

DRAFT
MINUTES

REAP Board & Officer Elections Meeting

November 12, 2020

11:45 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

The monthly meeting of the I-70 Regional Economic Advancement Partnership was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chairman Kirk Howell, who welcomed the attendees.

The following Board Members were present:

Jeff Baker	Wil Chase	Michelle Gayeski	Mark Harding
Kirk Howell	Kevin Hougen	Gary May	Tom Turrell
Jan Yeckes	Becky Zierer		

Guests attending were:

Steve	Hebert	Town of Bennett
Julio	Iturreria	Reap
Jack	Keever	Retired
Kathy	Mahan	Reap

Approval of the October 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

Minutes approved as submitted

Election of Officers and Board:

Reap Board of Directors approved the 2021 Slate. (See Exhibit A)

On a Motion by Mark Harding, seconded by Wil Chase, the 2021 slate was approved. It passed unanimously. See attached 2021 Slate

2021 Program Discussion:

The Board wants to see Reap priorities expanded to include growth and development in the Corridor.

On a Motion by Mark Harding, seconded by Michelle Gayeski. It passed unanimously.

The 2021 Business Plan is as follows:

Agriculture & Agritourism –Reap supports a strong local agriculture economy. Reap will promote agritourism based businesses and cultural arts to the region and state.

Aviation/Aerospace – Reap supports Colorado Air & Space Port general aviation, aerospace aviation, and resultant business development.

Energy – Reap supports the orderly development of oil and natural gas resources and renewable energy industries.

Transportation & Infrastructure – Reap supports data centers, high speed internet infrastructure, new transit planning and systems for access to jobs, healthcare, education, and recreation.

Healthcare – Reap supports increasing local capacity for quality healthcare, including urgent care.

Education – Reap supports all levels of quality education to provide opportunities for students and a skilled and motivated workforce.

Growth & Development - Reap supports orderly development of residential, commercial, and retail in the Corridor.

Executive Director’s Report:

Julio Iturreria opened discussion on a request from Mark Harding asking Reap to send a letter of support for the Sky Ranch Academy to the Bennett Schools Superintendent. The Board supported this request.

On a Motion by Jeff Baker, seconded by Wil Chase. It passed unanimously.

All Reap meetings will be virtual for the first few months of 2021.

Other Business:

Kathy Mahan shared the concept of a Virtual Market to help boost the Agritourism Program. In 2020, the Colorado High Plains Adventure participants were forced to cancel the spring & fall festivals and all their other events. A virtual market seemed to be a way to reach out to the community, it has been a year of missed opportunities. The Committee thinks it is important to keep our name out there during these times and stay in touch with our customers and the public. Becky Zierer said there are many smaller farms and ranchers that are struggling right now, and this could help. There were concerns from the Board about products that can be sold on this market. Kathy & Becky explained that the same criteria used for accepting a participant in the past would apply to the virtual market. It would include fiber products, honey, handmade goods, soaps, animals, demonstrations, etc. The market software will cost approximately \$1,500 annually.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.