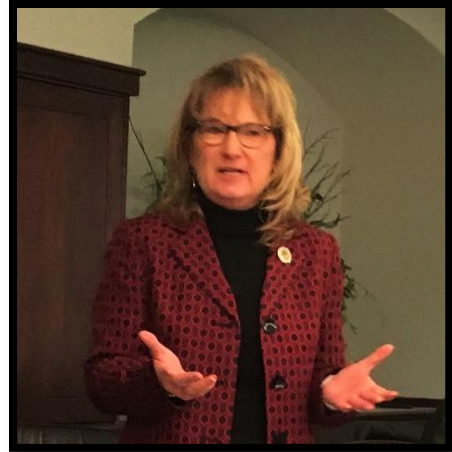


KARL XIII
State of the State
January 20, 2016

The Face of Kansas Tourism

Linda Craghead (Class X), Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department Wildlife, Parks and Tourism kicked off our State of the State session. Ms. Craghead is a graduate of Kansas State University with a degree in Animal Science. After her time at KSU, Linda began working in Human Resources for Excel Beef which later changed to Cargill Meats. Kansas was put in a whole new perspective as she travelled and moved around the country during her career.



Ms. Craghead oversees the operation and promotion of twenty state parks and tourism in Kansas. "Tourism is what Kansas has that's good", Linda stated. As a group we need to understand Kansas is a special place because of what we have. The state often is portrayed in a negative light by main stream media. She challenged Class XIII to get involved and guide their own future.

According to Craghead the agency utilizes zero dollars from the state general fund. Funding revenue is collected from the lottery fund (EDIF fund). The agency currently has \$6 million in savings. State of Kansas employees have not incurred a pay raise in 13 years; KDWP&T has seen no wage increase for 8 years. Craghead discussed ways to motivate employees and focus on the positive aspects you can control when dealing with low morale.

Kansas Attorney General

Derek Schmidt shared with KARL class XIII the duties of the Attorney General. Schmidt is the chief legal officer for the State of Kansas. His office is responsible for the defense of the state, consumer protection, Medicaid fraud and crime victim services. Schmidt shared for the defense of the state his office obtains less than 100 criminal cases a year. Some examples include assisting small communities with homicide cases and large scale drug trafficking cases. The Attorney General assists people who have been affected by home health care fraud and prosecutes people who defraud Medicaid.



The Attorney General's office employees 140 people.

Legislators have assigned 4 tasks for Schmidt concealed carry licenses, DARE coordinator, human trafficking unit and license scrap metal businesses. Each state determines the law if citizens can conceal carry a firearm, then reciprocity agreements are decided between each state.

Kansas Bureau of Investigation is structured as a division of the Attorney General's office. Schmidt appoints the KBI director who must be confirmed by the Kansas Senate. A new KBI forensic laboratory was erected in Topeka.

Shawnee County Election Commissioner

Andrew Howell (Class V) was hired in 2012 to serve as the Shawnee County Election Commissioner. Howell's office operates a \$1 million budget. Electronic voting is a problematic issue facing Shawnee County. They are working to implement a paper based back up ballot.



Both democratic and republican affiliates work in the election commissioner office and polling venues to remain equitable.

Howell advised Class XIII to be careful and caution about what is posted to social media so later it will not compromise public service. He encouraged the class to get involved in politics and build bridges between parties not build walls.

An evening reception was held by KARL alumni at the Kansas Museum of History. Before dinner a private museum showing was offered to the class. Dr. Jeffrey Jackson, Constitution Professor, Washburn University offered a debriefing of Governor Brownback's State of the State address.



KARL Scribe Notes From January 21, 2016 **Panel: Kansas Farm Organizations in the Legislative Process**

Aaron Popelka (Kansas Livestock Association)

- General counsel for members
- Government affairs (mainly state, some federal)
- Members: cow-calf, stockers, feeders, allied industry (5,200)
- This time of year: Statehouse every day to represent members
- Provide testimony, work with committees
- "Turnaround Day" and "Veto Session"
- Lately, budget and tax bills being held until Veto Session (after April revenue report)
- Tough to raise taxes in an election year

- On KLA's plate: brand laws, noxious weeds, water
- State legislators are part-time and share secretaries; federal legislators have 10+ staff. All need education/information from affected industries.
- State PAC to raise money for candidates (increases access after election)
- No PAC fundraising during legislative session
- No federal PAC. Relies on National Cattlemen's Beef Association for that.
- SuperPAC: Can't coordinate with candidate. No fundraising and spending limits. Fairly new tool.
- Fundraising and spending limits are good for agriculture (relatively limited resources and smaller target audiences)
- Lobbyists need to be straight shooters
- Catch lawmakers in the hallways
- Kansas Ag Alliance: 14 ag groups that coordinate legislative efforts on agreed-upon issues
- Policy-development process: special interest committees & councils → policy & resolutions committee → members at convention vote (1 member, 1 vote)
- In the absence of policy, staff tries to avoid an issue. Or special board meeting is called. Meeting after Turnaround Day to take specific positions.
- Provide form letters/talking points for members so they can contact legislators
- Give legislators opportunities to experience rural life and agriculture
- Ag is Kansas' top industry now that aircraft is struggling
- More afraid of moderate dealmakers than extremists targeting agriculture

