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Conway Corp Newsletter

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Powering Conway since 1929.



Brown, Fason Promotions

Conway Corp promotes two employees to executive staff positions. | [P. 2](#)



APPA Lineworkers Rodeo

Electric department travels to Kansas City to compete in public power competition. | [P. 3](#)



Employee Retirements

With more than 100 years of combined service, four employees retire. | [P. 4](#)



Conway Corp water crews have begun replacing 2,700 feet of sewer pipe from Deer Street to Locust Avenue then down to Prince Street. We're upgrading infrastructure in this area because the needs of downtown Conway have grown and changed since the sewer was originally installed. Work is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.



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BROWN, FASON RECEIVE PROMOTIONS

Conway Corp recently announced two employee promotions to the company's executive staff.

Erin Brown will be promoted to the company's Chief Financial Officer effective July 2023. In his new role, Erin will oversee Conway Corp's financial activities as well as power supply, safety and cybersecurity.

Erin began at Conway Corp in 2019 as a power supply analyst 1 and was most recently the director of power supply.

"I've had the privilege of working with Erin on a number of matters, and he consistently does outstanding work," Chief Executive Officer Bret Carroll said. "He has been crucial to the success of projects like Conway Solar at Happy, and I know he will continue to guide our company forward."

Brent Fason was recently announced as the company's new Safety Director. In his new role, Brent will evaluate work environments and provide direction in safety practices, procedures and activities to prevent workplace injuries.

Brent was hired as a utility worker in the water department in 2003 and was named safety



Erin Brown

coordinator for the company in 2019.

"Brent's years of exemplary service in operations, combined with his most recent outstanding service as safety coordinator, made him an excellent choice as our next safety director," Chief Financial Officer Tracy Moore said. "Brent knows



Brent Fason

safety is a Conway Corp core value and is invested in making sure all of our employees make it home safely to their families each and every day."

Erin replaces Tracy Moore who is retiring in July 2023, and Brent replaced Tony Van Pelt who retired in January 2023.

REMEMBERING BOYD BALLEW



In February 2023, our Conway Corp family was devastated by the death of our friend and colleague Boyd (B.J.) Ballew.

B.J. had an immediate positive impact on Conway Corp and our community when he joined our engineering staff in August 1999 as a GIS Data Collection Technician. He was an integral part of the development of the Geographic Information System (GIS) program and was promoted to GIS Technician 1 in 2013.

During his 23-year career, B.J. led teams of collection technicians including full and part-time staff. His field and office efforts on the utility systems support applications were instrumental and included real-time electric outage management, water leak detection, sewer system modeling and telecom digital mapping.

B.J. was always willing to help his team, especially if it meant getting to work outside, which he loved. His co-workers said he had a keen eye for things out in the field that needed to be added to GIS.

B.J. was more than just a co-worker, he was a true friend. He was a huge part of our Conway Corp family, and his passing deeply affects us all. He will be greatly missed.

ELECTRIC CREWS PARTICIPATE IN RODEO



Senior Foreman Mark “Boog” Rowlett, Senior Foreman Scott Ussery, Apprentice Lineman 4 Kolt Weatherley, Journeyman Lineman Joe Bingham, Apprentice Lineman 2 Tylor McPherson, Journeyman Lineman/Training Coordinator Nate Ball, Journeyman Lineman Trey Brown, Journeyman Lineman Si Anthony, Apprentice Lineman 1 Wesley Fason and Apprentice Lineman 2 Kyle Troxler traveled to Kansas City earlier this year to participate in the American Public Power Association’s 2023 Lineworkers Rodeo. The rodeo is a unique opportunity for Conway Corp linemen to connect with lineworkers from across the country, compete for national recognition, attend training sessions and practice essential skills in a safe environment.

CONWAY CORP BREAKS GROUND ON NEW OPERATIONS CENTER

Conway Corp recently broke ground on a new operations center located on approximately 60 acres of land on South German Lane north of Stone Dam Creek.

The new location will include a 31,000-square-foot office building, a 100,000-square-foot warehouse, a 22,500-square-foot fleet maintenance shop and covered parking for equipment and vehicles.

“In 2017 we did a master plan of our existing operations center on Harkrider Street and realized we would completely outgrow that location in 15 years,” Conway Corp CEO Bret Carroll said. “To support the current growth of Conway, we need more room and storage space. With that in mind,

we made the decision to begin working on a plan for a new campus with facilities and space that would meet both our current and future needs.”

Designed by H+N Architects and built by Nabholz Construction, the location is expected to be fully operational by the end of 2024. Construction began in May 2023.



BOARD ELECTS PITCHFORD

The Conway Corp Board of Directors recently elected Dr. Kateryna Pitchford to serve a seven-year term beginning May 8, 2023.



Pitchford is a professor of business at Central Baptist College. She is a 2018 graduate of the Conway Area Leadership Institute and is currently involved with the Conway Noon Rotary Club.

