



**REAP Meeting Agenda
Workforce Alliance Center
2021 N. Amidon Ste. #1100
OR Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84823622747>

August 14, 2025 11:30 AM

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1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Chair Ashley Coleman, Mayor, City of Kechi (11:30 AM)
 2. **Approval of Minutes REAP Meeting:** April 10, 2025 (11:35 AM) (pp. 2-8)
Recommended Action: Approve as presented
 3. **Solving Housing Challenges in South Central Kansas (11:40 AM – 12:40 PM)**
 - a. Angeline Johnson, Greater Wichita Partnership
 - b. Bekah Selby-Leach, Center for Economic Development and Business Research, WSU
 - c. Gentry Thiesen, Realtors of South Central Kansas
 - d. Stephanie Marsh, SCKEDD*Recommended Action: Receive and share information*
 4. **Executive Director's Report:** Dr. Marcy Aycock (12:40 PM)
 - Community Talent Talks
 - Activity Review
 - Upcoming Events:
 - a. Regional Water Summit, Thursday, September 4 (pp. 9-10)
 - b. WSU ReEntry Simulation, September 9
 - c. CEDBR Economic Outlook Conference, October 2 (p. 11)
 1. This will replace the October 9 REAP meeting*Recommended Action: Receive and share information*
 5. **REAP Member Updates:** (12:45 PM)
 - Topic: Housing Solutions/Issues*Recommended Action: Receive and file reports*
 6. **Adjourn:** (1:00 PM)

THANK YOU to Our Lunch Sponsor!!





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REAP Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2025 | 11:30 AM

1. Welcome and Introductions.

- REAP Chair Ashley Coleman (Mayor, Kechi) called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM and began introductions.

2. Approval of Minutes from the REAP Meeting from February 13, 2025

ACTION TAKEN: Terry Somers (Mayor, Mt. Hope) motioned to accept the February 13, 2025 minutes as presented. Nick Engle (City Administrator, Maize) seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. High School Internship Success Story Presentation: City of Sedgwick Team

- Sedgwick High School Senior, Isiah Chapman has served as the City's intern during the 2024-25 School year.
 - He helped rewrite the City's Economic Development policy, created a multi-platform community calendar, used GPS locating, and worked on the Purple Heart City project.
 - After graduation, Isiah will continue to serve on the City's Planning/Zoning Committee.

4. WAMPO Updates: Chad Parasa, WAMPO Executive Director

- Parasa shared updated information about the Regional Active Transportation Plan and participation in the Safe Routes to Schools program.
 - He is willing to provide connections and information for REAP members outside of the WAMPO region if they contact him.
 - For More information: www.wampo.org/srts

5. REAP 2025 Workplan Committee Update

- Committee Chair, Nick Engle (Council Member, Derby) provided an update and overview of the Committee's work to date and "what's next?"
- Discussion/Suggestions on the topics included:
 - Networking opportunities are the #1 priority
 - Workforce Resources and information are very valuable
 - Water/Infrastructure
 - Ways to unify and collaborate, identify common needs
 - Learn about best practices
 - Build relationships with legislators
 - Avoid duplicating presentations with other organizations
- The Work Plan Committee recommended the creation of a Steering Committee to collaborate with the Executive Committee.

ACTION TAKEN: Mayor George Liebe, Goddard, moved to establish a Steering Committee, Homer Henry, City Administrator, Andover, seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



6. Committee Updates:

- Executive Director Marcy Aycock shared the Air Service Committee update provided Randy Frazier, City Administrator, Arkansas City

ACTION TAKEN: Receive and file report.

7. Networking Activity: Executive Director, Dr. Marcy Aycock

- Executive Director led the group in a “Stop, Start, Continue” activity and partner discussion to gain insight for future planning.
- The full notes from the activity are included as Appendix A and will be distributed to the newly established Steering Committee for review/discussion.

ACTION TAKEN: Receive, utilize, and share information

8. Executive Director’s Report: REAP Executive Director Dr. Marcy Aycock

- Executive Director Dr. Marcy Aycock shared an update and overview of activities from mid-February through early April. A full report was included in the meeting packet.
- Aycock requested membership approval to pursue a Regional Mayor’s Summit and a Regional Water Summit, then requested volunteers for the committees:
 - Steering Committee: Nick Engle, City Council, Derby
 - Regional Mayor’s Summit: Russ Kessler, Mayor, Haysville, Terry Somers, Mayor, Mt. Hope, Ashley Coleman, Mayor, Kechi/REAP Chair.
 - Regional Water Summit: George Liebe, Mayor, Goddard, Don Schroeder, Commissioner, Harvey County.
 - Aycock will send a recruiting email to REAP members to expand each committee.

