



OKLAHOMA
Corporation
Commission

OCCURRENCES

November 15, 2025

Page 2: Anniversary Milestones

Page 3: Safety Matters

Pages 4 & 5: Golfing for good

Pages 6&7: Fall festival draws crowd

Pages 8 &9: Commission Happenings

**Page 10: OGCD needs outlined to
legislators**

**Storms build south of the Kay
County Port of Entry earlier this
year (photo provided).**

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Mary Southerland
Transportation
IFTA/IRP
25 Years



Mark Shelton
Agency-wide Information
Technology
25 Years



Francie Ludwick
Administrative, Judicial,
Legal Services
20 Years



Maryellen Sanders
Administrative, Judicial,
Legal Services
20 Years



Stephanie Agers
Transportation
Administration
15 Years



Ken Behrens
Administrative, Judicial,
Legal Services
10 Years



Tim Lucas
Agency-wide Information
Technology
10 Years



Gayle McKinley
Public
Utilities
10 Years



Kacey Moery
Transportation
Enforcement
10 Years



Shane Clark
Petroleum Storage Tank
5 Years



Michael McGinnis
Oil Gas
Conservation
5 Years



Catherine Nichols
Public
Utilities
5 Years

And Also:

Michael Staples
Petroleum Storage Tank
30 Years

Nicole King
Administrative, Judicial, Legal Services
(Commissioner Hiatt's Office)
15 Years

Crissy Benjamin
Transportation Administration
10 Years

Wade Hatcher
Transportation Enforcement
10 Years

Shane Mills
Oil Gas Conservation
5 Years

Erica O'Neal
Administrative, Judicial, Legal Services
(Commissioner David's Office)
10 Years

Jayce Prock
Petroleum Storage Tank
10 Years



Safety matters

Employees working in the Will Rogers Building were given an opportunity in October to receive first aid and CPR training taught by Oklahoma Corporation Commission Fuel Specialist Justin Eubanks and Oil and Gas Field Inspector Charlie Goodwin.

Eight state employees participated in the training, receiving instructions on how to use an automated external defibrillator and how to administer CPR and other first aid, Eubanks said.

"It's the same training someone would get if they wanted to be certified to provide first aid and CPR, but we offer it for free to those who want the knowledge so they can be of help when any situation warrants it," Eubanks said.



Photos Provided



Charity golf drives good



Commission achieves funds goal

Twenty five teams taking part in the Oklahoma Corporation Commission's first-ever charity golf tournament in October enjoyed good food and good times benefitting a good cause.

The scramble at the Lincoln Park Golf Course in Oklahoma City benefitted the Children's Advocacy Centers of Oklahoma, a nonprofit providing hope, healing, and justice for child abuse victims across the state.

Event organizers raised \$10,503.01 for the organization.

Golfers were encouraged before the tournament started to purchase chances to win prizes from tournament sponsors that included a cultivator, a grill and a Yeti cooler.

At the event's end, the top-three teams were awarded trophies, while golfers who turned in longest drives also were recognized.

Photos:

Page 4 Top: Tournament participants registered and checked out prizes before the scramble began.

Page 4 Center: A banner highlighted the tournament's corporate sponsors. (Provided)

Page 5 Top left: A golfer drives the ball on one of the course's 18 holes.

Page 5 Top right: A golfer comes close to sinking a putt on one of the course's holes.

Page 5 Center: Players were addressed at the tournament's conclusion by Carrie Little, executive director of Children's Advocacy Centers of Oklahoma and Commissioners Kim David and Brian Bingman.

times for a great cause



Little said Children's Advocacy Centers of Oklahoma is the accredited state chapter supporting child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary teams across Oklahoma through training and technical assistance supporting 21 established centers and several others under development.

Children suspected of being abused are brought to advocacy centers — a safe, child-focused setting — where they share their stories with trained interviewers. Teams of professionals work together to ensure the children receive the care and protection they need, including therapy, medical exams, courtroom preparations, advocacy, and other critical services.

Little said the organization, which expects a funding gap caused by the federal government's shutdown, is grateful for the Commission's help.

"Community support — like the proceeds from this wonderful golf tournament — will help us sustain essential services during this time," Little said. "Thank you, sincerely, for standing with Oklahoma's children. Your generosity truly keeps our mission alive."



Headquarters staff's work highlighted by OKC appreciation event



The Oklahoma Corporation Commission in October celebrated the work done by its headquarters staff by treating it to food and entertainment at the Will Rogers Building's courtyard in Oklahoma City.

Participants feasted on soft tacos and deserts and also took part in various carnival-style games during the two-hour event.

