Kansas County Highway Association

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Dear KCHA Members,

For the past couple of years, the Kansas County Highway Association has been "Gearing Up" for 2019 to host the National Association of County Engineers annual conference in Wichita, Ks. I am extremely proud of the efforts that the KCHA members have made in the planning of this event and I look forward to working with everyone as we execute our plan.

Attached with this letter is your 2019 KCHA membership dues invoice and a blank membership invoice for those wishing to become a new KCHA member. Please forward the blank invoice to anyone who may be interested. Membership with the American Road and Transportation Builders is also included with your KCHA membership at no extra cost. If you do not wish to become a member, please disregard the invoice. I highly encourage, however, each Kansas County to have at least one KCHA member within your organization. KCHA provides numerous benefits and opportunities for counties. Below is a non-inclusive list of what your membership to the KCHA offers your county.

1. Provides a network with your peers in order to exchange ideas and information.
2. Single point of contact for KDOT to provide information to counties.
3. Assists with LTAP to provide valuable training opportunities.
4. Provides feedback to KDOT on policy changes, design criteria, and Federal regulations that may negatively affect counties.
5. Provides technical support to the Kansas Association of Counties on legislative issues. We are your voice in Topeka.
6. Supports the KAC Local Road Engineer who provides us with valuable information so that we may perform our jobs better.
7. Provides technical education through the Spring Conference and fall meeting.

I am excited to inform you about another benefit of becoming a KCHA member. The Executive Board of the KCHA has generously approved a "Registration Reimbursement Incentive Program" (RRIP) for the NACE conference. RRIP is only available to KCHA members. The KCHA will reimburse each County for two (2) full NACE conference registrations. Each conference registration is $645 for NACE members. If a county sends two individuals to the conference, they can be reimbursed a total of $1,290. Additionally, the executive board is excited to share that each KCHA member going to the NACE conference will also receive a blue KCHA polo or button down shirt. The purpose of this program is to incentivize KCHA members to become more engage within our organization. We are happy to offer RRIP, but the KCHA Executive Board has established some expectations for receiving this reimbursement. Each recipient of RRIP must:

1. Volunteer to help with the conference, if requested
2. Attend technical sessions
3. Attend Tuesday night social event at Sedgwick County Zoo
4. Attend Wednesday night banquet

Reimbursements will be made after the conference. In order to prepare for volunteer needs and shirt orders, it is necessary to begin building a database of NACE conference attendees. If you will be attending the conference, please email or call Jim Brull, Lyon County, at jbrull@lyoncounty.org or 620-340-8222. Please provide Jim with the following information:

- Name
- Email and phone number
- Do you text (We may need to text with volunteers during the conference)
- Shirt type (polo or long sleeve button down) and size.

After you contact Jim Brull, the next step will be to obtain your hotel reservation. The Hyatt Regency Wichita may be full but you can still call them at 316-293-1234 for reservations. If the Hyatt does not have available rooms, call the Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview at 316-262-5000. At either location let the hotel know you are with the NACE conference in order to get a special room rate.

The third step in the process to register for the NACE conference is to obtain a NACE member login. In order to obtain a member username and password, you must call Connie Radoulovitch at the NACE office. Connie's phone number is 1-202-393-5041. You may skip this step if you have a username and password from a previous year. Then, go to the NACE website at www.naceevents.org, login as a member, and register for the conference. You can register as a NACE member even if you have not yet paid your NACE membership. Your county, however, should be receiving a NACE membership form shortly after receiving this letter.

Below is a summary of the steps needed to register for the NACE conference. Of course, you may always call my office at 785-826-6527 with questions. I am happy to help in any way.

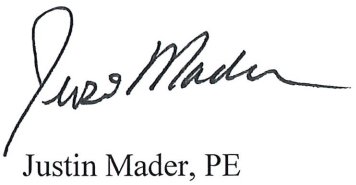
Step 1. Contact Jim Brull about attending conference
Step 2. Get hotel reservation
Step 3. Contact NACE to establish NACE member login
Step 4. Register for the conference

A few other conferences worth noting in 2019 include:

- The 101st Annual Kansas Transportation Engineering Conference, April 9 & 10th, K-State Student Union
- The MINK Conference, September 25 & 26th, St Joseph, MO

If you have ideas, concerns or suggestions, please talk with any of the KCHA Executive Board members. This is your organization and we should all strive to make it as strong as we can. It is truly an honor to serve as your President for 2019.

Sincerely,



Justin Mader, PE
Saline County Engineer