ACTION TAKEN: Mayor George Liebe, Goddard, moved approval to explore the events and establish committees for both. Mayor Terry Somers, Mt. Hope, seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

9. REAP Member Updates.

- Ashley Coleman, Mayor Kechi, shared that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. DCF is very willing to provide speakers.
- Sean Fox, City Administrator, Park City, shared that their new Senior Center will have a groundbreaking soon. The Golden Circle project will now be called Gilley’s Hotel and Casino; it will feature a 16-story convention center. Champ Town is still in the works despite delays.
- George Liebe, Mayor, Goddard, expressed appreciation for KDOT’s work on the 183rd Street project. Recently, there was a ribbon cutting for the handicap accessible park. Goddard has completed 1.2 million in street projects. There are over 500 members of their Senior Center; last year, there were 25! Goddard is serving as a regional kitchen for Meals on Wheels.
- Nick Engle, City Council Member, Derby, expressed his appreciation to WAMPO and KDOT for their work on projects in Derby. Their Star Bond projects are on track, a new steak house is opening, and 200+ new housing units are in the works.



- Jim Benage, Mayor, Bel Aire, reported on the city's new public works facility in progress, the new Amazon facility under construction, a new wastewater facility under construction, and the bridge projects for Oliver and Rock Road.
- Terry Somers, Mayor, Mt. Hope, reported the assisted living center has reopened with a capacity of 24. Senior apartments are set to open soon, and three new houses are in the works.
- Eric Latta, Mayor, Harper, reported on a new Road Department building and a new fire truck!
- Nick Gregory, City Administrator, Maize, reported on a new water tower in progress, the Sales Tax election scheduled for August 5, the formation of a Community Foundation, strategic planning in progress, and the regional Chamber project. So far, in 2025, 240 building permits have been issued.
- Matt Jensby, City Administrator of Kechi, provided an update on the road projects underway, noting that the industrial park is filling up. Two new businesses are opening in their retail strip.
- Bryan Chapman, Mayor of Sedgwick, reported that the City has purchased 40 acres for a housing development, their Parks Master Plan is underway, and the City has received a grant for their new Fire/EMS building. Additionally, their monthly Main Street Market will kick off on April 18.
- Kaylene Haug, Executive Director of K96 CDA, reported on their Board retreat, noting that the organization has been in existence for 20 years and the organization has a commitment to the region.
- Don Schroeder, Commissioner, Harvey County, shared that updates are coming along at the Courthouse, some offices are relocating to another building to expand space, and the county is searching for a new administrator.

ACTION TAKEN: Receive and file reports.

Adjourn:

- Meeting Adjourn: Chair Ashley Coleman, Mayor, Kechi, adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 12 @ 11:30 AM



Attendees

Member	Organization/City	In Person	Zoom
Ashley Coleman, REAP Chair	Mayor, Kechi	X	
Rod Kreie, REAP Vice Chair	Mayor, Newton		X
Jim Benage	Mayor, Bel Aire	X	
Tim Boese	GMD2		X
Nick Engle	Council Member, Derby	X	
Sean Fox	City Administrator Park City	X	
Nick Gregory	City Manager, Maize		X
Bryan Chapman	Mayor, Sedgwick	X	
Kyle Nordick	City Administrator, Sedgwick	X	
Homer Henry	Council Member, Andover	X	
Chad Parasa	Executive Director, WAMPO	X	
Mike Hoheisel	Council Member, Wichita		X
Eric Latta	Mayor, Harper	X	
Matt Jensby	City Administrator, Kechi	X	
Angeline Johnson	Greater Wichita Partnership		X
George Liebe	Mayor, Goddard	X	
Craig Crossette	City Administrator, Goddard		
Don Schroeder	Commissioner, Harvey County	X	
Sydnee Scribner	Council Member, El Dorado		X
Kaylene Haug	Executive Director, K96 Corridor Development		X
Terry Somers	Mayor, Mt. Hope	X	
Pat Stivers	Mayor, Maize	X	
Jim Toews	Mayor, Inman	X	
Keith Lawing	Senior Advisor, REAP	X	
Shirley Lindquist	Workforce Alliance	X	
Dr. Marcy Aycock	Executive Director, REAP	X	



Appendix A

REAP Start/Stop/Continue

Ideas –

- Symposium for Safe Routes to school for non-Wampo area
 - Developing a plan
 - Requirements for grant application
- Local Consult training – how to engage with KDOT
- Onboarding for regional collaboration for newly elected and new admins
- A topic for an upcoming meeting is a how-to for cities to establish a community foundation. As I understand it, there are two types/models cities could follow, one where they act as the banker for donations made and a second where they actually get to control/guide/steer what type of projects are funded/supported. With reduced budgets and limitations on how certain public funds can/could be used, a foundation could be beneficial for various projects...more so than local governments.

