April 2026 Regular INK Board Meeting
April 9, 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:

Bruce Chladny, representing the Kansas Association of Counties *(Joined via Zoom)*
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
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 *(Joined via Zoom)*, Bob Sanders *(Joined via Zoom)*, James Adams, and Ashley Gordan, representing the Kansas Information Consortium.

Guests: Perry Henry, Senior Consultant of Veracity Consulting *(Joined via Zoom)*; Michael Houts, Researcher for the University of Kansas, Kansas Biological Survey & Center for Ecological Research *(Joined via Zoom)*.

Consent Agenda

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

The contracts for approval included the Kansas Bureau of Investigation – Scrap Metal Contract Extension, the Prairie Village – KanPay Counter, the City of Galesburg – KanPay Counter, and the City of Fowler – KanPay Counter contracts.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Niemann moved 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 states that INK and KIC are collaborating with the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) on a contract for an ignition interlock program. Ashley Gordon is finalizing the scope of work. Susan Mauch has been notified that we will begin drafting the formal contract once that scope is complete.

INK is expecting a decision to be made today by the Kansas State Gaming Commission regarding whether to proceed with a contract.

A contract with the Kansas Judicial Council is being finalized to facilitate the online sale of publications. This agreement will streamline their digital sales process and improve accessibility to Council materials.

An in-person meeting is scheduled for next Friday in Hutchinson with the Kansas State Fair to discuss a broad scope of potential projects. Key topics include a new RV camping reservation system, building scheduling, registrations, and potential sponsorship opportunities.

A successful contract extension with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) for the scrap metal program has been achieved. INK and KIC are initiating discussions regarding platform expansion. The KBI has effectively outgrown its current system, necessitating a more robust infrastructure.

INK is discussing a potential partnership with the Board of EMS for a new website development project and a related marketing campaign.

Next month, in addition to the standard quarterly grant project report, a new Quarterly Financial Report will be introduced. This report will offer deeper analysis by focusing on revenue and expenditure tracking, emerging trends, and profit/loss details.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Chair Sloan requested additional information about the Highway Patrol Interlock project. Gordon explained that KHP currently receives payments from vendors that participate in their ignition interlock program and wants them to have the ability to pay online. There were no other questions or actions from the Board.

2. Network Manager Report

Baker reports that the technology team recently completed security updates for 21 applications. She recognized James Adams and his team for their efforts.

The KIC team is also working to meet a website accessibility deadline this month.

A significant ongoing project involves collaborating with KDOR to create a simplified payment portal for delinquent tax payments, which is important for both citizens and partners.

Additionally, Adams has been accepted into the Leadership Kansas program.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Sloan inquired about the impact that AI is having on their development process and if it is speeding up the process. Adams states that the team relies heavily on AI tools, which have dramatically increased productivity, including automating tasks, improving documentation, and accelerating security updates. This has made onboarding easier.

Sloan asked for an update on the program for the Department of Corrections. Gordon reports that they are working with the agency in the test environment to integrate their Microsoft Teams into the scheduling platform.

There were no other questions or actions by the board.

3. University of Kansas Grant Presentation

Michael Houts, researcher for the University of Kansas, Kansas Biological Survey & Center for Ecological Research, presented on their complete grant project. This four-year project developed a nested hexagon grid framework and a landscape database within a GIS tool. The system unifies and summarizes diverse datasets, such as species, landscape, and energy data, into a scalable grid that covers Kansas and extends from northern

Canada to South America. The grid uses multiple cell sizes for flexible analysis and protects sensitive data by summarizing information at coarser scales.

Over 300 datasets, around 60 million records, have been integrated. The web-based tools allow users to query specific locations or search for areas meeting defined criteria. The approach streamlines research and supports projects, benefiting conservation, land management, and energy planning. The tool has already been used in regional wildlife habitat and conservation planning, demonstrating its broad applicability.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Savage asked how they envision the general public utilizing this program, and whether this overlaps with the KCC's information and their well-plugging program. Houts explained that specialized GIS data is difficult for the public to access or interpret, and this information is being made available through their website. The platform enables users to explore information about their area, like species, active and historical wells, and wind potential, without needing technical expertise. Well data from the Kansas Geological Survey is updated in an additive way, letting users track changes over time. Although well-plugging data isn't specifically tracked yet, the system could be expanded to include that feature for more detailed monitoring.

Savage asked how the general public will use the program and how the website will be promoted. Houts explained that previously, individuals needed to know exactly where to look to find the information they needed. With this tool, all information is available in one place, pulling data from KGIS and KCC. Houts added that the public will be informed through newsletters, conferences, and other outreach efforts.

Savage and Sloan encouraged Houts to contact the Kansas Water Office as a potential partner

There were no other questions or actions by the board.

4. Business Center Project

McGee reported that the Business Center project, initiated in 2014 and led by the Secretary of State's Office with participation from multiple agencies, was placed on hold in 2019. INK currently maintains $437,027.63 earmarked for its completion. Jennifer Cook stated that the project transitioned into the Kansas Business One Stop in 2020. The vision for the initiative includes expanding its capabilities, enhancing integration through features such as single sign-on, and incorporating additional smaller agencies. Cook emphasized the need for further development, identification of a lead agency, and proposed KIC for this role, utilizing the earmarked funds to support the project's continuation.

Action Taken: Chair Sloan opened the floor for questions. Niemann noted that because the project is 7 years old, a more detailed and updated scope of work will be required. Cook stated that she will need guidance on the direction the project should take. Baker added that she will need additional information to determine how to proceed. Sloan requested that a presentation be prepared for the next regular board meeting.

There were no other questions or actions by the board.

5. Banking Presentations Scheduled

McGee reported that of the five banks that received INK's RFI, four submitted responses. INK selected two of those banks to provide product presentations. One bank declined to proceed, leaving a single finalist, which delivered its demonstration yesterday. That bank will submit its final pricing and interest rate proposal early next week for further review.

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

6. Showcase Event

The Annual INK Showcase Event is scheduled for June $4^{th,}$ after the monthly board meeting. The event will be hosted at Townsite Plaza and will begin at 1:30 pm.

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

Smith reports that the Kansas Department of Revenue Assessment Connect project will be removed from the agency's 2027 Annual Budget. The project will be discontinued.

Executive Session: Niemann 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. Smith seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion. The Board entered executive session at 10:59 a.m. The Board ended the executive session at 11:09 a.m. Niemann moved to extend the executive session for an additional 10 minutes. Smith seconded the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion. The Board reentered executive session at 11:09 a.m. The Board ended the executive session at 11:17 a.m.

Adjournment

With no further action for the Board to consider, Chair Sloan adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Submitted by:
Dusti Cerca
Chief Administrative Officer