“One of the most important draws to a community is the cost of living and quality of life,” Pitchford said. “I am amazed at the affordable and reliable utilities that Conway Corp delivers. Municipally-owned utilities mean affordable costs, flexibility, sustainability and community development.”

Pitchford has a Master of Business Administration degree from Harding University and graduated from the University of Central Arkansas in 2016 with an Interdisciplinary Doctorate of Philosophy in Leadership Studies. She was born and raised in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine and moved to the United States in 2004. She lives in Conway with her husband, Jeff, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Sophia and Macie.

The board elects one director annually to serve a seven-year term. Other board members are Tom Courtway, Kelley Erstine, Osmar Garcia, Jake Nabholz, Denise Perry and Reggie Rose. Pitchford replaces Lindsay Henderson, whose term ended May 8, 2023.

CONWAY CORP HONORS RETIREES

Michael Chapman, 18 years

Director of Power Supply and Major Accounts Michael Chapman retired February 2023 after spending more than 18 years serving Conway Corp and the Conway community.

Michael began his career at Conway Corp in 2005 as a land acquisition coordinator and was promoted to major accounts manager a year later. He was promoted to power supply manager in 2014, to power supply and major accounts assistant director in 2016 and to director in 2017.

Michael was instrumental in bringing solar to Conway Corp's energy portfolio.



Rickie McPherson, 15 years

Senior Plant Maintenance Worker Rickie McPherson retired September 2022 after dedicating more than 15 years of service to Conway Corp.

Rickie started at Conway Corp as a plant maintenance worker in June 2007 and was promoted to senior plant maintenance worker in January 2021.

"Rickie is one of those people who just has a knack to fix anything that is broken," Water Systems Manager Lee Tedford said. "He could fix anything from a pump to a broken heart. Rickie was always ready and willing to show up anytime and fix anything in order to keep the plant treating water."



Keith Rains, 34 years

Water Plant Superintendent Keith Rains retired February 2023 after dedicating more than 34 years to Conway Corp and the Conway community.

Keith was hired as a temporary labor employee in the water department in 1989 and was promoted to a full-time employee as plant operator a few months later. Keith was promoted again to chief plant operator in 1994 and to superintendent in 1998.

Keith spent his career helping provide fresh, clean water to the citizens and businesses of Conway.



Tony Van Pelt, 37 years

Safety Director Tony Van Pelt retired January 2023 after dedicating more than 37 years of service to Conway Corp.

Tony joined the company as a groundman in the electric department in 1985. He started the apprentice lineman program in 1989 and was promoted to journeyman lineman in 1993 before transferring to the engineering department as a CATV designer in 1996.

"My advice for current and future employees is to enjoy each day, live safe and be your brother's keeper."



CONWAY CORP SOLAR AT HAPPY

We're committed to providing environmentally-sound utilities which is why we're constantly looking for ways to diversify our portfolio with renewable energy.

In April 2020, we announced a 20-year purchase power agreement with Lightsource bp for the development of a 132-megawatt solar project – Conway Solar at Happy – located in White County.

Lightsource bp – a global leader in the financing, development and management of large-scale solar energy projects – will finance, build, own and operate the solar farm.

Conway Corp will buy 100 percent of the electricity it generates under a long-term fixed-rate purchase agreement.

The solar farm – located on 700 acres near Happy, Arkansas – will supply clean energy to Conway Corp customers and is expected to generate enough electricity to power 21,400 homes each year.

It will also play a role in reducing the city's carbon footprint by the equivalent of CO2 emissions from 35,400 fuel-burning cars annually.

Our mission is to provide safe, affordable, reliable, innovative and environmentally sound service to our customers, and this solar project checks all those boxes. It will have a lasting impact on our community, and we're excited



to bring reliable, low-cost, clean renewable energy to the residents and businesses of Conway.

The farm will have more than 300,000 solar photovoltaic modules on single-axis trackers to maximize energy collection.

In addition to providing renewable energy, Conway Solar at Happy is helping local communities in Arkansas by contributing property tax revenue over the project life that will benefit local schools and creating more than 200 local jobs during construction of the project.

We are also partnering with Lightsource bp and the Arkansas Monarch Conservation Partnership to foster biodiversity and increase wildlife populations through proper planning and land management.

Solar projects planted with pollinator habitats can actually

help increase local agricultural yields through increased pollination and other beneficial insect services.

Once built, a solar farm is a secure site with little disturbance from humans or machinery for decades, which gives the land a recovery period, increasing future soil quality.

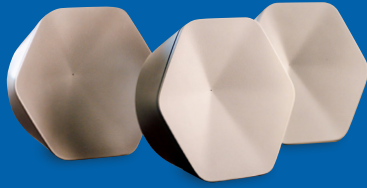
Conway Solar at Happy is a prime example of how we're sourcing more renewable energy while also staying committed to world-class reliability and affordable rates.

We're looking toward a more sustainable future, and we're excited about what we see.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bret Carroll".

Bret Carroll
Conway Corp
Chief Executive Officer

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