

Contact: Nick Hernandez
Phone: (620) 441-4414
Fax: (620) 441-0869
nhernandez@arkansascityks.gov

City Manager's Office
City of Arkansas City
118 W. Central Ave.
Arkansas City, KS 67005



Press Release

City manager receives ICMA Credentialed Manager designation

Hernandez joins ranks of 1,300 credentialed in earning prestigious honor

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 13, 2015) — Nickolaus Hernandez, city manager of the City of Arkansas City, recently received the Credentialed Manager designation from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

Hernandez is now one of more than 1,300 local government management professionals currently credentialed through the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program, and just one of 25 serving in Kansas.

“The success of a city is crucial to the strengths and knowledge of their city manager,” said Mayor Chad Giles. “I would put our city manager, staff and employees up against any in the state.”

ICMA’s mission is to create excellence in local governance by promoting professional management worldwide and increasing the proficiency of appointed chief administrative officers, assistant administrators, and other employees who serve local governments and regional entities around the world. The organization’s nearly 9,000 members in 27 countries also include educators, students and other local government employees.

To receive the prestigious ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government; have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field; and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development.

“Nick has brought a progressive, forward-thinking mentality to Arkansas City, and his knowledge and vision are irreplaceable,” Giles said. “This accreditation is just another example of what Nick brings to this community.”

Hernandez is qualified by his eight years of professional local government executive experience.

For immediate release

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Prior to his appointment in 2011 as city manager of Arkansas City, he served as city manager of Osage City from 2008 to 2011. Before that, he was a management intern and management assistant from 2007 to 2008 with the City of Salina.

"It is hard for someone to truly become part of a close-knit community like Arkansas City, but in my mind, Nick has done that," Giles said.

Hernandez received his bachelor of science degree in justice studies, with a minor in political science, from Fort Hays State University in 2005. He later earned a master of public administration degree from Wichita State University in 2007, with certificates in public finance and city management.

Highlights of Hernandez's ICMA membership include serving as vice president of the Kansas Association of City/County Management. He will become the organization's president this fall. Hernandez also served as its secretary from 2013 to 2014 and was a board member from 2011 to 2012.

For more information regarding the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program, contact Jenese Jackson at ICMA, 777 North Capitol Street, N.E., #500, Washington, DC 20002-4201; jjackson@icma.org; or (202) 962-3556.

About the International City/County Management Association

ICMA, the International City/County Management Association, advances professional local government worldwide.

The organization's mission is to create excellence in local governance by developing and fostering professional management to build sustainable communities that improve people's lives.

ICMA provides member support; publications; data and information; peer and results-oriented assistance; and training and professional development to 9,000 city, town, and county experts, and other individuals and organizations throughout the world.

The management decisions made by ICMA's members affect millions of people in thousands of communities, from small villages and towns to large metropolitan areas.