

BOARD MEETING NOTES

THE BTU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET ON MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2015 AND DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

FINANCIAL

Joe Hegwood presented the financial report to the BTU Board of Directors.

BTU's Capital Improvement Program spending in the City and Rural systems is currently under budget due primarily to the timing of transmission work.

Mr. Hegwood discussed large items purchased in April:

Items over \$100,000

- Distribution pole reinforcement contract awarded to Osmose Utilities in the amount of \$182,410.
- Engineering services for 69kV Transmission line segment for Atkins to Briarcrest phase 2 rebuild. Contract awarded to Black & Veatch in the amount of \$110,000.

April Disbursements Exceeding \$25,000

- As per the BTU Procurement Policy/Procedures, the previous month's purchases were presented in the Board handouts with a brief explanation.

OPERATIONS

Gary Miller presented the safety statistics for the previous month to the BTU Board of Directors, stating BTU had one recordable incident for the month making the incident rate 1.64 for Fiscal Year 15 to date.

Mr. Miller reported that CAT (Caterpillar Safety Services) conducted supervisor and manager safety training on May 22, 2015. Mr. Miller also reported that the CI (Continuous Improvement) Team has been doing a good job of advocating a positive safety culture through their respective areas. The CI Team has implemented a quality job briefing and safety inspection process effective June 1, 2015.

TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION REPORT

Randy Trimble presented the SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index) and SAIFI (System Average Interruption Frequency Index) report for the month of May. Mr. Trimble stated the outages which occurred in both city and rural systems were mostly due to spring storms. The outage with the longest duration was due to equipment failure in the City system and lightning and fallen trees in the Rural system.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Gary Miller informed the BTU Board of Directors that the Texas Legislature has passed the TMPA Legislation needed in order to update the agreement between the member cities. Mr. Miller also acknowledged special gratitude to Representative Kyle Kacal for his efforts to make this legislative effort successful.



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

205 East 28th Street • Bryan, TX 77803

email: ContactBTU@btutilities.com

Hours of Operation
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Board of Directors

- Mr. Carl L. Benner, Chairman
- Mr. Paul Turney, Vice Chairman
- Mr. David Bairrington, Treasurer
- Mr. Art Hughes, Ex-Officio
- Mr. Flynn Adcock
- Mr. Bill Ballard
- Mr. Ben Hardeman
- Mr. A. Bentley Nettles

General Manager

Gary Miller

Group Managers

Randy Trimble
David Werley

Division Managers

James Bodine
Bill Bullock
Shawndra Curry
Ken Lindberg
Vicki Reim
Scott Smith
James Tanneberger
Wes Williams

Doug Lyles, Chief Risk Officer/Controller

City of Bryan

Kean Register, City Manager
Joe Hegwood, CFO
Bernie Acre, CIO

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Billing/Collections/Connects	(979) 821-5700
Electrical Outage/Lines Down	(979) 822-3777
Distribution/Line Design	(979) 821-5770

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



STORY BY GINA FLORENCE | PHOTO BY RYAN STOUT

“THIS IS THE BEST PLACE TO WORK. WE ARE REALLY LIKE A FAMILY. EVERYONE SUPPORTS EACH OTHER AND HELPS EVERYONE OUT.”

Angie Sosa is the Business Systems Coordinator for BTU. Angie was working at a local hotel when she applied for a job in customer service at BTU. “I came in to make a payment in the lobby and saw an old co-worker of mine working at the counter. I told him that I had applied at BTU as well. I asked him to put in a good word for me.”

That was in July 2000, and she’s been with BTU ever since. Over her 15 years, she’s worked in the drive-thru, front counter, phone center, collections, mail room and billing. She’s been in her current role as the Business Systems Coordinator since October 2014. “I don’t think I’ll ever leave!”

Angie’s day typically begins before 8 a.m. when she arrives at BTU and begins to test customer service related software. She also resolves any issues with the billing process to confirm that customers receive the correct billing amount before the invoices are mailed.

