 

**Executive Committee Conference Call**September 9, 2021

1. **Jamal called the meeting to order at 10:04 am and gave a safety briefing. Attendees on the call were:**

Jamal Jessie (GA Power) Gregg Webb (Aubry Silvey) Dustin Dier (SE Connections)
Lindsay Silveus (Project Manager) Kenny Holliday (Southern Co) Sheri Braddick (Electric Cities of GA)

Nicole Miles-Sullivan (AGL) Corey Hines (AGL) Todd Day (Diversified Utilities)

Ashley Varnador (Pike) Angie Farsee (GTC) Diane McClearen (Oglethorpe)

Saundra King (TCSG) Rosa Schmidt (CEWD) Rita Wilson (GreyStone)

1. **Minutes of the last meeting**
	1. Lindsay failed to send the minutes of the last meeting out prior to this meeting. They were sent out after the meeting and any changes that need to be made will be sent to Lindsay via email.
2. **Treasurer’s Report**
	1. There has been no change to the Deposit Detail since mid-July.
	2. Aside from standard business expenses, the only changes to the Check Detail was a check to THINC College and Career Academy for the 2021 Lt. Governor’s Business & Education Summit ($500). Angie is holding $500 in outstanding payables upon approval of the CEWD EnergyCareers 2021 sponsorship.
	3. Membership dues are paid for 2021 and all the scholarship checks have cleared.
3. **Careers in Energy Week**
	1. The cost to sponsor a booth at EnergyCareers 2021 is $500 for the consortias and it was approved by the Executive Committee. Lindsay will send out a sign-up sheet for the day of the event so that the Executive Committee members can take shifts chatting in the virtual booth. Rosa said that the content from the booth last year is still available, so Lindsay will look at what was done last year and freshen/add new content.
	2. Various companies are holding events for Careers in Energy Week. Lindsay will work to compile a list of the events and have the list available on our website.
	3. Social Media: Lindsay will create a plan for the week utilizing information from companies, employee bios, etc. for the week. As needed, she will reach out to member organizations for additional information.
	4. Rosa asked that information about the STEM Innovation Challenge be put on the website and shared with schools as it will be launched during EnergyCareers2021. Fliers are available on the CEWD website. Diane suggested getting the information out to the Energy Pathway schools and perhaps Barbara Wall/Saundra King can help spread the information. Jamal suggested inviting the schools to watch the video announcement during EnergyCareers 2021.
4. **Lieutenant Governor Award Ceremony**
	1. This event and award presentation will be held October 5th. GEICC is a sponsor of this event and will present the award to the Student of the Year. Jamal asked if anyone was available to represent GEICC. Rita Wilson will be there and present the award.
5. **Virtual Mixer**
	1. Jamal and Corey discussed having a virtual or in person mixer for the Executive Committee and Board Members as there have been several changes to both groups. The committee determined that an in-person mixer is preferable but that it would be best to wait until COVID rates reduce. The topic was tabled to a later date.
6. **CEWD** **Updates**
	1. Current focus is on preparations for the Workforce Summit and Energy Careers 2021. The new website will go live at the end of the month.
7. **Roundtable comments**
	1. **Ashley Varnador:** Pike is hiring advanced lineworkers and have a need for gas workers, telecom, renewables, and engineering. There has always been a challenge to recruit advanced lineworkers.
	2. **Gregg Webb:** Facing challenges with employee retention. Aubry Silvey has begun a program with the Boys and Girls Ranch for at risk kids who have opted not to finish high school. The program brings them in half day for classroom work so they can get their GEDs. Currently there are 8 students. The program lasts for 3 months, but may last longer if some students need it.
	3. **Saundra King:** The changes in the CDL requirements take effect after the first of the year. After that time, students will need to take an approved CDL program before beginning the Lineworker training program. Only two schools in the Technical College System have an approved CDL program. If you have any questions about the CDL programs or Lineworker programs, please reach out to Saundra.
	4. **Lindsay Silveus:** Goal is to put content on the social media channels (Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn) each week. Please like and share as appropriate. It will help our reach and engagement across the state. Posts will be sponsored and promoted heavily during Careers in Energy Week. Jamal suggested a Tic Tok account to reach high school students.
	5. **Diane McClearen:** They have filled their open position (vacated by Mary Long) and the new person will be taking over Mary’s work with community outreach as well as governmental affairs.
	6. **Nicole Miles-Sullivan:** Very interested in learning more about Careers in Energy Week and how she can help provide support and information from gas careers.
	7. **Rita Wilson:** West Georgia Tech is beginning a Lineworker program in October. GreyStone will be giving scholarships. GreyStone is looking to fill 12 apprenticeship lineworkers. Because it is challenging to recruit experienced lineworkers, GreyStone has opted to recruit apprentices and train them. Rita is also recruiting someone for payroll and benefits.
	8. **Angie Farsee:** Last month Angie mentioned that GEICC member Roberta Hall is working with an organization called In the Door which promotes energy careers to diverse groups. Reach out to Angie if your individual company would like to participate with donations of money, time, or resources. Angie wanted to know if GEICC would like to participate. Jamal asked for the information to be resent and a decision will be made regarding GEICC’s participation.
8. **The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 14th at 10am.**
9. **Jamal ended the meeting at 11:05 a.m.**