

AWIP 2022 Board of Directors

Jennifer Henington

President



Jennifer Henington is a Project Manager for EDG Utilities Services Division, a consulting firm providing project management, construction engineering, safety and field oversight services to electric utilities and oil & gas customers. Jennifer holds a Bachelor's Degree of Science from Eastern Illinois University, and is working towards her Master's in Project Management from Missouri State University. She received her Project Management Professional (PMP) certification in 2017 and her Risk Management Professional (PMI-RMP) certification in 2019.

She has an extensive quality engineering background and made a career change in 2010, pivoting back to project management, her passion. She has worked in the oil and gas, and electric utility industries as a project manager for more than 14 years. Jennifer and her husband Greg reside in Maumelle, and her son Jacob lives in Illinois. She has served as Meetings Committee Chair, Treasurer, and Vice President (2 terms) for AWIP. Her previous volunteer roles include: Director of Student Outreach for Project Management Institute's Central Arkansas Chapter; Project Management for Youth (PM4Y); Character by Design Champion; and Committee Chairperson for Cub Scouts Pack 147.

Barbara Stroope

Vice President



Barbara Stroope is the Manager of the Day-Ahead Market with Southwest Power Pool which oversees the bulk electric grid and wholesale power market in the Central United States. Barbara has a Ph.D. in sociology from Tulane University and has worked in the energy industry for 11 years. Prior to joining SPP, Barbara worked at Acxiom in various roles and has a combined 10 years of experience leading teams. She currently serves as the Vice President of Education for the Chenal Toastmasters Club and is a past commissioner for the Conway Historic District. Barbara's favorite activity is exploring the natural beauty of Arkansas, and she's on a mission with her husband

and nine-year-old son to visit all 52 Arkansas State Parks.

April Sherrill-Buirse

Secretary



April Sherrill-Buirse has 24 years of experience at Entergy. She has worked for Arkansas Call Center as a Customer Service Representative III, in Training and Process Improvement as an Associate Analyst, Meter Service Specialist for Arkansas Mobile Data Center, Customer Service Specialist II for Customer Service Delivery-Service Assurance and currently work for Arkansas Work Management as an Analyst. Her current role includes auditing performance, analyzing processes, communicating errors, coordinating process gap discussions, creating strategic plans to raise performance, maintaining process changes, collaborating with management to create work reduction plan, and serving as business lead for projects. April Sherrill-Buirse is an active participant in the community. She served as Commissioner on the City of Little Rock Racial and Cultural Commission and tax preparer for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). She served as Co-Chair for Entergy Arkansas Diversity and Inclusion Council, Entergy Arkansas Political Action Committee (PAC) board member, member of the Entergy Arkansas Human Capital Management (HCM) Accountability team, and SharePoint site administrator for Issue Resolution. April currently serves as the Treasurer for Central Arkansas Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, Analyst for Rights After Wrongs Board, and EnShape Coordinator for her floor. April's main goal is to ensure that her customers' needs are met, both internal and external. Her motto is "Blooming where you are planted will help you grow and others as well." April holds a Bachelor's of Business Administration, General Business and a Bachelor's of Business Administration, Management from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. April also holds a Master of Business Administration, Human Resource Management from the University of Phoenix.

Elana Foley

Treasurer



Elana Foley is the Manager of Electric Cooperatives for the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC). The APSC regulates the intrastate rates and services of the public utilities in Arkansas and is charged with the duty of ensuring that the public utilities provide safe, adequate and reliable service at just and reasonable rates. Elana holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and a Master of Business Administration, both from the University of Central Arkansas. She has more than nineteen years of experience in utility regulation, accounting and finance including financial analysis, property accounting, and general accounting. Elana currently serves as the Programs and Events Committee Chairman for the Arkansas Chapter of the American Association of Blacks in Energy. She is also a member of the Urban League of the State of Arkansas.

Mia Wilson

Membership Chairperson



Mia Wilson is a Settlements Analyst for Southwest Power Pool where she has worked since 2017. At SPP, Mia is responsible for support of settlement activities, product implementation in the Integrated Marketplace, and ensure compliance with all settlement control activities subject to SOC 1 audit. Prior to joining SPP, Mia worked as a Financial Analyst in the Healthcare Industry. Mia has been a member with AWIP since 2018 and currently serves on the Meetings committee. Mia has a passion for service and is greatly involved in her community through several organizations. Mia is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Beta Pi Omega Chapter and currently serves on the board for the Ivy Foundation of Little Rock. Mia

holds a Bachelor of Science in Corporate Finance from Arkansas State University and a Master of Business Administration from Webster University.

Maria Bunting Smedley

Immediate Past President and Founder



Maria is as Vice President of Human Resources and Strategy for both Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation (AECC) and Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (AECI). She leads human resources initiatives and corporate-wide strategy execution. Maria's prior experience includes human resources leadership roles with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, World Wide Automotive a Delco Remy Company, Solectron Technology, a Flex LTD subsidiary and Duracell, a Berkshire Hathaway subsidiary. Maria was recognized in 2018 as a Chief Human Resource Officer Leader of Distinction at the North American HRO Today Forum. Maria holds a JD from George Mason University Law School, an MBA from the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga and a BSBA from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, Illinois.

Lori L. Burrows

Past Presidents/Ex-Officio



Lori L. Burrows is Vice President & General Counsel for Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation (AECC). Before joining AECC, Lori served as a Legal Advisor to the Arkansas Public Service Commissioners (Commission) and was an Assistant AG in the Consumer Division of the Arkansas Attorney General's office. Lori is a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program (AMP193) and holds a Juris Doctor, with honors, from the UA Little Rock Bowen School of Law. Immediately before law school, Lori served as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer working in non-profit development in the Pacific island country of the Federated States of Micronesia. In addition to being a Founder and the Inaugural President of

Arkansas Women In Power, Lori is President of the Historic Arkansas Museum's Foundation Board, Secretary for Tree Streets, on the Friends of KLRE/KUAR Board. Lori is currently in LeadAR (Class 18), a graduate of Leadership Greater Little Rock (Class XXX), has been honored by various publications, including Arkansas Business (40 under 40 and 2018 Arkansas 250), AY Magazine in 2016 (Powerful Woman in Law) and Vanguard Law Magazine.