

KANSAS CCMFOA 'WINGS' NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If any of you are like me you are ready for warmer temperatures. Frankly, I think that the cold and snow overstayed their welcome this year. As winter gradually fades, spring pushes forward, making way for warmth and fresh beginnings. This natural transition is also true of CCMFOA. For the last 75 years, we've faced challenges, adapted to the times, and, most importantly, stayed true to our purpose. Like spring, we have emerged stronger, filled with fresh ideas and a renewed sense of purpose. With each passing year, members come and go, leadership changes, and we continue to embrace the changes in our jobs, communities and governing bodies – constantly evolving and growing.

As we reflect on 75 years (a major milestone) we celebrate the growth and accomplishments of CCMFOA and look ahead with excitement to the future. Cheers to 75 years of success!

This past year has brought some exciting changes: We moved our Institute/Academy to October and hosted it at the Drury Inn. Who didn't like the social time each night at 5:30???? – it was a highlight! We also welcomed Jamie Buster as our new director, and she's hit the ground running. We will be launching a new software, MemberClicks, which the Board believes will make information more accessible, and will replace Whova as our conference app. *Stay tuned for more!*

As my year as President winds down, I want to take a moment to tell you how truly honored I have been to serve and to thank you for the confidence you've placed in me to lead this amazing association. I've had the privilege of working with an outstanding Executive Board—Heather Hillegeist, Immediate Past President; Alicia Hilgald, Vice President; Jami Downing, Secretary; and Eric Strimple, Treasurer who have been my sounding board and my encouragers. I'm also grateful to our Board of Directors, Kara Rath, Roxie Sjogren, Tracy Roberts, Tammy Melton, Ashley Mai and Leslie Stephen. They are incredibly smart and talented! I love the fact that we can have some spirited conversations all the while keeping what is best for CCMFOA at the forefront of our minds.

Keep your focus in the right direction and you'll reach your destination!

What a year it's – my heart is full.

Denise Duerksen

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INSTITUTE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Institute/Academy 2024 was amazing, we had a huge Year 1 class with 32 participants! Welcome new Clerks! Year 2 saw 21 participants, Year 3 had 29, Year 4 had 26, and Academy had 45 participants and 26 Clerks graduated from the program. Great job to all the Clerks who attended. Institute/Academy is not only a great opportunity to learn from the great slate of speakers that come in with real work experience, but also a way to network with fellow Clerks and know that you aren't alone on this journey and someone across the state might be going through the same exact thing.

Spring Conference 2025 planning is in full swing! You are celebrating 75 years, what a milestone! The agenda is almost set, and we have a bunch of great speakers lined up based on the feedback received from those who filled out the survey sent as well as the great work from your CCMFOA Board Members' suggestions. It should be a great time in Manhattan. We will be back at the Hilton Garden Inn, March 19-21st. Our keynote for the conference is Danny Adams who will be presenting on Laughter is Medicine. Let's face it, with everything going on, we all need to just laugh sometimes!

Do not forget to renew your 2025 membership! Membership information is posted on the website as well as a few emails have been sent out about it. If you have any questions or can't remember if you have renewed, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Laura and we can look into it. Just a reminder, listserv access will be updated in early February and only those that have renewed will be able to access the listserv.

Member Clicks is coming! There have been some hiccups with the development team, but I believe it has been sorted out now and it's on its way to being completed. This is a very exciting platform that will allow you to view your own education credit information as well as certain membership resources like the Wings Newsletter will be available through this portal.

I'm very excited for this year and all the fun things that are coming! Please reach out to me anytime you have suggestions for topics, and we can make sure to get something on the agenda.

Jamie Buster

*Institute Director/Talent & Professional Services Manager
Public Policy & Management Center*

LEAGUE OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES UPDATE

We've made it halfway through the legislative session! As you may or may not have heard, there have been some "interesting" happenings. To me this session has had a much different feel, a more aggressive and volatile feel. Every session has times that the local voice needs to be heard but given the atmosphere I feel that is the case now more than ever.

As always there have been lots of bills introduced that could have intended and unintended consequences for municipalities. A few legislators have been very firm that they have an opinion that will not be changed. Others seem very interested in hearing from local voices. Thank you to all you Clerks, your City Managers, and elected officials who have taken the time to send written testimony, appear in person, or appear via Webex. In addition to the alerts we all receive through the listserv, you can keep up on bills of interest on the LKM website. https://www.lkm.org/general/custom.asp?page=Legislative_Tracking and sign up to receive video updates every Friday. This year's fight is not over. Both chambers will be moving fast and furious. As always, we need to be on alert. Calls for testimony will have very short turnarounds. Our City voices are heard (though at times I know it doesn't feel like it) and are vital to the passage of good legislation. If you could use some help with testifying, LKM has a one-page tips sheet, as well as a one-page guide to effective advocacy.

