Economic Development commitment is to establish a collaborative partnership with communities served to stimulate economic growth and development, offer discounted natural gas rates, have natural gas available, potential energy solutions and personal advocate
- Natural gas company serving our community with public school grants
- Black Hills Energy is customer focused growth-oriented utility company with a tradition of exemplary service and a vision to be the energy partner of choice.
- Kansas-117,000 customers live in 66 communities throughout Kansas for more than 70 years.
- Kansas Community Impact-sharing our energy with the communities we serve through charitable giving: outreach and employee volunteerism.
- RNG can attract new business to the area and mix it into existing supply
- Proposed Voluntary RNG and Carbon Offset Program: Participant in program would be able to purchase fixed price blocks at \$5 per block, representing a portion of their natural gas usage. Program gives customers the option to offset 100 % or more of the emissions associated with their natural gas usage.

6. RFP for 2023 REAP Lobbying Services: Laura Rainwater & Keith Lawing

Keith Lawing and Laura Rainwater made a proposal of consideration for REAP to approve the release of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for government relations services

ACTION TAKEN: Council Member Tom Jones (Park City) motioned to authorize the release of an RFP for Government Relations Services for REAP. Mayor Russ Kessler (Haysville) seconded. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Committee Reports

A. Airport Advisory Board Report: Randy Frazer

DIRECTORS REPORT:

- Brad Christopher introduced Roger Xanders, Airport Police & Fire Chief; Jason Jones, Airport Police & Fire Deputy; Scott Loesch, Airport Field Maintenance Supervisor; & Bill Hogan, Airport Asst. Building & Utilities Manager
- Brad Christopher presented a packet of information regarding the Airports which included Airport layout maps, management structure, parking information and a partial tenant list. He also discussed the budget
- Randall Mullikin was introduced as the appointee for Councilwoman Maggie Ballard, District VI
- Sierra Scott was introduced as the appointee for Councilman Jeff Blubaugh, District IV

PROJECT UPDATES:

- General Aviation Apron has a projected budget of \$23,708,400.00. Garver is the Engineer for the project and Pearson Construction is the Contractor. The project began May 30, 2022, and should be completed Dec. 2, 2023.
- Streetside Pavements Rehabilitation has a projected budget of \$3,152,000.00. Certified Engineering Design is the Engineer with the Contractor being Pearson Construction. The project is scheduled to begin on June 20, 2022, and end Dec. 17, 2022.
- Fuel Farm Rehabilitation project has a projected budget of \$6,025,870.00. The Engineer is Currier & Company with the Contractor being KEAR Civil. The project has 3 phases and began March 2021 with a completion date of July 2022.
- Airfield Pavement Rehab project has a projected budget of \$732,000.00. Garver LLC is the Engineer with Snodgrass & Sons being the Contractor. The project began May 2, 2022 and is projected to end July 12, 2022.

AIR SERVICE AND MARKETING:

Valerie Wise gave an update on the Airport's advertising contract. A new agreement was signed with the Greteman Group for creative advertising services. The contract also includes creative strategy, creative design, creative writing, & website management. The Airport Authority also contracts with Copp Media for media strategies.

A total of 139,913 passengers flew in and out of Wichita Eisenhower National Airport in May, an increase of 22% over last May while the number of seats increased 17%. May's traffic was 554% higher than May 2020, but still less than May 2019's traffic by 15%. For the year, passenger traffic is up 40%. To date, 550,491 passengers have flown in and out of ICT, an increase of 40% over 2021. Flights were relatively full with an average load factor of 90%. Airlines continue to struggle with adding flights due to crew shortages. Q2 2022 seats are down 10% from Q2 2019 but up 71% from 2020.

Wichita's average fare during Q4 2021 was \$357.40, an increase of 18% from Q4 2020. During 2020, the airlines greatly reduced fares in order to stimulate demand. The Q4 2021 fare is still 16% less than the Q4 2019 fare. Wichita's fare is comparable to its peer markets.

Looking ahead, in Q3 2022, 70% of total seats will be flown on narrow-body aircraft. Seats will increase 11% while flights will stay about the same. The increase is due to the following:

- American Airlines plans to add a seventh daily flight to Dallas and a third daily flight to Chicago in September.
- Delta Air Lines replaced a 110-seat B717 with a 160-seat 737-800 on its Atlanta route in June.
- Allegiant added a fourth weekly flight to Destin in June.

