From the Kansas Historical Society -

The State Highway Commission was created in 1917 and consisted of three members: the governor, who was the ex officio chairman; and two members appointed by him or her from districts defined by law. They served four-year terms. The commission was repealed in 1925 and was recreated, consisting of three members appointed by the governor from named districts for four-year terms. The commission from its own membership selected the chairman. In 1927, the membership of the commission was increased to six and the commission appointed a director. From 1933, the director was appointed by the commission on the recommendation of the governor, serving at his or her pleasure. Provision was made in the 1929 Laws for the Commission to establish rules and regulations governing the transaction of their business. In August 1975, the State Highway Commission of Kansas became the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Secretary of Transportation
Kansas Department of Transportation

For an overview of transportation history in Kansas, please see the KDOT publication “Milestones” at the links provided at right.