City Forums will be kicking off in April and registrations are opening up. These are great opportunities to communicate ideas and network, especially when legislators participate. This year we will be in Bel Aire April 2nd; Lindsborg April 3rd; Humboldt May 7th; Lenexa May 8th; Goodland June 4th; and Garden City June 5th. Be watching on Listserv or visit [LKM.org](https://www.lkm.org) for information and a registration link. Come join us!

One final note, keep your eyes open throughout the year for training opportunities to be posted on Listserv. Some of these opportunities will be virtual.

**IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT**

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: The Legislature is in full swing. Are you keeping up on the issues that affect your cities?

It isn't too late to reach out to your Senators and Representatives (probably one of their staff) to communicate the views of your council and residents.

Keep up with what is going on in the Legislature every Friday by watching the League of Kansas Municipalities Weekly Update here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e03kugbu9D0>

If you haven't already signed up to be a Key Contact with the League for urgent legislation, please do so here: <https://www.lkm.org/page/KeyContacts>

There are a number of issues that will come before the Legislature this year. Be watching the Legislative webpage for upcoming and proposed legislation.

If you see an issue that isn't highlighted through the League and you know it could have an impact on your community, please reach out to someone at LKM and your Senate and House representatives.

To see what legislation is being considered go here to start your search: https://www.kslegislature.gov/li/b2025_26/chamber/calendars/

We look forward to seeing you all at the CCMFOA Spring Conference in March!

Jeannie Johnson
Legislative Committee Chair

CCMFOA SCHOLARSHIPS —A glance at the investment in Kansas Clerks!

WOW! Let the Money Flow for Continued Education!

CCMFOA is making it rain with scholarships this year, ensuring our Kansas Clerks get the education they need to thrive! Investing in continued education is a priority, and thanks to these scholarships, our clerks can sharpen their skills, expand their knowledge, and continue serving their communities with excellence.

Here's the breakdown of the scholarships awarded this year:

Fall Institute Scholarships

A big round of applause for the following recipients:

- **Sarah McKinsey*** – City of Onaga
- **Sarah Glass** – City of Buhler
- **MaKayla Green** – City of Turon
- **Nikki Goding*** – City of Salina
- **Lindsay Clark*** – City of Clay Center
- **Miranda Robinson** – City of Downs
- **Destiny Schrick*** – City of Valley Falls
- **Chandra Hughes*** – City of Scott City

(First-time attendees are marked with an asterisk! Welcome to the experience!)

Fall Master Academy Scholarships

Another round of cheers for:

- **Amanda Horner** – City of Lucas
- **Hanna Eilert** – City of Osborne

Special Sedgwick County Association of Cities Scholarships

A special thanks to the Sedgwick County Association of Cities for funding these extra scholarships.

The lucky winners are:

- **Jaye Poe** – City of Clearwater
- **Lisa Frederick** – City of Bentley
- **Nicole DeLuna** – City of Mount Hope

Spring Conference Scholarships

For the Spring Conference, three scholarships were awarded toward registration fees:

- **Lynell McGinnis** – City of Benton
- **Morgan J. Morgan** – City of Canton
- **Tamara Massey** – City of Melvern

2025 IIMC Conference Scholarships

With the upcoming IIMC Conference happening in Region 7, CCMFOA is ensuring Kansas Clerks can attend with financial assistance!

Full IIMC Scholarship Winner:

- **Melissa Reed** – City of Ottawa

\$500 IIMC Scholarships Winners:

- **Christy Gibson** – City of Greensburg
- **Dawn Boyles** – City of Hiawatha
- **Denise Duerksen** – City of Newton
- **Melissa Meiners** – City of Olathe

That's A LOT of continued education! CCMFOA has invested over **\$11,000** in scholarships to support city clerks in their educational pursuits this year. Congratulations to all the winners, and here's to another fantastic year of learning and professional growth!