Chelsea Good (Livestock Marketing Association)

- Kansas City-based
- National group of livestock markets (sale barns)
- Federally registered lobbyist
- A lot of interaction with Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and Grain Inspection, Packers & Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)
- Lead attorney
- Represent markets in livestock/agriculture coalitions
- Educational component (state and national meetings)
- Federal PAC fundraising and distribution
- Organization can contribute limit and encourage members to
- Federal lobbying starts with staff, especially ag-committee members
- Capitol Hill staff "shuffles" regularly
- Grassroots touch (members instead of staff) makes a big difference
- Make it easy for lawmakers to help you (do the legwork)
- Policy-development process: committee → board of directors → membership ballots

Tom Tunnel (Kansas Grain & Feed Association/Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association/Renew Kansas)

- Grain elevators' association
- Professional staff of 9
- Manage KARA (input providers) under contract
- Renew Kansas = ethanol processors (10)
- Supports Kansas Veterinary Medical Association
- Day to day: keeping staff together
- Advocates for agribusiness in the Legislature
- "Across the street"

- 2 professional lobbyists
- Major trade show (140 exhibitors)
- Provide trainings (safety, certified crop advisers, grain grading, etc.) to keep agribusinesses successful
- Legislators afraid to talk to lobbyists; but it's an educational role
- State PAC can accept corporate money, federal can't
- Endorsements can be just as valuable as campaign contributions
- At the Statehouse: "If you're not at the table, you're on the menu."
- Kansas is fortunate to have federal lawmakers who understand agriculture
- Must provide good, solid information (including counterpoints to opposition) to legislators, especially at state level
- Make your point in 30 seconds or less
- Policy-development process: committee only (but keep members involved so legislators hear the same message back home)
- Urban counties gaining substantial power in Legislature

Secretary of State Kris Kobach

- Oversees elections, business registrations, cemeteries and notaries public
- "Utility infielder" of state government
- Kansas is strongest in preventing voter fraud; SOS and attorney general can prosecute
- Mobile society has led to messy voter rolls
- Voter fraud is easy to prosecute
- Interstate crosscheck started with Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri; spread to 14 then 30 states
- \$500–\$2,000 fine and felony conviction
- County election offices do the heavy lifting
- Prefers "paper trail" voting
- New-business reports (adding 15,000 per year)
- 67 percent voter turnout in 2012
- VoteKansas app for [iOS](#) and [Android](#)
- Private legal practice is representing Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents suing government

"The State of Kansas Agriculture"

by Josh Roe, Kansas Department of Agriculture

- Balanced approach: producers and consumers
- Divisions: ag business services, animal health, conservation, marketing, water resources, administrative services
- International activities in fiscal year 2015: 4 outbound trade missions and 8 inbound
- From the Land of Kansas: 295 members, 32 percent are less than 5 years old
- Opportunities and challenges often point-counterpoint
- Kansas ag output: \$17.5 billion (12 percent of gross regional product)
- Manufacturing, value-added, support industries
- Total effect = 43 percent of GRP
- Slaughter, cattle ranching, grain farming
- Exports: commodities and food, industrial and electrical, airplane
- Top destinations: Mexico, Japan, China
- Sectors: crops and processing, animal agriculture, animal processing and health, pet-food manufacturing, ag-equipment manufacturing, ag technology, specialty crops

- 2016 legislative priorities: water, brands, small-animal inspections, merger with Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners, fees for Weights & Measures
- Other issues: transportation and taxes
- Interactive map at <http://agriculture.ks.gov/about-ksda/kansas-agriculture>

“Kansas Open-Meetings Law”

by Assistant Attorney General Lisa Mendoza

- Challenge to apply 1982 language to today’s technology
- “Informed electorate” and “public benefit”
- Interpret liberally and exempt conservatively
- Gathering/assembly
- Serial communications. Include note on e-mail: DO NOT REPLY TO ALL & DO NOT FORWARD
- Whenever majority of membership is present, best to have independent witness
- Provide a place to listen to conference calls
- Declaring executive session: justification; subject matter; time and place to resume; who is to attend
- [A Citizen’s Guide to KOMA / KORA](#)