

## Statement of Policy

### Cellular Phones

WHEREAS Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties (KWORCC) has members who use cellular phones for county business;

WHEREAS the use of cellular phones while driving is inherently dangerous;

WHEREAS KWORCC has recommended that its membership adopt a policy encouraging county employees to refrain from using cellular phones while driving; and,

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of \_\_\_\_\_ County to provide a safe workplace and protect its employees from injury and loss while using cellular phones for county business;

NOW, THEREFORE, it shall be the policy of \_\_\_\_\_ County that any employee of \_\_\_\_\_ County is required to abide by the following policy:

An employee who uses a county supplied vehicle is prohibited from using a cell phone, hands on or hands free, or similar device while driving, whether the business conducted is personal or county-related. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, receiving or placing calls, text messaging, surfing the Internet, receiving or responding to email, or checking for phone messages.

\_\_\_\_\_ County is aware that employees utilize their personal or county-supplied cellular phones for business purposes. At the same time, cell phones are a distraction in the workplace. To ensure the effectiveness of meetings, employees are asked to leave cell phones at their desk. Or, on the unusual occasion of an emergency or anticipated emergency that requires immediate attention, the cell phone may be carried to the meeting on vibrate mode.

\_\_\_\_\_ County is aware that employees currently use their cell phones for business purposes while driving in their personal vehicle. Due to research that indicates that cell phone use while driving is dangerous, and may even approach the equivalent danger of driving while drunk, the county prohibits employee use of personal cellular phones for county business while driving. In the event of an emergency and you need to place a call while driving, you are required to stop your vehicle in a safe location so that you can use your cell phone or similar device. Engaging in county business using a cell phone or similar device while driving is prohibited.