

January 17, 2020 1:32 PM

People on the Move

Lobby moves, new hires, new projects, and more

The first unmarked envelope of 2020 from a campaign – or at least, tangentially connected to a campaign – has arrived at the *Quorum Report* offices. Primary season must be really be starting now. “Stressed out, getting fat, it’s campaign season,” said one veteran staffer. Relatable. With a little more than 6 weeks between now and election day, it’s time to put miles on the truck heading to Houston, Dallas, South Texas, and elsewhere. Feels good to be on the road again. Meantime, the career news is coming faster and furiouser (if that’s a word) as movers and shakers settle into new roles in the *Texas Capitol* community. Let us know what’s happening anytime by emailing career news to ksbraddock@gmail.com. If you could use POTM in the subject line, that would be great. And to move swiftly to the front of the line, put the text of your announcement right in the email rather than attaching a file. Thanks so much.

Here’s the latest edition of *People on the Move*.

Pamela McPeters, a veteran around the Capitol for the past 20 years, has joined the lobby team at the *Texas Classroom Teachers Association*. She previously held the position of Vice President of Public Affairs at *TexProtects* and has also worked for members and committees of the *Texas House of Representatives* and *Senate*, including the *House Committee on Public Education*. “With her extensive experience and knowledge of the process, she will enhance our lobby team as we continue to advocate on behalf of Texas teachers,” said TCTA Executive Director **Jeri Stone**.

Joel Speight joined the *Texas Facilities Commission* as chief operating officer. Speight comes to the TFC from the *Texas Racing Commission*, where he served as deputy executive director for five years. At Thursday’s meeting, TFC Executive Director **Mike Novak** welcomed Speight to the team. Speight also served in the **Air Force**.

Cecile Erwin Young is departing state government after 30-plus years of public service. She served two stints at *HHSC* from 2007-2011 and from 2015 until this week. Cecile served as an Associate Commissioner, Chief of Staff, Chief Deputy Executive Commissioner, and served for five months as the Acting Executive Commissioner in 2018. Cecile also served in the administrations of Governors **Clements**, **Bush**, and **Perry**. She plans to spend a few weeks in Europe and will enter the private sector working on healthcare and budget consulting when she returns.

TCEQ Commissioner **Emily Lindley** welcomed **Morgan Johnson** to the agency as her senior counsel.

“Morgan comes from *McGinnis Lochridge and Kilgore, LLP* where she served as an associate attorney for the past six years,” Lindley told agency staff in an email. “Prior to private practice, Morgan worked in the *Office of the Governor*, the *Attorney General’s Office*, and interned at the *Harris County District Attorney’s Office*. She brings a wealth of knowledge of water policy, budget issues, and the legislative process.”

Lorraine Montemayor is the new Mobilization and Campaign Coordinator at the *Texas AFL-CIO*. She was previously with *Alliance American Federation of Teachers (Local 2260)* as a field organizer and with the *Dallas AFL-CIO* as political coordinator.

The *Monument Group* is launching an in-house specialty research group “to provide competitive intelligence and analysis to its growing roster of clients.” The research practice is led by **Courtney Goodings**.

“The Monument Group’s unmatched familiarity with communities across Texas sets us apart, and the addition of professional, campaign-style research provides us with another tool to implement the most effective communications strategies,” said partner **Scott Dunaway**. “Our experience demonstrates professional research provides a sound foundation for bulletproof messaging and critical decision-making processes for any campaign.”

Members of the *Texas Telephone Association* board of directors elected new officers to serve on the 2019-2020 executive committee. Officers serving as TTA’s executive committee for one-year terms include:

President – **Russell “Rusty” Moore**, general manager and chief operating officer of *BBT*, based in Alpine.

Vice President – **Charlie Greenberg**, president of *Btel*, based in Brazoria.

Secretary – **Jennifer Otwell**, vice president and general manager of *Totecom Communications*, based in De Leon.

Treasurer – **Dave Osborn**, CEO of *VTXI Companies*, based in Raymondville.

Fort Worth Sister Cities International just started a public campaign of the *Members Circle of Giving* by announcing **Charlie Powell**, President of **Ciera Bank**, is the 2020 Campaign Chair.

Powell is the husband of Sen. Beverly Powell, D-Fort Worth.

South Texas native and Bee County Judge **Stephanie Moreno** has been named Executive Director of *the South Texas Energy and Economic Roundtable*.

“South Texas has seen tremendous growth and increased opportunity thanks to the oil and natural gas industry, which is a trusted partner to our communities when it comes to economic development, community strength and environmental progress,” Moreno said.

Y’all have a good weekend.