Continue

- Monthly meetings/regular meetings – or more if there is an issue that requires it.
- Lobbyists – Svatys
- Advocacy for regional issues
- Legislative updates
- General information
- Continue to define mission
- Work on regional marketing plan
- Resources for outlying counties/cities
- Facilitation for specific topic needs
- Advocacy for the region
- Education and other regional opportunities

Stop

- The passenger rail program
- Length of meeting – for community updates, maybe do bullet points and a brief overview

Start

- Let questions led the discussion
- Bi-monthly meetings instead of monthly
- Show support for more small businesses
- Vary the schedule – not all meetings at 11:30. Vary them so we can get different people to participate. Consider breakfasts, after hours, etc.
- Support for NW Expressway – it is a regional issue



- Identify a North Star, then aggressively pursue it until it is accomplished
- Add programs on regional issues – infrastructure, taxes, and other business issues
- More grant opportunities
- Better connecting in the down months
- Let people know attendance is not mandatory – if you’ve heard the topics, you don’t have to attend
- Land Bank – used to revitalize poorly utilized properties
- Assist and engage subgroups that could represent less populated sections of the region
- Legislative lunch meetings
- More focus on learning best practices from others
- To help prevent redundancies of information, poll members for topics

DRAFT

REGIONAL WATER SUMMIT

MADE POSSIBLE BY



Presenting Sponsor



Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025
8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Wild Prairie Event Center
1610 SE 3rd Street, Newton, KS

*Learn about the issues affecting
water in South Central Kansas*

Agenda

8:30 a.m. – **Networking**

9:00 a.m. – **Welcome and Introductory
Remarks**

9:15 a.m. – **“The State of Water in South
Central Kansas”**

- 9:15 – 9:45 | Data/Historical perspective from the last 10 years – Brownie Wilson, Kansas Geological Survey
- 9:45 – 10:15 | Connie Owen, Director, Kansas Water Office – KWA Strategic Plan Implementation

10:15 a.m. – **Break**

10:30 a.m. – **“Water Issues in South Central
Kansas: Amplifying Collaboration”** Panel
Discussion with Facilitator Tim Boese, Manager,
Equus Beds Groundwater Mgmt. District No. 2

- Panel Members:
 - Ray Flickner, Ag Producer
 - Gary Janzen, City of Wichita
 - Senator Michael Murphy
 - Senator Michael Fagg
 - Representative Sandy Pickert

11:30 a.m. – **“Breaking the Hydro-Illogical Cycle:
Building a Resilient Regional Water Future”**

