



OKLAHOMA

Employment Security Commission

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OESC Board Names Zumwalt as Interim Director

OKLAHOMA CITY - The Oklahoma Employment Security Commission today announced Shelley Zumwalt as the agency's Interim Director.

The board held an emergency meeting and adjourned into executive session to interview candidates for the position. After returning to its regular session, the board voted 5-0 to name Zumwalt to the position.



OESC Interim Director Shelley Zumwalt

"I'm honored the OESC Board has selected me to lead this agency, but frankly, I don't think individuals and families waiting on unemployment relief really care who is in charge," Zumwalt said. "People without jobs just want the system to work and that's what I intend to make happen. I have thousands of Oklahomans who are counting on both me and this agency. We will not let them down."

Zumwalt started her state service almost a decade ago as a budget analyst at the Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES) before overseeing communications at the OMES Employees Group Insurance Division. She was then named OMES Public Affairs Division director.

In addition to her service at OMES, Zumwalt also served in the Office of the Governor as public affairs director and as Chief of Communications and Strategic Engagement for the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

"I can think of no other person that will bring what Shelley can to this agency," said OMES Director Steven Harpe. "She is a dynamic leader and problem solver with a true servants' heart. When others are running away from a crisis, Shelley is running towards it and that's why the state is fortunate to have her to lead this agency during this unprecedented time in our state's history."

“For the past year-and-a-half I have worked with Shelley and I have seen her work ethic and her enthusiasm for state service on display,” said Oklahoma Secretary for Digital Transformation David Ostrowe. “This job will not be easy. It requires a leader that lays forth a clear mission and shows up every day ready to do battle and find innovative solutions that move the agency forward. I have no doubt Shelley is that leader.”

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