

People in Business

Ameren Illinois announces senior leadership changes



Kristol Simms



Matthew Tomc

Ameren Illinois announced key senior leadership changes to support the company's strategic priorities and the retirement of two vice presidents.

Kristol Simms has been promoted to the newly created position of Vice President of Clean Energy Transition, Economic, Community and Business Development for Ameren Illinois. In this newly created position, the functions responsible for energy efficiency, beneficial electrification, and economic development, and are being re-organized under Simms to optimize the company's grid transformation efforts to support the clean energy transition in Illinois.

Simms began her career in the Ameren legal department in 2014 before being promoted to lead energy efficiency in 2018. She received her undergraduate degree from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Mo., and holds a juris doctorate degree from the University of Missouri School of Law. Simms' appointment was effective March 1.

Matthew Tomc has been promoted to Vice President of Regulatory Policy and Energy Supply. Tomc will lead power procurement, natural gas procurement, regulatory affairs, and regulatory policy & rates for Ameren Illinois. His appointment was effective April 1.

As Director and Assistant General Counsel, Tomc has drafted legislation and litigated many of the regulatory reforms that have enabled Ameren Illinois to invest in its rate-regulated business and earn solid returns. Tomc holds a juris doctorate degree from the University of Kansas School of Law, and a bachelor's degree in economics from Emporia State University.

Jim Blessing, Vice President of Regulatory Policy and Energy Supply, will retire on July 5. Blessing has held numerous leadership positions in his 29-year career with Ameren before serving as Vice President, Regulatory and Energy Supply. Over the next few months, Blessing will work with Tomc to transition leadership responsibilities.

Michael Mueller, Vice President of Economic Development, will retire April 10. In 38 years with Ameren, Mueller has held a variety of leadership positions in energy supply, energy management, and renewable

development, including eleven years as President of Ameren Energy Fuels & Services Company. He joined Ameren Illinois in 2015 as Vice President, Economic Development.

Holland's Weber named SIUE Distinguished CLI Alumni



Doug Weber

Doug Weber, vice president of Holland Construction Services, is the recipient of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's 2023 Construction Leadership Institute (CLI) Alumni Leadership Award.

The CLI Alumni Leadership Award recognizes an outstanding graduate who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to the St. Louis area building community.

Weber was a member of the CLI's 2009 class. He has established himself as a prominent figure in the construction industry for over two decades, building his career around his core values of faith, family, integrity, dependability and commitment. For the last 15 years, Doug has been with Holland Construction Services, where he is a vice-president and partner.

A graduate of SIUE, Weber resides in Troy. He currently serves on the AGC Carpenter Labor Committee and previously served as a mentor for the St. Louis Regional Business Council and held the position of president of the Maryville Christian School Board.

Two First Mid employees receive Chairman's award



Carol Brown



Krystal LaGrow

her commitment through the consistent exceptional service she provides to every-

one she comes in contact with. Brown is known to accept any task that is thrown at her. She is the first one to work extra hours and coach new team members all while keeping her lenders organized and on schedule. When it comes to Commitment to Community, she can always be counted on to step up and volunteer her time.

LaGrow is the Deposit Operations Manager, located at the Edwardsville 157 banking center. She has been with First Mid for more than 10 years, working her way up through the ranks. After LaGrow started her career as a teller, she was soon promoted to a manager role before moving into Deposit Operations. LaGrow's expertise and reliability has proven time and time again that she can be counted on to rise to any challenge presented. She is committed to personal growth and development, and her team knows that she will champion their career paths as well.

The Chairman's Award for Excellence is First Mid's most prestigious award. Individuals are nominated by their peers and selected by the company's executive committee.

Glen Carbon names Heil as community development director



Erika Heil

The Village of Glen Carbon has appointed Erika Heil as its new Director of Community Development, to oversee its building and zoning department and economic development initiatives.

She brings with her a wide range of economic development experience, working in Illinois and Missouri on local, state-wide and regional level programs. Heil will begin her new role on May 8.

Heil previously served as the Executive Director for The Alliance of Edwardsville and Glen Carbon, which was a non-profit economic development partnership for the two communities. Most recently, Heil was the Village Administrator for New Baden, Ill. She has served in various positions and boards to include Edwardsville Township, Secretary for the Southwestern Illinois Development Authority, East-West Gateway Council of Governments, Southwestern Illinois Trade and Investment Council, Illinois Governor's Rural Affairs Council, Illinois Economic Development Council, National Corn to Ethanol Research Center Stakeholder, and Southwestern Illinois Leadership Council. Heil was also the recipient of an Excellence in Economic Development award by the International Economic Development Council for her work.

She earned her bachelor's degree in speech communication from Eastern Illinois

University and her master's degree in public administration from Troy University. Heil is an Honorary Commander at Scott Air Force Base and Scoutmaster for BSA Troop 8030-G in Edwardsville, also volunteering at Gateway Pet Guardians in East St. Louis. She lives in Edwardsville with her husband Brian, her two children Zach and Polly, and their two rescue pit bulls Derby and Harper.

Anderson's Page receives lifetime achievement award



Keith Page

The Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber recently honored Anderson Healthcare President and CEO, Keith A. Page, with its Lifetime Achievement Award. Page, who marked 27 years of leadership at Anderson Healthcare in February has successfully led the system through the industry's ever-changing environment for nearly three decades.

Page earned degrees in business administration from Washington University and health care administration from St. Louis University. He began his medical career serving in the Army Medical Service Corp. He was stationed at the Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Wash., and held the rank of Captain. Page then began his professional career with Alexian Brothers Medical Center in the Chicago suburb of Elk Grove, where he served as vice president from 1985-1989. From there, he served as vice president with St. Mary's Hospital in Centralia until 1996.

Page began his career at Anderson Hospital in Maryville as chief operating officer in 1996 and became president of Anderson Hospital in 2003, which has since grown into Anderson Healthcare. Since his arrival at Anderson in 1996, he has further served on the boards of Alliance of Edwardsville/Glen Carbon, Main Street Community Center advisory council, United Way of Metro East, Lewis and Clark Boy Scouts, American Cancer Society of Madison County, Edwardsville Mobile Intensive Care Service, Leadership Council of Southwestern Illinois, YMCA of Edwardsville, Rotary Club of Edwardsville, Ed/Glen Chamber scholarship selection committee, and the Illinois Hospital Association.

Page is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary Club of Edwardsville. He and his wife Kelly reside in Edwardsville and have two sons, Dustin and Brady.

Send People in Business items to Editor Melissa Crockett Meske, macmeske@ibjonline.com.

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