Lunch and Learn with Susan Metzger

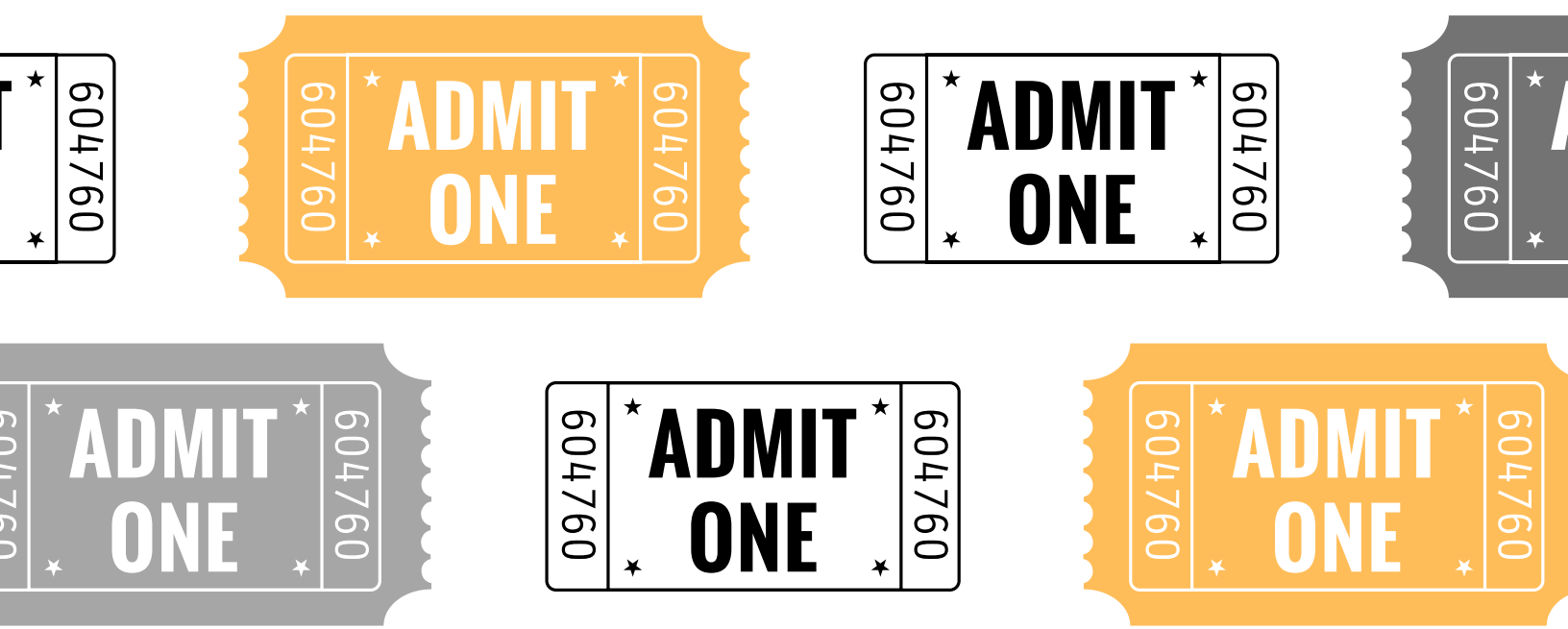
- Director, Strategic Interdisciplinary Program Development, Director, Kansas Water Institute (KWI) and the Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment (KCARE), Director, Institute for Digital Agriculture and Advanced Analytics (ID3A) – Engagement

1:00 p.m. – **Adjourn**



Scan to Register
or visit reap-ks.org





REENTRY SIMULATION

This Reentry Simulation is an immersive, experiential learning event designed to simulate the complex challenges individuals face when transitioning from incarceration back into the community. Participants will navigate a carefully constructed mock environment that replicates the multifaceted obstacles of reintegration, challenging participants to develop awareness, understanding, determine new ways of implementing support relevant to their prospective industry or community.

WHEN: SEPT 9TH, 2025, 9:30AM-12PM
WHERE: WSU TECH SOUTH CAMPUS
3821 E. HARRY, WICHITA, KS 67218

COST: \$40 PER PERSON
\$35 FOR GROUPS OF 5+
USING CODE: REGRP30

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT RACHEL MASTIO
RMASTIO@WSUTECH.EDU OR 316-677-1856





Presented by: evergy

What will Kansas look like in 2075?

Explore the future of Kansas industry, innovation, and economic growth.

Location Century II Convention Center Wichita, Kansas	Date October 2, 2025	Time 7:30 AM – 11:30 AM
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[ADD TO CALENDAR](#) [REGISTER NOW](#)

Join us for the 2025 Kansas Economic Outlook Conference as we fast-forward 50 years to explore the future of Kansas industry, innovation, and economic opportunity. Hosted by the Center for Economic Development and Business Research at Wichita State University's Barton School of Business, this year's event brings together thought leaders from aerospace, artificial intelligence, healthcare, and energy—alongside CEDBR's own expert economic insights.

Whether you're a business leader, policymaker, educator, or curious citizen, this is your chance to gain forward-thinking perspectives and actionable takeaways on the trends already shaping our long-term trajectory. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of the conversation—and the future.

Secure your spot today and help shape what's next for Kansas.

Speakers

Keynote



Mark Esposito

Center for International Development, Harvard Kennedy School, Professor & Chief Economist, micro1

The Economic Argument for Health



Ed O'Malley

Kansas Health Foundation, President and CEO

Coping With Chaos: The Aircraft Industry In Strange Days



Richard Aboulafia

AeroDynamic Advisory, Managing Director

Employment Forecast



Bekah Selby-Leach

CEDBR, Wichita State University, Director

Strategic AI Adoption for Sustainable Economic Growth



Miles Basset

Prairie Code AI, Founder and CEO

Energy: Power of Production



Warren Martin

Kansas Strong, Executive Director

Host



Dotty Harpool

Barton School of Business, Wichita State University, Executive Director of Engagement & Prominence

Welcoming Remarks



Richard Muma

Wichita State University, President

Opening Remarks



Don Sherman

Evergy, Executive, Community Affairs

Closing Remarks



Larisa Genin

Barton School of Business, Wichita State University, Dean