- Southwest added a third daily flight to Denver in June. Southwest resumes service to Las Vegas and Phoenix on Saturdays only in June.
- United will add a fourth daily flight to Houston and Chicago in November. United will also add a fifth daily flight to Denver in November.

The airlines monitor passenger demand, pilots and crew availability, and may make adjustments as necessary.

B. Transit Advisory Board Report: Council Member Troy Tabor

Discussion Items:

- A. Paul Gunzelman provided an update regarding the Delano Multimodal Center project. Most current preferred building concept was reviewed and has been presented to District 6 and the Design Council. Sixty percent plan submitted.
- B. Veterans Ride Free Program Extension: Staff presented info on the Vets Ride Free Program. One noticeable difference is eliminating transportation as a barrier. Pilot has been going on for two years. VA and United Way been a part of the pilot program \$10,000.00 per year. Request a two-year extension with 36 percent growth rate increase. With growth rate increased by 120 percent with stops to the VA hospital. VA spoke of the fear if program went away or ended. Gave two Vet Stories of how the Vets Ride Free Program helped two vets out. The vet's area able to get to the doctors' appointments, grocery shopping and to their employment. The program has impacted vets across the city.
- C. TSA Presentation: Speaker Michael Vizzacchero with TSA working with Transit on safety in security. Regulatory no breakdown 1% should be spent on security. All paid for by the government. Practice vulnerability assessments. How do we make sure things are safe? Security plan is needed. Security workshops with TSA are ongoing initiative.

Marketing Report:

Staff provided a review of the digital insights, current focus areas and ridership:

- Ridership higher than usual
- Masks no longer being a requirement but strongly encouraged
- Vets Ride Free and Ride summer youth
- KPTA annual meeting will be held in August and is being hosted in Wichita this year
- Meetings have begun with the Veterans Administration and United Way as they are looking to make this a permanent program.

8. Community Updates

- McPherson: Mayor Tom Brown
 - 150th anniversary events planned including concert
- Wichita: Council Member Mike Hoheisel
 - Elected officials, along with community leaders from the Greater Wichita Partnership, WSU and private business attended the Heathrow Airshow
 - New osteopathic medical school opened with first class of students
 - Redistricting maps under consideration
- Amtrak Update: Commissioner Meitzner
 - KDOT, ODOT and TxDOT – Service Development Plan in final stages to submit to Federal Rail Administration for funding request
 - Senator Moran to meet with Amtrak CEO
 - Grant submittals will begin in first quarter of 2023

9. Meeting adjourned at 1:13pm

Attendees:

Name	City	In Person	Zoom
Mayor Tom Brown, Chair	McPherson	X	
Commissioner Pete Meitzner	Sedgwick County	X	
Council Member Troy Tabor	Andover	X	
Commissioner Chip Westfall	Harvey County	X	
Diane Tinker Hurst	WSU Tech	X	
Dr. Justin Henry	Goddard USD		X
Tracy Streeter	Burns McDonnell		
Marc Howell	SCKEDD	X	
Council Member Mike Hoheisel	Wichita	X	
Council Member Nick Engle	Derby	X	
Mayor Pat Stivers	Maize	X	
Mayor Russ Kessler	Haysville	X	

REAP Executive Committee
July 28,2022

Name	City	In Person	Zoom
Lauren Clary	Kansas Gas Service	X	
Tim Boese	GMD2		X
Council Member Tom Jones	Park City	X	
David Dillner	El Dorado	X	
Will Black	Haysville		X
Audra Goldsmith	Stepping Up Kansas	X	
Keith Lawing	Workforce Alliance	X	
James Williams	Black Hills	X	
Lindsay Freeman	Kansas Gas Service	X	
Kennisha Rolfe	Workforce Alliance	X	
Laura Rainwater	REAP	X	
Chad Parasa	WAMPO	X	
Ashley Bryers	WAMPO		
Kevin Coccetella	Transferred Capital	X	
Randy Frazer	Ark City	X	
John McIntosh		X	