

# re-KAPPP

Kansas Association of Public Purchasing Professionals, est. 1983



## Strategizing in 2025

Spring is the time for new beginnings, a fresh start, and renewal.

-Les Brown

## President's Message

Happy New Year, KAPPP Members!

We're energized to carry our momentum into 2025! The Board has been diligently working to refine the Strategic Plan, with virtual meetings held in December (2024) and January (2025) to finalize its details. I am very pleased to announce the Strategic Plan is now available to all members under our Document Library! A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who contributed their time and expertise to shape the future of our chapter and set us on a path for ongoing success.

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### Inside This Issue:

- Chapter Updates
- Professional Development
- KAPPP & NIGP Events
- Membership Info



### Scholarships Available

Financial support is now available for your professional development activities. KAPPP members who are in need of assistance to attend our chapter events or an NIGP-sponsored event may apply. To apply, log into your members only access at [kapppp.org](https://kapppp.org) and submit your application through KAPPP Member Resources.

### Your Feedback is Needed!

We are encouraging all KAPPP members to take the 2025 Engagement Survey. By sharing your insights, you will be helping to shape the events, programs, and professional development opportunities for KAPPP members.

Click to take the survey:  
[2025 Member Engagement Survey](#)

Find KAPPP online:



[kapppp.org](https://kapppp.org)



KAPPP-NIGP



Kansas Assoc. of Public  
Purchasing Professionals

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## President's Message (Continued)

I am privileged to serve as your President this year and look forward to continuing our progress. My priorities include fostering member engagement, enhancing professional development opportunities, and connecting with emerging professionals in the purchasing field. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our fantastic volunteers! If you'd like to get involved, please email us at [info@kappp.org](mailto:info@kappp.org). Whether you can assist with a one-time project or join a committee, there's always a place for you to make an impact.

Looking ahead, we're excited to bring back virtual monthly coffee talks with a rotating selection of topics curated by the KAPPP Work Group. Check out the Event Calendar on our website for details and registration. Don't miss these excellent opportunities to learn and network with your peers!

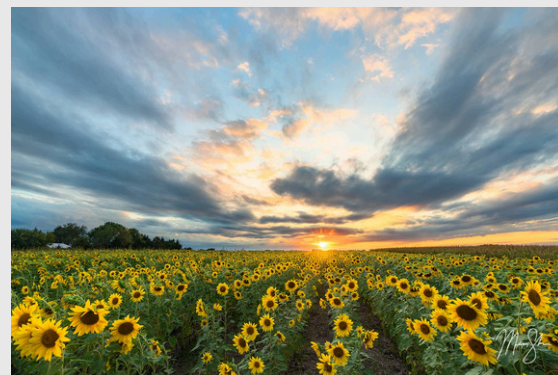
Your feedback is essential to shaping the engagements we provide. The Membership Survey is open now; your input truly drives the direction of our efforts, and we encourage everyone to participate.

Here's to a productive and inspiring year ahead, KAPPP members. Together, let's continue to elevate the procurement profession in Kansas and beyond!

Warm regards,  
Lisa Robbins, KAPPP President

## Strategic Planning for 2025

On January 13, 2025, the KAPPP Board and Chairpersons convened for a strategic planning session to chart the future of the chapter and strengthen its impact on public procurement in Kansas. The result is a forward-thinking Strategic Plan designed to enhance member engagement, professional development, and industry collaboration.



With a strong commitment to education, transparency, and ethical procurement practices, the plan outlines key initiatives to increase volunteer participation by creating more opportunities for members to participate by joining committees, launching a member recognition program, and enhancing communication through a quarterly newsletter. To support professional development, KAPPP will introduce scholarships, mentorship programs, and study groups to help members pursue certifications. Outreach efforts will include job fair participation and a mentoring program to attract new professionals to the field.

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## Strategic Planning for 2025 (continued)

Additionally, KAPPP aims to grow membership through personalized outreach and retention strategies while strengthening supplier partnerships by expanding sponsorship opportunities, hosting a bi-annual reverse vendor fair, and organizing a regional trade show.

Financial sustainability remains a priority, with a focus on transparent reporting, budget accountability, and an annual financial review.

Through this strategic direction, KAPPP is dedicated to empowering its members and fostering a dynamic, well-connected community that drives excellence in public procurement across Kansas.

# Meet Your Board

## Executive Officers



**Lisa Robbins**  
President



**Nicole Hogan**  
Vice President



**Tammy Culley**  
Treasurer



**Kyra Smith**  
Secretary



**Chris Haislett**  
Immediate Past  
President

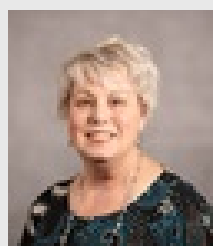
## Directors



**Annette West**  
Communications



**Joe Thomas**  
Elections &  
Nominations



**Lee Barrier**  
Special Events



**Leigha Boling**  
Programs  
Engagement

## Chairs

**Jacob Crowder**, Membership

- Open Positions: (1) Professional Development, (2) Webmaster, and (3) Scholarship / Award

## Did You Know?

Managing Tail Spend can be achieved by identifying high-volume, low-value purchases, streamlining internal processes, and making data-based decisions.

