### **Power BI: Finding its Place in Kansas Mass Appraisal**

*By Ryan Janzen, Lyon County, Technology Chair*

Imagine being able to immediately review final value and sales information at the click of a button — with the capability of sorting that information to give you an instant summary of the results. This year, KCAA President Kathy Bridges created a new committee with the objective of creating a Power BI dashboard that could be utilized statewide. This dashboard will help bring consistency and efficiency across the state when it comes to information processing.

Microsoft’s Power BI is a powerful data visualization software program that utilizes dashboards to display various data measures and visualization tools. Power BI can be tied to an external file (i.e. CSV file or SQL Server database) that stores a county’s local data. Any time that data file is updated, Power BI can be refreshed to return current, up-to-date results.

The Power BI Technology Committee will be working to create a Power BI dashboard that can be utilized statewide. The committee will be focused on creating a dashboard that displays information related to final values and sales information. The data could then be sorted and filtered based on neighborhood, property class, taxing unit and/or market area. The committee will be working to have a functioning dashboard available by summer 2022 and intends on delivering a presentation at the 2022 KCAA Annual Conference.

Reviewing appraised values and sales information is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to what this program can do. Eventually, the hope of the committee is to use this program for tracking workflows and production, relist/maintenance progress, CDU reviews, neighborhood analysis and data quality monitoring. Future plans are in place to even use Power BI to help with Final Review and End-of-Year Certification queries and reports.

This is a free program that can be used to help counties streamline certain workflows and data monitoring. For a small monthly fee, a Power BI dashboard could be published to a county website as a way of sharing information with the public. Power BI is a newer software application that is here to stay and will be an important tool in the future of the mass appraisal industry. The possibilities of Power BI are endless and the committee looks forward to sharing the progress made at the 2022 KCAA Conference.