

LIGHTNING ROUND

July 2021

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Mark Your Calendar!

KPP's 8th Fall Planning Summit set for September 17 and 18

Rebounding from 2020, KPP's 8th annual Fall Planning Summit will be held in-person this year on September 17 and 18. The Wichita Drury Broadview Hotel is again this year's venue for the Summit.

A full day and the following morning are promised to be packed with compelling presentations.

Keynote addresses will be led by Robert Bryce, journalist and author of the book, *A Question of Power*, and by KMU's Colin Hansen, newly installed Board Chairman of the American Public Power Association.

Traditional favorites including spouse activities are planned as well as in-depth examinations of power supply, cost of service studies, battery storage, transmission improvements, funding availability for electric vehicle charging and fleet conversion and a case study on how one small city is tackling big utility issues.

More Summit details are coming. Watch your inbox and register now at www.kpp.agency.

[Click on the banner](#)



FALL PLANNING SUMMIT
Fri.-Sat. Sept. 17-18, 2021

Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview
Wichita, Kansas



[Click here to register](#)
Registration deadline: Thurs., August 19, 2021

NEXT BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY,
AUGUST 19, 2021, 11:30am
In Person and Virtually through
Microsoft Teams

Municipal Cyber Academy Completed in June

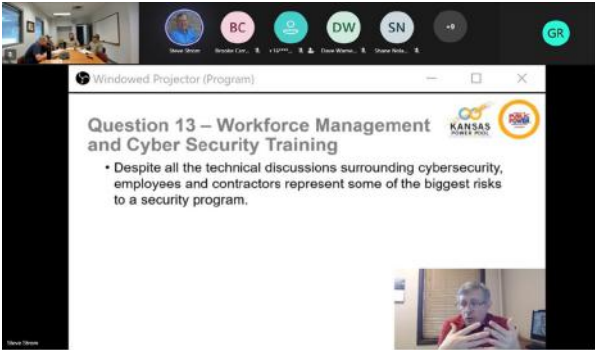
Virtual Classes Trained 26 Representatives of KPP Cities

June was again busy for KPP Staff, Custom Internet Services and KPP Members as another round of the Municipal Cyber Academy was completed. Classes held virtually made the 15-module presentation available to 26 representatives of KPP members.

With classes held over all five Tuesdays in June, KPP members were engaged each day for two hours. With emphasis again given to the curriculum developed in 2018, the cyber scorecard facilitated focus on readiness, awareness, best practices for cyber hygiene and remediation.

The Academy was originally a collaborative effort between KPP, Custom Internet Services, AP-PA, and the Department of Energy. With in-person classes intended for future gatherings, classes were once again this time facilitated by Steve Strom and Gavin Rose of Custom Internet Services. The Academy has received national recognition.

Municipal Cyber Academy graduates this summer included: Marc Cain, Ty Erwin, Braden Harp, Josh Hawley, Tim Johnson, Mike Miller, Dominic Mosier, Rick Nash, Shane Noland, Kyle Price, Levi Smith, Jim Sutton, Cody Warner, Dave Warner, and Bryant Wonkey of Augusta; Nick Roth and Caci Smith of Ellinwood; Cindy Lero and Melissa Stevens of Erie; Tiffany Jeffrey of Marion; Lachelle Tootle of Mulvane; Teresa Denning of Oxford; Marc Brownlee of Wellington and Troy Archer, Matt Ellis, and Clint Gregor of Winfield.



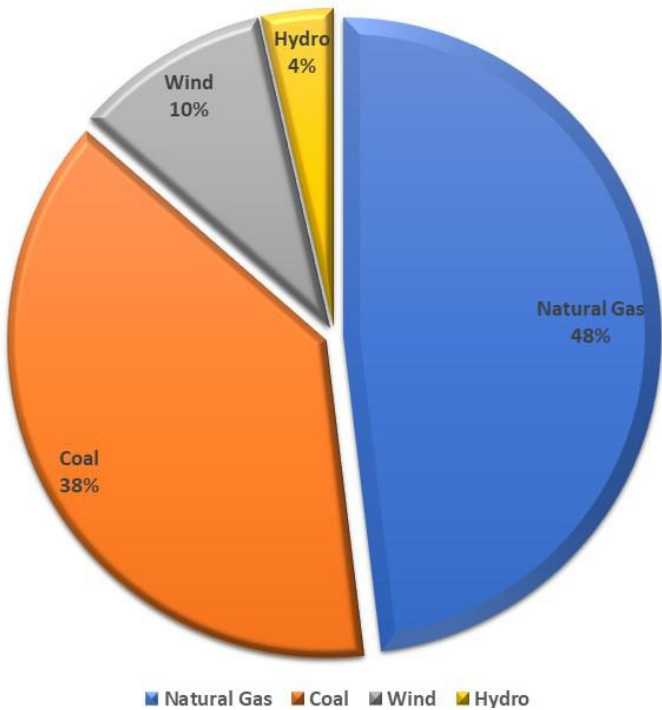
Steve Strom, Custom Internet Services, instructs attendees at the Municipal Cyber Academy in June.