International Institute of Municipal Clerks

Professionalism in Local Government

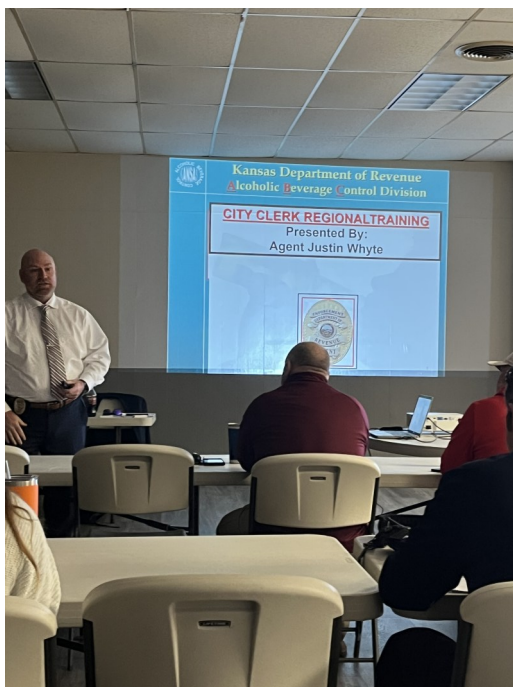


The following individuals have earned the prestigious Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC):

- **Christina Brake, CMC - City Clerk - City of Bonner Springs, KS**
- **Tania Richardson, CMC - City Clerk/Director of Customer Service - City of Winfield, KS**
- **Tamara Massey, CMC - City Clerk - City of Melvern, KS**

REGION 2 TRAINING SESSION

Region 2 held a training session on February 28, 2025, with the Kansas Department of Revenue. Included is a photo from the training session.



Region 2 Clerks Alicia Hidalgo, City of Liberal, and Sarah Britton, City of Ulysses, attended an ABC Session on February 28, 2025, which was put on by ABC Enforcement Agent Justin M. Whyte (pictured).



CCMFOA OF KANSAS
TREASURER'S REPORT
10/01/24 through 2/01/2025

Beginning Balance Checking Account: October 1, 2024	<u>\$112,714.57</u>
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Income (Deposits):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/1/2024	WSU - Membership (July-September)	\$1,749.30
11/1/2024	50/50	\$58.00
11/1/2024	50/50	\$145.00
11/1/2024	50/50	\$5.00
Total Income		<u>\$1,957.30</u>

Expenses:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Check No</u>	<u>Payable To</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10/1/2024	EFT	EMC Insurance	GL Policy	\$100.33
10/8/2024	2142	WSU	3rd Qtr Billing	\$12,590.20
10/24/2024	2143	Hogeye	CCMFOA Pins	\$2,260.00
10/31/2024	2144	City of Osborne	H. Eilert - Academy Scholarship	\$516.17
10/31/2024	2145	City of Clay Center	L. Clark - Institute Scholarship	\$787.58
10/31/2024	2146	City of Clearwater	J. Poe - SCAC Scholarship	\$500.00
10/31/2024	2147	City of Mount Hope	N. DeLuna - SCAC Scholarship	\$455.13
10/31/2024	2148	City of Lucas	A. Horner - Academy Scholarship	\$525.95
10/31/2024	2149	City of Buhler	S. Glass - Institute Scholarship	\$709.17
10/31/2024	2150	City of Scott City	C. Hughes - Institute Scholarship	\$787.58
10/31/2024		Central National Bank	Monthly Fee	\$5.00
11/1/2024	2151	City of Onaga	S. McKinsey - Institute Scholarship	\$803.93
11/1/2024	EFT	EMC Insurance	GL Policy	\$100.33
11/1/2024	2152	City of Salina	N. Goding - Institute Scholarship	\$771.26
11/4/2024	2153	City of Turon	M. Green - Institute Scholarship	\$771.26
11/6/2024	2154	City of Valley Falls	D. Schrick - Institute Scholarship	\$771.26
11/8/2024	2155	City of Downs	M. Robinson - Institute Scholarship	\$771.26
11/29/2024	EFT	EMC Insurance	GL Policy	\$100.33
11/29/2024		Central National Bank	Monthly Fee	\$5.00
12/11/2024	2156	City of Bentley	L. Frederickson - SCAC Scholarship	\$500.00
12/31/2024		Central National Bank	Monthly Fee	\$5.00
1/2/2025	EFT	EMC Insurance	GL Policy	\$100.33
1/9/2025	2157	WSU	4th Qtr Billing	\$12,590.20
1/17/2025	2158	City of Greensburg	C. Gibson - IIMC Scholarship	\$500.00
1/27/2025	2159	City of Olathe	M. Meiners - IIMC Scholarship	\$500.00
1/30/2025	Debit	WSU	Q2 Website Maintenance - Oct-Dec 2024	\$747.25
1/31/2025		Central National Bank	Monthly Fee	\$5.00
Total Expenses				<u>\$38,279.52</u>

Ending Balance Checking Account:	<u>\$76,392.35</u>
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Balance in Checking	<u>\$76,392.35</u>
Central National Bank CD @ 4.17% - matures 02/19/2026	<u>\$45,565.89</u>
Central National Bank CD @ 4.025% - matures 1/30/26	<u>\$34,200.31</u>
Total funds as of February 1, 2025	<u>\$156,158.55</u>