

# Information Network of Kansas Board Meeting Minutes

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## January 2024 Regular INK Board Meeting December 7, 2023

### Opening

A meeting of the INK Board was called to order in the Department of Revenue Secretary's conference room on the fourth floor of the Mills Building in Topeka, Kansas at 10:00 a.m. by INK Board Chair Tom Sloan. The following other members of the Board were present:

Kate Butler, representing the Kansas Bar Association  
Mark Burghart, Kansas Secretary of Revenue  
Jim Haugh, representing the Kansas Secretary of Commerce

### Others Present

Murray McGee, INK Executive Director; Susan Mauch, INK Board Counsel (via Zoom); Nolan Jones, James Adams, and Ashley Gordon, representing the Kansas Information Consortium.

Michael Church from the Kansas State Historical Society (via Zoom)

### Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda that was presented included the draft minutes for the November 2, 2023, Regular Board Meeting; draft minutes for the November 27, 2023, SPEC Committee Meeting; the October 2023 Financial Statement; and the November 2023 Network Manager Report

**Action Taken:** Since there was not a quorum of board members present there was no action taken on the consent agenda.

### Contract for Approval

#### City of Sawyer-Payments

**Action Taken:** No action taken due to lack of a quorum.

### Regular Business

**1. Presentation by Michael Church-Kansas State Historical Society Grant Extension Request-** Church began by apologizing for how long their project has taken. It started in 2018 and was delayed by COVID and later by changes in the person working on the project for the. The project is divided into two main parts. 1) Digitizing 19<sup>th</sup> Century Governor's papers of 11 different Governors. 2) Redeveloping their website. This part of the project began in 2020 and was delayed by COVID. Then the developer had a family crisis. The project started back up again in 2022. They have made significant progress and hope to have most of it finished by the end of this year. They would like some additional time to check for any errors or issues with the website. He requested a six-month extension taking the project to May 2024 which should allow plenty of time to finish testing the site.

Since the board did not have a quorum, no action could be taken. The request for extension will be taken up by the board at the next board meeting.

## 2. INK Executive Director Report

McGee reported on the first three stops of the statewide Listening Tour. He said the quantity of participants has been less than he anticipated but the quality of the meetings and discussions have been impressive. The smaller attendance has given more time for deeper conversations. Attendees have discussed interest in assistance with programs to help coordinate apprenticeship programs with colleges for Linemen, Journeymen, and natural gas system operators.

The County Administrator in Saline County said they are having conversations with other counties asking for a centralized website where residents can sign up to receive RNR notifications. This is like conversations we've had with the Secretary of State's office.

Wichita State University is interested in creating research data on unsheltered residents. County Commissioners are asking for information to document what is being spent on resources for unsheltered residents and what programs are having the most impact so they can better target funds to what is working best.

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) organization in Wichita would like to pull together data for a 10-county area for local government leaders. They would like to have another meeting with us.

The final meetings of the Listening Tour will be Friday at the Sunflower Foundation, here in Topeka.

Dusti Cerca has been hired to serve as the INK Chief Administrative Officer. She will start work with us on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Action Taken:** Sloan added to McGee's report noting they are meeting with representatives from the Lawrence School District to see how we can assist them with a program to help address Truancy. There is also a meeting coming up with the Kansas Hospital Association to discuss telehealth opportunities.

## 3. Network Manager Report

Jones reported he recently participated in a meeting with Sloan, McGee and the Governor's new Water expert to discuss ways INK may assist in pulling together data from multiple sources to assist the Governor and Legislators in making decisions regarding Kansas water policy.

Jones, Sloan and McGee also met with Secretary of the Department of Corrections, Jeff Zmuda and his staff to discuss how INK could assist them with a scheduling program to help them in managing, staff, resources and rooms for their educational programs within the state prison systems.

They also met with Dr. Flanders and his staff with the Kansas Board of Regents and discussed an idea for an app to assist students and families in making decisions on career and educational paths after high school graduation.

Regarding matters with the Office of Judicial Administration he said there is still little news, but they are beginning to bring systems back online and he has been asked to relaunch the marriage license system for them.

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He said Jack Wareham attended the Kansas Association of Counties annual meeting and they received positive feedback on the assessment connect project they have been working on for the Department of Revenue. The program should be launched publicly December 28<sup>th</sup>.

They are working on a new system for Tolling agreements outside of Kansas.

His staff have also been assisting with a quick project to enable people to vote on a new license plate design. A website is being developed from a template that was created in another state. It will feature five license plate design options and give people a change to vote. Voting will only be enabled for one week.

**Action Taken:** Sloan asked for them to follow up with the Department of Corrections.

4. **2024 Business Plan Draft- (Informational item)** McGee noted this is a draft of the plan. The budget portion has not been completed yet, but they wanted to give the board the opportunity to see the first draft. They are working to tie each objective of the business plan directly to a specific action item in the Strategic Plan. Specifically, those items identified for completion in 2024 and some in 2025.

**Action Taken:** No action taken.

5. **Grant Application-Kansas Biological Survey-** Sloan said he interprets this is another phase of the project that is currently being funded through an INK grant. This does include a request for funding for a staff position, someone to help manage the data they are working on.

McGee said we might want to see if there is interest in sharing this staff person with multiple entities who are pulling together water data. He and Sloan plan to discuss this with the Governor's Water expert.

**Action Taken:** No action could be taken without a quorum. Sloan and McGee will follow up with the Governor's office.

### Committee Reports

A. **Finance Committee Report-** No Report

B. **Policy and Procedures Committee-** No Report

C. **Banking / Financial Committee-** No Report

D. **Personnel Committee.** Butler had nothing to report. McGee said they have hired Dusti Cerca to serve as the Chief Administrative Officer. She will begin on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. He is working with Syndeo on getting her set up for payroll and he is working with UMB on arrangements for a Simple IRA. McGee noted, he is still working on getting his IRA set up as well.

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- E. Other Business.** - Sloan asked Mauch for an update from the IRS. She stated she received a letter from the IRS this weekend stating INK owes \$0 on our 2017 return. They are now working on a private letter ruling.

Sloan asked staff to be sure to have the City of Sawyer contract on the January agenda.

**Adjournment:** Haugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Burghart seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Submitted by:

Murray McGee

Executive Director