A copy of the recorded Academy presentations as well self-study materials are available. Contact Brooke Carroll, bc Carroll@kpp.agency for assistance.

June 2021

Distribution of Energy Resources

Fuel Source of KPP Resources in June, 2021



Search Commences for Next CEO/General Manager

Search to be Coordinated with Chesney’s January Retirement

Lanie Mycoff, of the recruiting firm Mycoff Fry Partners, led the Board meeting discussion items on July 15th as KPP set about to begin searching for the Pool’s next CEO/General Manager.



Lanie Mycoff of Mycoff Fry Partners

The Mycoff firm, nationally known for expertise in public power, was also engaged when a similar search was last conducted for KPP in 2012.

Engaging the Board for more than one hour on KPP’s external and internal challenges and opportunities, the discussion produced a general outline of the skills and background needed in an ideal candidate. Discussion was robust with views and expectations voiced by each Board member and others. Prospective salary ranges were also discussed. Appreciation was expressed for Staff talent already in place in areas of accounting, finance, operations, member services and general communications.



Following the formal creation of a search subcommittee of the Board, an intended timeline was approved calling for the interviewing of suitable candidates this fall. A selection would be anticipated to suitably coincide with Mark Chesney’s retirement at the end of January 2022.

Bryce and Hansen to Lead Keynote Addresses

Industry Thought Leaders Headline Fall Planning Summit

This year’s Fall Planning Summit will feature morning and afternoon keynote addresses by author and journalist Robert Bryce and by Colin Hansen, KMU executive director and newly installed Board Chairman of the American Public Power Association.

Robert Bryce has been writing about energy, power, innovation, and politics for more than three decades. He is the acclaimed author of six books, including most recently, *A Question of Power: Electricity and the Wealth of Nations*. His articles have appeared in dozens of publications, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Austin Chronicle*, *Guardian*, and *Forbes*. Bryce has been featured in news outlets ranging from Fox News to Al Jazeera. He is the host of the Power Hungry Podcast and the co-producer of a new feature-length documentary: *Juice: How Electricity Explains the World*, which is available on iTunes, Amazon Prime, and other streaming services.



Robert Bryce

Colin Hansen has served twenty-one years as Executive Director of Kansas Municipal Utilities. In this capacity he has directed and personally advocated in a range of legislative, training topics as well as having led in the impressive growth of the statewide association in Kansas serving 185 municipals. Colin has worked in the municipal utility industry for over 26 years. Prior to joining KMU, Colin worked for the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU) in a number of capacities including Assistant Executive Director. Colin is a graduate of Iowa State University with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Drake University with a Masters in Business Administration. In June he was installed as Board Chair of the American Public Power Association and is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Mid-West Electric Consumers Association.



Colin Hansen

Highlights of July 15th Board of Directors Meeting

- **Financial Report (and Supplemental):** Vickie Matney reported that the recent KPP bond issuance closed on the 13th. This made possible a reimbursement to KPP of approximately \$3.7 million on projects where funds had already been expended.
- **2nd Quarter Cyber Security Report:** Gavin Rose reminded the Board that both external and internal vulnerabilities are carefully monitored throughout each day. For the quarter there was a slight uptick in phishing emails and the need to quarantine. During the quarter, Custom Internet Service and KPP Staff personnel participated in a ransomware tabletop exercise. That is currently under evaluation on lessons learned. Gavin reported that KPP's fairly new implementation of multi-factor authentication is showing that security controls are working. On a separate measure of protection, Steve Strom explained the implementation of "immutable backups" assuring that backups that cannot be deleted are protected over an extended time.
- **CEO/GM Search** (details reported separately in this edition of the *Lightning Round*)
- **Review of the KPP 2nd Amended Operating Agreement:** Mark Chesney reviewed the terms and conditions of this document pointing out that now only 2/3rds voting approval on document changes was among the most recently approved amendment to the Agreement.



The KPP Board and others listen on July 15th to the employment search discussion



Board meeting file photos of James Ging and Brooke Carroll



- **Operations Report:** Among other topics, Larry Holloway reported on the Evergy Sustainable Transformation Plan suggesting that future changes may be needed in KPP's suggested parallel generation format charge
- **Administrative Services:** Brooke Carroll touched on funding possibilities for electrifying city fleets and on upcoming Public Power Week recognition assistance.