Brandy Wreath, the commission's director of administration, said headquarters supports field staffs who work to keep power flowing and ensure the safe and responsible operations of oil and gas sites, gas stations and commercial vehicle traffic on Oklahoma's highways.

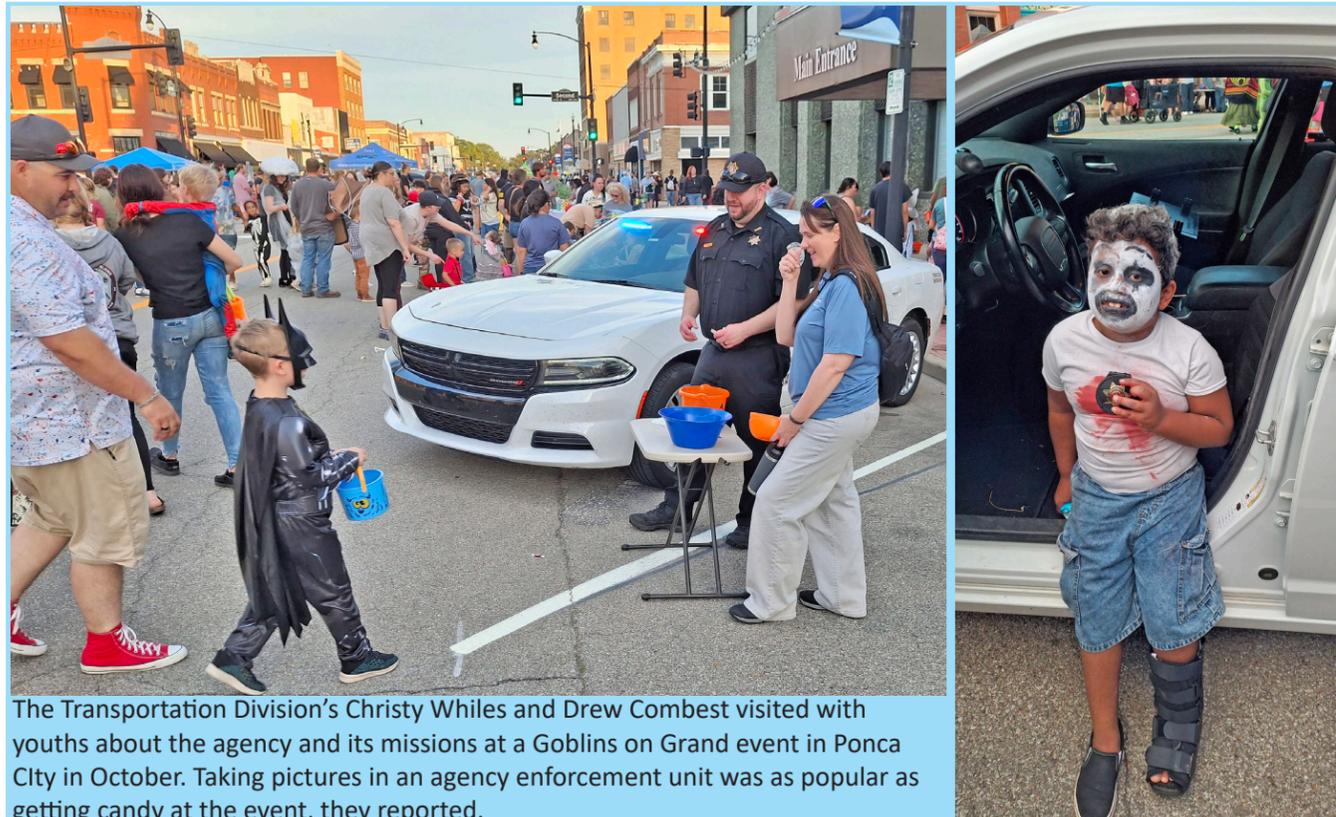
"We wanted to recognize the staff's efforts. Their work is critical in supporting the agency's overall operations," Wreath said.



Commission

EFFORTS our agency's employees make both on and off the job aim to improve the lives of themselves and those of our fellow Oklahomans. Here are some highlights during the past three months.

OCC greets kids at Halloween events across the state



The Transportation Division's Christy Whiles and Drew Combest visited with youths about the agency and its missions at a Goblins on Grand event in Ponca City in October. Taking pictures in an agency enforcement unit was as popular as getting candy at the event, they reported.



The Transportation Division's Justin Carroll, Tina Rich and Robert Clark visited with youth at Fort Sill's Trunk-or-Treat event in October.

