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Description automatically generatedMichigan Energy Workforce Development Consortium (MEWDC)**

**SUMMIT WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS & SPEAKERS**

**Breakout Session 1** **10:00 – 10:30 am**

**Breakout Session 2** **11:00 – 11:30 am**

**Breakout Session 3 1:30 – 2:20 pm**

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**Breakout Session 1 - 10:00 – 10:30 am**

**Lansing Board of Water and Light 1st STEP School to Training & Employment Program**

Learn about the BWL's 1st STEP -- or the School to Training and Employment Program -- gives Lansing-area high school seniors a work-based learning experience and an opportunity to obtain the skills to enter the workforce.

* **Michael Flowers | Executive Director, Human Resources | Lansing Board of Water & Light**

Michael has been with the BWL since 2008, also serves in a number of community capacities, including president of the Ingham Intermediate School District Board of Education, Peckham Industries Board of Directors and Capital Region Community Foundation. Flowers previously worked in human resources for Accident Fund Insurance Company of America and Sparrow Health System and teaches human resources at Lansing Community College.

**Growing a Diverse and Inclusive Energy Efficiency Workforce**

Walker-Miller Energy Services (W-M) is focused on fostering workforces that reflect the communities they serve. This session will be focused on how W-M is developing and implementing energy efficiency-based workforce development and training programs that target diverse audiences from underrepresented communities in Michigan, and how they are working to use residential building science to provide people with a foot in the door to the broader clean energy economy.

* **Ben Dueweke | Director of Community Partnerships | Walker-Miller Energy Services**

Ben works at the intersection of policy, community, and industry to drive equitable expansion of the clean energy economy. His work includes weatherization program management, energy efficiency workforce development, policy design and advocacy, and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) oversight. Ben also serves as the co-chair of the Energy Waste Reduction Committee for the Detroit City Council’s Green Task Force and is an alumnus of Michigan Clean Energy Leaders program.

* **Derrick Meeking | Director of Workforce Development | Walker-Miller Energy Services**

Derrick is a native Detroiter with a professional background in nonprofit management, workforce development, local economic development, and social enterprise business models. His experience spans over 13 years which creates a unique professional profile rooted in a desire to improve the quality of life for historically disenfranchised people and marginalized communities through education, research, grassroots activism, and the promotion of innovative community economic development solutions.

**Breakout Session 2 - 11:00 – 11:30 am**

**Creative Exposure and Preparation for Tree Trimming Careers**

Alpena Community College and Oakland Schools Technical Campuses (OSTC) developed creative strategies to address the dire need for skilled labor in the utility line clearance industry. Alpena Community College developed a Utility Arborist program delivered on its main campus in Alpena, Michigan. The presentation will cover its history and inception, and detail the curriculum, facilities, and partnerships needed for the successful launch of this new training endeavor. This short-term, non-credit program was developed using MiLEAP grant funding through Michigan Works! Northeast. OSTC partnered with DTE Energy and IBEW Local 17 to develop a five-hour Line Clearance Tree Trimming career exposure segment for high school CTE students in their Energy Technology programs. Instructors from Local 17 conducted the sessions which included an industry overview, safety, tools, and hands-on activities such as working with pulleys, harnesses, and tree climbing.

* **Dawn Stone | Dean of Workforce Development | Alpena Community College**

Dawn has spent 25 years in workforce training and strategic planning associated with employment and training and has managed over $12 million dollars in federal and state grants in her 10-year tenure at Alpena Community College.

* **Walt Wilse | Utility Arborist Program Director |** **Alpena Community College**

Walt has spent 25 years in the line clearance industry, 10 of those in management. He is currently the Safety Supervisor for Thunder Bay Tree Service headquartered in Alpena, MI.

* **Andrew Mauer | K-12 Career Readiness Consultant | Oakland Schools**

Andrew has spent the past seven years at Oakland Schools Intermediate School District promoting career readiness for all students as a K-12 Career Readiness Consultant. Andrew provides direct support and facilitation of a variety of experiences for students, educators, and families while collaborating with industry partners in the energy, transportation, and advanced manufacturing sectors. He has presented at numerous regional and statewide conferences in Michigan on various effective career readiness practices. Prior to his work at Oakland Schools, Andrew taught career and technical education (CTE) for 17 years, served as department chair, and CTE District administrator at Avondale High School. He also served as an adjunct faculty member in the CAD department at Oakland Community College for 14 years.

**Introducing K-12 Students to Energy Careers through FIRST Robotics**

FIRST Robotics is training the next generation of STEM professionals through a progression of K-12 Robotics Competitions. Students have the opportunity to test drive all different aspects of STEM while building a robot with the help of industry mentors: mechanical, electrical, coding, CAD design, and fabrication. This season all of the competition games are themed around Energy. In this session, attendees will learn:

* What is FIRST?
* What are the program levels within FIRST?
* How is it growing the STEM workforce?
* What are the benefits to the companies?
* How can a company get involved?
* **Gail Alpert | President | FIRST in Michigan**

Gail is currently Chairman of the Board as well as the President of FIRST in Michigan (FIM), a 501 C(3)  tasked with running the FIRST family of programs in Michigan. She is a lawyer with an undergraduate degree in Business Administration and a licensed Real Estate Associate Broker. Gail got involved with FIRST in the 1999-2000 season when her son asked her to run his team from the International Academy in Bloomfield Hills. Following his graduation in 2001, she got involved with the State Committee in addition to running the team. In 2009, Gail helped found FIRST in Michigan.

**Breakout Session 3 - 1:30 – 2:20 pm**

**Energy Industry Fundamentals Curriculum Modernization and Challenging Students with Hands On Energy Projects**

This workshop provides an Energy Industry Fundamentals (EIF) curriculum modernization overview and presents seven projects that enhance the curriculum and challenge EIF students as well as a culminating “Capstone Project” that students work on for the semester.

* **Kristie Kelley | Workforce Development Director | Center for Energy Workforce Development**

A native of Pensacola, FL with over 20 years of leadership experience in a combination of education, targeted industry workforce development and talent acquisition, Kelley serves as the Workforce Development Director for The Center for Energy Workforce Development. Kelley is responsible for revitalizing the EIF program; managing efforts to assess re-skilling, upskilling, and training needs for energy jobs of the future; strengthening connections with students and educators; and primarily supporting CEWD’s members in the west and mid-west regions, among other things.

* **Mike Schmidt | CTE and EIF Instructor | Hartland High School**

Mike has 30 year plus teaching career in the areas of Applied Technology, Energy, and Construction career and technical education instructor for Livingston County at Hartland High School. He has taught classes in Alternative Energy for 10 years and EIF for seven years.

**Energy Industry Registered Apprenticeship Opportunities**

Join this workshop to learn about a proven solution for recruiting, training, and retaining world-class energy talent! Registered Apprenticeship Programs are a way for workers to learn new, advanced skills that make them much more productive and ready to take on the high-growth jobs in our economy. Learn the benefits of Registered Apprenticeship Programs, implementation and ways to partner in order to support the dynamic energy industry.

* **Stephanie Vomvolakis | Apprenticeship Specialist| Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity, State Apprenticeship Expansion**

Stephanie has extensive knowledge of effective youth (ages 16-24) registered apprenticeship expansion strategies, productive relationship development and growth with industry and labor partners, secondary and post-secondary educational institutions, and other key registered apprenticeship stakeholders in the state. She has statewide responsibility for overall project management of federally funded Michigan Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Network (MiYARN) grant program initiatives, in which partners include the MEWDC.