# March is Procurement Month

Every March, we recognize the invaluable contributions of the public procurement profession and the people in the significant roles shaping our communities. Procurement Month is more than a celebration - it's an acknowledgment of the expertise, dedication, and innovation that procurement professionals bring to shaping a better future. From infrastructure and healthcare to education and technology, procurement drives progress and strengthens public trust.

Public procurement has a rich history, dating back to ancient Egypt, where scribes meticulously tracked materials for the construction of the pyramids. Over the centuries, procurement evolved into a strategic function, driving efficiency, ethical sourcing, and economic growth. Today, members of KAPPP are explorers, problem-solvers, visionaries - leveraging their expertise to deliver solutions that make a tangible difference in people's lives.

As we honor Procurement Month, we celebrate YOU - the professionals who ensure that government operations run smoothly, taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly, and the needs of our communities are met with integrity and efficiency. Your work is indispensable, and your contributions are shaping the future. **Thank you for all that you do!**

## KAPPP Celebrates Its Members





## Membership Agencies Recognize Purchasing Month



### Johnson County

On March 13<sup>th</sup>, Chairman Mike Kelly of the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners signed a proclamation to declare March as Purchasing Month.

Later in the month, the Purchasing team rolled out the red carpet, hosting a reception on March 25<sup>th</sup> that brought employees together with procurement professionals for an afternoon of learning, networking, and great conversation. Guests had the chance to connect, dive into training on ethics and best practices, and get a fundamental overview of the world of purchasing.

The event was a hit, with a fantastic turnout and plenty of buzz about when the next one will be. With such great energy and enthusiasm, the Johnson County members can't wait to do it again!

*There's no greater challenge and there is no greater honor than to be in public service.*  
—Condoleezza Rice

### Sedgwick County

On March 5, 2025, Sedgwick County proudly recognized Public Procurement Professionals Month with an official proclamation presented by Chairman Ryan Baty of the Board of County Commissioners. In his remarks, Chairman Baty emphasized the vital role public procurement professionals play in driving the efficiency and effectiveness of both government and business operations.

He highlighted the value these professionals bring to the organization through their expertise in executing, implementing, and managing contracts, developing strategic procurement approaches, and fostering strong working relationships. Chairman Baty also underscored their commitment to the core principles of accountability, ethics, impartiality, professionalism, service, and transparency—values that guide and define the profession.

Sedgwick County's proclamation stands as a tribute to the dedication and impact of procurement professionals and their continued efforts to support responsible and effective public service.



## Management Matters

The benefits of managing Tail Spend include reduced risk, gained insights into patterns, increased efficiencies, additional cost savings, and improved stakeholder satisfaction.

# Upcoming Events

For more information and to register for the events below, please log-in to your member account at [KAPPP.org](https://KAPPP.org).

## KAPPP's Monthly Meetings: Coffee Talks

Join us for a monthly meeting of the membership to collaborate, share best practices, and address common challenges to our industry.

### April

**25<sup>th</sup> KAPPP Membership Meeting: Coffee Talk**  
Virtual - Zoom Meeting  
From 12 - 1:30 PM CST

**29<sup>th</sup> NIGP VCON Conference (Day 1)**  
Virtual

**30<sup>th</sup> NIGP VCON Conference (Day 2)**  
Virtual

### May

**1<sup>st</sup> NIGP VCON Conference (Day 3)**  
Virtual

**1<sup>st</sup> Lourdes Coss: Team Dynamics**  
Virtual - Zoom Meeting  
12 - 1 PM CST or 2 - 3 PM CST

**16<sup>th</sup> KAPPP Membership Meeting: Coffee Talk**  
Virtual - Zoom Meeting  
From 12 - 1:30 PM CST

### June

**5<sup>th</sup> Lourdes Coss: Self Leadership**  
Virtual - Zoom Meeting  
12 - 1 PM CST or 2 - 3 PM CST

**20<sup>th</sup> KAPPP Membership Meeting: Coffee Talk**  
Virtual - Zoom Meeting  
From 12 - 1:30 PM CST



## Learn with Lourdes Coss

Lourdes Coss, MPA, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, is a trusted expert in public procurement with extensive experience. In her monthly webinar trainings, she explores strategies for creating cohesive, high-performing teams within procurement. Discover leadership practices that encourage collaboration, embrace change, and establish a culture of continuous improvement for sustainable team success. These trainings are offered as an included membership benefit to all KAPPP members.

## NIGP Forum 2025

The National Institute of Government Purchasing's flagship event - Forum, will be a celebration of 80 years of public procurement excellence. Experience the learning and networking by attending in-person or virtually.

This event will be from **July 27 - 30**.

For financial assistance to attend, see the cover page of this newsletter for support from KAPPP.