Happenings

Youths 'Discover' OCC and its mission at event



The Oklahoma Corporation Commission's Andrew Zerby, Megan Cova and Stacey Fowler helped kids learn about the agency and what it regulates at Science Museum Oklahoma's DiscoverFest 2025.



The Transportation Division's Clay Brooks, David Tate and Megan Smith participated in a Worklahoma Job Fair at the Elk City Convention Center in October. The event, presented by Work Ready Oklahoma, offered participants chances to fill out applications and network with potential employers.

OGDC funding needs outlined

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission Oil and Gas Conservation Division's leadership team outlined its current operations, regulatory responsibilities and funding needs to Oklahoma House of Representatives Energy Committee members in September.

The briefing highlighted how OGCD regulates the state's oil and gas industry, handles the plugging of abandoned and orphaned wells, deals with seismic activities and the workforce challenges it faces.

Not including federal funds, the entire agency received about \$26.6 million in apportioned/appropriated revenues to carry out its mission in Fiscal Year 2025. OGCD as a division, meanwhile, spent about \$22 million to pay for its operations the same year.

OGCD departments (and responsibilities) include:

Pollution Abatement – Protects water and soil resources using sound remediation management practices set forth by regulations and law;

Technical – Processes applications and permits to promote economic development, prevent waste of natural resources and ensure environmental protections;

Induced Seismicity – Gathers, preserves and uses data to mitigate induced seismicity risks;

Underground Injection Control – Ensures injection well operators comply with federal and state requirements to protect underground resources;

Mineral Owners Escrow Account and Surety – Oversees the agency's Mineral Owners Escrow Account data and ensures all operators maintain required surety;

Administrative Services – Supports daily business operations to maximize efficiency and streamline operations;

Brownfields – Provides financial and technical assistance to entities redeveloping historic oil and gas/petroleum storage tank locations;

GIS – Curates and provides geospatial data and application support for the division by hosting GIS applications that serve the public through the web-based Well Data Finder, the Oklahoma Aerial Photo Viewer, the Orphan Well Dashboard and other apps serving stakeholders both within and outside of the Commission.

Field Operations – Inspects oil and gas operations to ensure the equitable enforcement and compliance with agency rules.

Its 68 inspectors made nearly 110,000 visits to oil and gas locations during Fiscal Year 2025. Nearly 430,000 inspections conducted over the past four years found oil and gas operations were complying with agency rules. Still, nearly 41,000 wells are overdue for inspections in October.

Legislators were also briefed on:

- The agency's work to plug nearly 1,125 wells using an initial \$25 million grant provided through the federal

Investment Infrastructure and Jobs Act. While the agency is authorized to use another \$102 million grant to plug an additional 4,500 wells, 75 percent of the 20,945 wells on an active orphaned wells list will still need to be addressed once that work is done.

- The division's ongoing efforts to upgrade its data systems into the Oklahoma Information Exchange System. OKIES will replace legacy systems with secure online forms, automated validation and integrated data provided within a web-based, cloud-hosted system with a focus on transparency, efficiency and scalability intended to increase public access to information and electronic processes.

Division leaders asked the interim study committee to consider boosting funding to support the state plugging fund, reallocate excise taxes used to help fund division operations, update the Oklahoma Open Records Act to protect operators' proprietary data and additional funding to pay for emergency responses needed to mitigate historic oil and gas-related incidents.

Legislators also were briefed on challenges faced by the agency's Administrative, Judicial and Legal Services division, which recently modified operations to reduce a backlog in protest cases involving oil and gas pooling order applications.

The division needs more and better-paid court reporters and judges as it deals with frequent continuances and attorney scheduling conflicts. Delays in settling such cases create significant economic impacts, legislators were told.

Jeremy Hodges, OGCD's director, described the briefing as helpful. "Anytime we get to interact with our Representatives is a huge blessing, as we get to highlight all the best aspects of our division and the great work our teams are doing," said Hodges. "It's an honor to work with one of the best industries in our great State of Oklahoma," he said.

State Rep. Nick Archer, R-Elk City, said he hoped the presentation would give his committee colleagues and stakeholders a clear look at the Oil and Gas Conservation Division's current operations, regulatory responsibilities and funding concerns.

"The Legislature must work with OCC to find solutions to the issues and gaps facing the agency, especially in the protest docket," Archer said. "If we remove barriers and work with Oklahoma's oil and gas industry, we can help the Commission fulfill their mission and regulate the industry effectively while protecting jobs, revenue and public safety.

"But first, they need the resources, tools and authority to do their job well rather than the current slow, inefficient process."



Jeremy Hodges