

Kansas Hispanic & Latino American
Affairs Commission
900 SW Jackson, Suite 100
Topeka, KS 66612



Phone: (785) 296-2161
khlaac.ks.gov

Irma Faudoa, Executive Director

Laura Kelly, Governor

KHLAAC MONTHLY COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, September 10th, 2025
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order Chairman DeLaRosa called the meeting to order at 11:00am

2. Roll Call of Commissioners, Staff, and Guests

a. Commissioners

Chairman Commissioner DeLaRosa -Present

Commissioner Ramos – not present,

Commissioner Gone – Present

Commissioner Padilla –not present

Commissioner Renteria – not present

Commissioner Jaramillo –present

Commissioner Del Aguila- present

b. Technical Advisors

Richard Martinez, State of Kansas

Israel Sanchez, Advisor, Director of equity and business Development Go TOPEKA

Mariana Ramirez, Advisor JUNTOS

c. Guests

Blanca Soto, Dodge city Migrant program,

Roxana Arjon – Assistant to the city manager, city of Dodge City

Manuel Castro, Go Topeka

Estrella Armenta, Guest

3. Establish Quorum

Quorum established

4. Review and Approval of Agenda

Reviewed agenda

Commissioner Gone moves to make motion

Commissioner DelAguila seconds

All in favor, none opposed

5. Approval of Previous Month Meeting

Approve last Aug and July meeting minutes.

Commissioner Del Aguila makes motion to approve

Commissioner Jaramillo second motion

All approve none opposed

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6. Guest Presentation

Maryam Abid, The Voter Network, Volunteer Engagement Coordinator
Increase voter registration nonprofit all through the state of Kansas. All in English and Spanish. Much of the work of this agency is to bring awareness regarding voting and how to civically engage with the community.

LOW VOTER TURNOUT HURTS OUR COMMUNITIES

- **Less than 25%** of registered KS voters participate in local elections.
- The people who do vote are **older, whiter and wealthier** than the population as a whole.
- Candidates and political parties have limited resources for talking to nonvoters, forming a **low-information loop**.
- **Civic engagement** (voting, volunteering, and activism) among young adults is positively associated with better future income, education levels and mental health compared to non-voters

2022 data shows that 86% white people are registered of age eligible Kansas compared to only 64% Hispanics and 56% Black.

It is important to provide education so we can see a higher rate of engagement from the population that is not accessing their civil rights. Our votes as Latino matter, sometimes there is a very narrow difference between votes. It is important to raise our voices so that we can choose who we want to represent us.

This organization works to empower individuals to talk to their friends and others since they are already trusted voices. The Voter to Voter program makes things personal and it's effective. Teams are built of friends, family members, and neighbors who talk to people they already know. Individuals that are ambassadors only pick 10 people to be in their team.

Many individuals around us just vote in national elections and not in more local or state elections. It is important to educate so individuals can benefit from the information provided since many are not really engaged or know which individuals are running for office.

Hutchinson, Newton and Salina, were cities part of a pilot program that they have been able to now track rates as times have gone by. Many of the individuals that don't vote just need a reminder and help them understand the importance of voting.

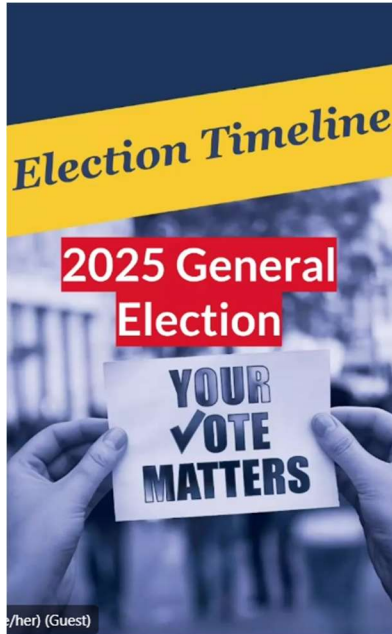
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Each week Ambassadors have a different conversation with each voter on your contact list. These conversations are based on the election timeline:

October 14	Voter Registration Deadline
October 15	Voting By Mail Begins
October 15	Early In-Person Voting Begins
October 28	Last day to request Mail-in Ballot
November 4	Election Day!
November 7	Mailed ballots must arrive at election office.

*Mail in ballots must be postmarked by election day



With Voter to Voter you can track if someone has requested a ballot or even if they voted. This year they are doing the Topeka Voter Collaborative Challenge called City2City there will be a kicking it off on Sept 24th.

maryam@thevoternetwork.org
cell: 785-979-8520

7. Old Business

a. Subcommittee Updates

Advocacy, Chairman DeLaRosa - Would like to get feedback on the 2026 legislative agenda. KHLAAC usually provides testimony on the issues that come up. It is important to know the themes across our National partners to see how to better tackle some of these issues. We would like to get feedback from individuals and have it ready before the 2026 legislative. Planning to host a Latino Legislative day at the capital, waiting for calendar to be available and once we have access to that calendar we will schedule the day. Will be working with other organizations that are aligned with us.

Event Planning, Commissioner Jaramillo – The agenda is set, and all work has been completed, will start at 8am will be done by 2:45p.m. Social media has started, and we are still working on some minor details. Fundraising we have committed \$22,500, probably a little more since there are still two organizations needed to confirm. We have Keynote speakers ready and who have worked at the federal level. All sessions are ready. Registration is registered at 72.

Communication, Commissioner Gone – Newsletter was done and sent, if any organization would like to receive the newsletter or would like to announce any upcoming events please send email to Irma. Team has also been working on social media graphics for summits and other events.



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As we move forward with Legislative oversight committee will draft talking points base on our Policy items to align all KHLAAC commissioners.

8. New Business

a. Executive Director Report

October 10th, leadership summit, general admission \$25.00. need to register.

KHLAAC Annual Leadership Summit October 10th, 2025

Hispanic Heritage Month Begins September 15th, 2025, through October 15th, 2025

Would like to thank JUNTOS, and the Mexican Consulate for the forums that went on in Dodge City and Garden City.

Remembering that tomorrow is September 11th as a day of Remembrance

9. Announcements from Commissioners and Technical Advisors/ Public Comment

None

10. Events Reminder:

11. Adjournment done at 11:43

Commissioner De La Rosa adjourned the meeting.