

Information Network of Kansas Board Meeting Minutes

October 2025 Regular INK Board Meeting October 2, 2025

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 10:01 a.m. by INK Board Vice Chair Kate Butler. The following other members of the Board were present:

Bruce Chladny, representing the Kansas Association of Counties (*Joined via Zoom*)
Greta Funk, representing the Kansas Library Association (*Joined via Zoom*)
Kyle Niemann, representing the Kansas Association of Realtors
Kayla Savage, representing the Kansas Department of Commerce (*Joined via Zoom*)
Ted Smith, representing the Kansas Department of Revenue

Others Present

Murray McGee, INK Executive Director; Dusti Cerca, INK Chief Administrative Officer (*Joined via Zoom*); Susan Mauch, INK Board Counsel; Ryan Weber, James Adams, and Ashley Gordan representing the Kansas Information Consortium.

Guests Perry Henry, Senior Consultant of Veracity Consulting, and Paul Finster, Infrastructure Lead Consultant of Veracity Consulting.

Consent Agenda

The presented Consent Agenda included September 4, 2025, draft minutes from the INK Regular Board Meeting, the August 2025 INK Financial Statement, and the September 2025 Network Manager Report.

The contracts for approval included: Kansas Corporation Commission - KanPay Contract Amendment; Kansas Department of Racing and Gaming - Website Development; City of Harveyville - KanPay; Kansas State University-Cowley County Extension 4H - KanPay; and Kansas State University-Cowley County Extension - KanPay.

Action Taken: Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for questions. Niemann made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Smith seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion.

Regular Business

1. INK Executive Director Report

In addition to the written report, McGee reports that INK is still recovering from the loss of a Department of Labor contract last year. Grant recipients are spending allocated funds faster than usual, impacting the current budget year. Two-year grant allocations are being spent within one year. This is affecting INK 2025 revenues.

Banking fees are being further reviewed. Approximately \$120,000 has been incurred in banking fees this year. A deep dive is underway to understand these charges, particularly "notification of change" (NOC) fees related to incorrect or updated bank account information. INK NOC fees are unusually high compared to other states.

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A contract for a pilot project with the Department of Administration for payment processing, municipal services, and event registration is under review. This could lead to further collaboration.

The Historical Society requested a new system to digitize and store over 400,000 survey records, with 15,000 new records annually. They also wish to enable credit card payments for survey record fees of \$4 per transaction which is currently paid by check. This would significantly streamline their operations.

Wichita State University's Kansas Data Trust Project received an \$800,000 grant over three years for its next phase. They will connect with state agencies like KDHE and the Department of Labor for data collection.

McGee plans to follow up with the Department of Agriculture for an unsigned grant agreement. He has identified the new contact as Jeff Vogel, after Scott Marsh's retirement, to ensure that the process continues.

Action Taken: Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for questions. There were no other questions or actions from the Board.

2. Network Manager Report

Weber reports that the "notification of change" (NOC) issue for ACH payments is complex and is not an issue that they have seen in other states. UMB's reports currently lack the necessary transaction information to achieve a resolution.

Organizational updates include the promotion of Tatiana Sanchez to Project Manager and hiring Hector Fascio as the new Business Analyst. Scott Morrison, Director of Development, has retired after 27 years. The organization is re-evaluating its role to address evolving technology needs before filling positions. There are current challenges in finding tech talent.

The first KIC Budget draft for fiscal year 2026 has been produced. Finalization is expected by year-end.

KIC has deployed the new projects in September which include Amber Alert and the Kansas Dental Board licensing project.

Action Taken: Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for questions. There were no other questions or actions by the board. Niemann requested an update on the card swipe machines. Weber states that there is increasing demand from counties to upgrade payment swipers to newer versions supporting pin, chip, and tap functionalities. While existing swipers still function, consumer demand is driving the need for new technology. A full replacement plan is targeted for 2026.

3. Extension of Veracity Consulting Contract

McGee addressed that the current contract with Veracity Consulting is set to expire on October 10th. An extension is being requested to continue crucial work related to vendor assessments, contract negotiations, and a deeper fiscal review. The proposed extension is to January 23rd, 2026, with an estimated additional cost of \$150,000. This amount would bring the total project cost to \$525,000, exceeding the initial budget of \$500,000. Continued support is needed to navigate decisions regarding single versus multi-vendor strategies, contract negotiations, and potential organizational restructuring.

Action Taken: Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for questions. There were no other questions or actions by the board. Chladny moved to extend the Veracity Consulting contract to January 23rd, 2026. Butler seconded the

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motion and opened the floor for further discussion. Niemann moved to table the motion until the executive session. Smith seconded the motion to table. A unanimous vote approved the motion to table.

4. Nominating Committee Recommendations for INK Board Officer Nominations

Smith identified that there are two candidates for chairman, one for vice chairman, and one for treasurer, but the slate of candidates is not ready to be presented to the full board yet. The board discussed the timing and process for voting on officer positions. There was initial uncertainty about whether the vote needed to occur this month since elections are typically held in October.

The board considered whether the vote could be postponed or conducted via email. Mauch explained that current officers remain in their positions until a vote is held, and each candidate must receive at least five affirmative votes. The election must be open and not conducted by secret ballot, with each candidate voted on individually.

Action Taken: Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for questions. Smith moved to postpone the elections until next month. Savage seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion to table. There were no other questions or actions by the board.

5. Presentation by Veracity Consulting

Perry Henry, Senior Consultant of Veracity Consulting, and Paul Finster, Infrastructure Lead Consultant of Veracity Consulting, presented to the board during an executive session.

Niemann moved for the board to enter an executive session under KOMA Section 4 to discuss matters concerning data related to the financial affairs or trade secrets of corporations, partnerships, trusts, and individual proprietorships. And, under KOMA Section 12, to discuss matters relating to security measures to protect systems, facilities, or equipment used in communication services. Also, under Section 2 for attorney-client privilege, including INK attorney, INK staff, and Veracity Consulting, for 20 minutes. Smith seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion. The Board entered an executive session at 10:42 a.m. The Board came out of the executive session at 11:02 a.m. Niemann moved to extend the executive session by 15 minutes. Smith seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion. The Board entered an executive session at 11:03 a.m. The Board came out of the executive session at 11:18 a.m.

Action Taken: Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for questions. There were no other questions or actions by the board. Vice Chair Butler returned to the tabled motion to extend the Veracity Consulting contract to January 23rd, 2026. With no further discussion, a unanimous vote approved the motion to extend the Veracity Consulting contract to January 23rd, 2026.

6. Set Date for Special INK Board Meeting

Butler stated that a special INK Board meeting may need to be set up to discuss the findings from Veracity Consulting regarding vendor options of single vs. multi-vendor, implications, and strategic next steps for the organization. Butler requested that McGee and Cerca send out a Doodle poll after the next Executive Committee meeting. The goal is to maximize board member attendance for critical discussion, potentially extending the next regular board meeting or scheduling a dedicated session in November. Veracity Consulting is expected to provide a clear, logic-driven presentation.

Action Taken: Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for questions. There were no other questions or actions by the board.

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Committee Reports

- A. Finance/Banking/Accounting Committee** – No Report.
- B. Policy and Procedures Committee** – No Report.
- C. Personnel Committee** – Vice Chair Butler noted that evaluation-related materials would be distributed soon.

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the board.

Adjournment

With no further action for the Board to consider, Niemann moved to adjourn. Smith seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion. The Board adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Submitted by:
Dusti Cerca
Chief Administrative Officer