

Information Network of Kansas Board Meeting Minutes

March 2026 Regular INK Board Meeting

March 5, 2026

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

Greta Funk, representing the Kansas Library Association (*Joined via Zoom*)

Jennifer Cook, representing the Kansas Secretary of State (*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; Paul Finster, INK Vendor Manager; Susan Mauch, INK Board Counsel. Melissa Baker and Ashley Gordan, representing the Kansas Information Consortium.

Guests: Perry Henry, Senior Consultant of Veracity Consulting (*Joined via Zoom*); Misty Bruckner and Zoe Lane of Wichita State University Public Policy & Management Center.

Consent Agenda

The presented Consent Agenda included the draft minutes from February 5, 2026, INK Regular Board Meeting; the January 2026 INK Financial Statement; and the February 2026 Network Manager Report.

The contracts for approval included the contract amendment for the Kansas Department of Administration and the City of Hardtner – Kan Pay Counter.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Niemann moved to approve the consent agenda. Butler seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion.

Regular Business

1. INK Executive Director Report

McGee reports that NDAs were received, and five RFIs for banking were sent out. Of the four responses received, three have been scored so far. The finance committee will review the scores, and INK will likely invite two banks for RFP and demonstrations.

Review of banking fees since 2019 revealed approximately \$150,000 in NOC charges. There are now only two recurring accounts with ongoing daily charges. A meeting is scheduled to address this.

Cerca is working with Mize/Aprio to prepare financial reports for 2026. This has caused a delay in finalizing this period's reports for the board packet.

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McGee and vendor manager Finster met with Kansas State Fair staff to discuss developing tools for campground reservations, building rentals, sponsorships, records management, and online payments. A trip to Hutchinson is being coordinated for further discussions.

An appointment is set with Judicial Council staff next week to discuss payment processing for their online legal publication sales.

Recent and upcoming meetings include the State Gaming Agency and a demonstration for the State Board of Nursing.

Plans are underway for the INK Annual Showcase event. Scheduling is being considered around school calendars and graduations, with possible dates being in late May or early June.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Sloan inquired about what projects the Board of Nursing and the State Gaming Commission want. McGee confirmed that the Board of Nursing wants a Chatbot and the State Gaming Commission is seeking assistance with ADA website compliance and conversion of PDF files. There were no other questions or actions from the Board.

2. Network Manager Report

Baker reports strong overall operational performance, including successful monthly patching, 99.9% system uptime, and smooth project launches. The team is focusing on accessibility, compliance, and ADA readiness. KIC is working to update 15 CAM sites and 34 applications by April 2026.

Baker states that quick remediation was completed for the Kansas State Gaming Agency website accessibility needs to bridge the gap until KIC can schedule for their modernization.

Two projects were launched in February: the Shawnee County District Attorney's Office Diversion Program Payments and the Kansas State Board of Examiners and Optometry License Portal.

Baker reports 11 active projects in the pipeline, with one of those being the KDOR Delinquent Tax Payment System Modernization, which saw over 100 development hours in February alone. Additionally, there are 60 KanPay counter deployments at various stages of progress and one scheduler deployment underway.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Sloan inquired about short staffing and the number of projects that are behind schedule. Gordon reports that there are no projects behind schedule. Sloan asked about the status of the Department of Corrections program. Gordon states that KDOC contacts have been provided with the credentials and the URL for testing. Staff are in the process of reviewing and testing it.

Neimann asked if the Veterinary Examiners' project will be completed before their 2026 renewal or will it be ready for 2027. Gordon states that she will gather the information from the project manager and will report back.

There were no other questions or actions by the board.

3. University of Kansas Grant Project Close Out

McGee reports that the University of Kansas grant project is ready for closure with an unused grant balance of \$3,118.87. They will be presenting the project at next month's board meeting.

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Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Butler moved to close out the grant. Neimann seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion. There were no other questions or actions by the board.

4. Grant Project Presentation – Wichita State University

Misty Bruckner from Wichita State University's Public Policy Management Center presented on the INK grant and the Kansas Data Trust initiative. The Kansas Data Trust is an integrated data initiative that was launched 18 months ago. It is aimed to aid Kansas communities in addressing complex social challenges by securely combining and analyzing data from multiple sources. The project is new to Kansas but has similarities with efforts made in other states. The goal is to provide timely information to state and local leaders for better resource allocation in public sectors such as law enforcement, social services, education, and homelessness.

Kansas Data Trust's first use case is with Second Light. Second Light is a homelessness program in Wichita, where integrated data helps answer questions about service eligibility, effectiveness of interventions, and the impact on public resources like EMS and jails. The project's governance includes an advisory council, legal frameworks, and strict data security protocols. Data is de-identified before being used for research, ensuring privacy.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions.

Sloan inquired about the timeline for the project, how long it will take to deliver useful data, and how much faster it will be for the next organization. Bruckner states that the primary bottleneck for the project is securing legal agreements like MOUs and data use agreements, which can take weeks or months to finalize. In contrast, the technical aspect of data matching is quicker and more efficient.

5. Strategic Plan Update

Zoe Lane from Wichita State University's Public Policy Management Center conducted a strategic planning focus group with members of the board. Participants discussed INK's key strengths, such as reliable digital government services, customer service, and cost-effectiveness. Challenges included limited vendor staffing, budget constraints, and difficulties communicating who INK's is. Opportunities for improvement are centered on marketing, outreach, expanding services, and sharing success stories. The session generated actionable ideas to guide INK's future priorities and strategic direction.

The next strategic planning session with the executive committee is scheduled for April 15th.

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

6. April Board Meeting Date

This item was removed from the agenda

7. Executive Session

Butler moved for the board to enter an executive session to discuss attorney-client privileged information, including INK staff, INK council, and Perry Henry of Veracity Consulting, for a duration of 10 minutes. Savage

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seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion. The Board entered executive session at 11:33 a.m. The Board came out of the executive session at 11:43 a.m.

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

Committee Reports

A. Finance/Banking/Accounting Committee – No report.

B. Policy and Procedures Committee – No report.

C. Personnel Committee – No report.

Other Business

Sloan inquired about the status of Aprio/Mize and their ability to provide updated INK financial reports, or if INK will be sending out an RFI for accounting services. McGee states that Aprio/Mize has not responded, and an RFI may be needed soon. There was no other business to come before the board.

Adjournment

With no further action for the Board to consider, Chair Sloan adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

Submitted by:

Dusti Cerca

Chief Administrative Officer