

Media Contact: Angie Duntz Phone: 316.771.6606

aduntz@workforce-ks.com

Date: June 29, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCHLICKAU NAMED CHAIRMAN OF LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

WICHITA, KS - Gabe Schlickau, Meritrust Credit Union, has been named Chairman of the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) in Local Area IV. Schlickau will transition to the position on July 1 taking the role from Kathy Jewett, XLT Ovens.

"Kathy Jewett's leadership of the Workforce Board over the past two years has been outstanding," said Mayor Jeff Longwell. "And I have full confidence that with Gabe Schlickau's appointment there will be a smooth transition of high quality board leadership."

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) establishes local workforce boards which connect employers and job seekers together to strengthen the local economy. The LWDB's role is to develop regional strategic plans that set funding priorities for their area. The LWDB for the South Central Kansas region covers Butler, Cowley, Harper, Kingman, Sedgwick and Sumner Counties. Members of the Board include business leaders, economic development officials, education and training providers and community based organizations. The LWDB convenes partnerships between businesses and community stakeholders; establishing sector strategies driven by high-growth industries.

"It is imperative that we have representatives from both public and private sectors on the LWDB," said Keith Lawing, president and CEO of Workforce Alliance. "I have been pleased by the commitment and leadership in this region."

The Workforce Alliance is the Administrative Entity, One Stop Operator, and Program Administrator for Local Area IV in Kansas, which includes the counties of Butler, Cowley, Harper, Kingman, Sedgwick and Sumner. Operations for Local Area IV are directed by the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB). The daily operations of the LWDB are carried out by a professional staff, led by a President and Chief Executive Officer. For additional information on the Workforce Alliance please visit www.workforce-ks.com