

NACE ANNUAL STATE REPORT

State Association Name: Kansas County Highway Association (KCHA) For year of 2019

Number of Counties: 60 of 105 Number of State Assoc. Members: 79

Number NACE Member: 52 Counties/98 members

State Annual Meeting/Conferences held at: Hyatt Regency/Century II, Wichita, KS

on dates: Nov 12-14, 2019

Other significant meeting held during the year: KCHA Spring Mtg/NACE 2020, Hyatt Regency/Century II Convention Center, Wichita, KS April 14-17, 2019

Notable achievements of State Association and/or Individual members:

1. Successfully hosted NACE 2020 in Wichita, KS
2. Justin Mader, Saline County Engineer, awarded 2019 County Highway Official of the Year
3. KCHA Officers for 2019-20: Alvin Perez, President; Jeff Beyer, President Elect; Randy Blehm, Secretary-Treasurer. Other Board Members: Jim Brull, FHWA Local Road Liaison; Darryl Lutz, NACE State Director; Justin Mader, Past President; Jeff Blosser, KAC Representative.
4. Initiated major update to KCHA website including moving to a new platform. www.KansasCountyHighway.org
5. _____

Important Events in which State Association participated during year:

1. Planning Committee and Moderator for 2019 Kansas Transportation Engineering Conference
 2. KCHA members attended MINK 2019, St. Joseph, MO. Approximately 120 total county officials, state DOT officials, LTAP officials, FHWA officials and guests attended. Slightly over 40% of attendees were from Kansas.
 3. Participated in the announcement of the Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program with the Kansas Secretary of Transportation
 4. The KCHA awarded scholarships to 3 civil engineering students. 1 \$2,000 scholarship awarded and 2 \$1,000 scholarships awarded.
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Issues and topics of particular importance for which action and efforts of State Association were directed during the year:

State Issues:

1. Actively involved in statewide Local Consult meetings hosted by KDOT to help shape the statewide transportation improvement program.
2. Working with KDOT on implementation of new weight limit posting requirements (Special haul vehicle).
3. Actively working with Kansas LTAP on new training for Kansas Road Scholar Program. Also working on developing special recognition for Certification completion.
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National Issues:

1. Developed and submitted comments on proposed rules under Bridge Inspection Program
2. Advocating for flexibility under bridge inspection program related to modified inspection period from 2 years to 4 years for certain bridges. – No success. KDOT is channeling Counties' requests.

Ideas/concerns to share with other NACE Members: __Need to make a strong unified response to Federal Highway Administration to resist continued increases in NBIS bridge inspection program. Implementation of new bridge load rating requirements and the threat of element level bridge inspections are and will be very expensive to counties. Counties know which bridges are bad. We don't need to keep spending more money on inspections. We need to put the limited resources to building new bridges.

KDOT completed its 4th year of re-load rating all local bridges in Kansas. KDOT plans to spend \$5 million per year over about a 10 year period.

Report Submitted by: (Name) Darryl C. Lutz, P.E., Butler County, Kansas
(Title) NACE State Director for KCHA Date: 4/17/2020