Her strong customer service skills have been recognized as she was selected for the core team that implemented a new software system. “I learned the software system on the job. It was a very hands-on approach,” she said.

“I love what I do. It may sound crazy, but I love when people bring me a problem and I have to search for a solution.”

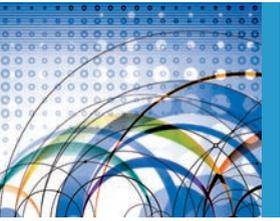
“What I like about being on the implementation team is learning how all the systems talk to one-another. It gives me a big-picture view of all of our systems.”

Angie grew up in Hearne, Texas and received two Arts & Sciences Associate Degrees from Blinn College. When she’s not working, this mother of two spends her free time with her daughters, reading, gardening and working on do-it-yourself projects.

“I made my own coffee tables for my living room and I’ve refinished my China cabinet. I like restoring old things into something new.” ■



ANGIE SOSA
Business Systems
Coordinator



HURRICANE SEASON

STORY BY KENNETH W. SMITH JR.

DON'T LET A HURRICANE OR TROPICAL STORM CATCH YOU BY SURPRISE.

THERE'S NOT MUCH THAT ENERGY PROVIDERS CAN DO ABOUT THE WEATHER, EXCEPT BE PREPARED FOR WHEN IT TURNS UGLY. SO, WHEN METEOROLOGISTS SPEAK, ENERGY PROVIDERS LISTEN. IN FACT, THE ELECTRIC RELIABILITY COUNCIL OF TEXAS (ERCOT) HOLDS MEETINGS TO MAKE SURE THAT UTILITIES HAVE THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION AS THEY PLAN FOR FUTURE ELECTRIC USAGE.

Chris Coleman, ERCOT's Senior Meteorologist, presented his hurricane season outlook at the 2015 Summer Weather Outlook meeting. Coleman is predicting a super El Niño this year. So what does that mean?

An El Niño, and it's sister La Niña, are complex weather patterns that come about because of variations in ocean temperatures in the equatorial regions of the Pacific Ocean. El Niño happens when there is unusually warm water in the Pacific, while La Niña makes her appearance when the Pacific is cooler than normal. They occur on average every two to seven years and can affect weather around the world.

When an El Niño happens, Texas generally experiences a cooler weather

pattern with greater than average rainfall. El Niño also generally helps inhibit tropical cyclone development in the Atlantic Ocean during hurricane season.

Last year's hurricane season was the second consecutive year with below normal activity in the Gulf of Mexico. 2013-2014 was the least active period in 20 years, and it's unlikely that this year will be an exception. However, the water in the Gulf of Mexico is also warmer than normal this year, and this could help to nurture any tropical weather patterns that make it into the Gulf – like Tropical Storm Bill in June. Bill was the first named storm (tropical storm or hurricane) to make landfall on the middle or upper Texas coast since Hurricane Ike in 2008.

Coleman's forecast calls for below average tropical cyclone development in the Atlantic Ocean, with fewer than five named storms forecast for the Gulf of Mexico this season.





PREPARING FOR HURRICANE SEASON

These tips will help cover you in case a tropical system is coming your way, but they will also cover you in a lot of other disaster situations. It just makes sense to be prepared.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Be sure to have a battery-powered radio handy in case the power does go out. And another good item to have is a battery-powered mobile-device charger in case you're using your mobile device while the power is out. If the power does go out, you'll need those batteries and wireless devices to find out when it might be coming back on. But you'll also need to think about what might happen to all of your wired electronics when it does come back.

It's a good idea to turn off your heating and air conditioning systems, as well as your electric range. You should also unplug sensitive electronics like TVs, microwave ovens, and computers. This will protect these items from power fluctuations that can occur when the power is restored. Always wait 5-10 minutes after power is restored before turning on appliances and cooling systems.

If you decide to use a portable generator, do not plug it into your household electrical outlets.

And, of course, you should never touch a fallen power line or drive through standing water if a downed line is nearby. Report downed lines to the appropriate authorities.

MONITOR LOCAL RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS

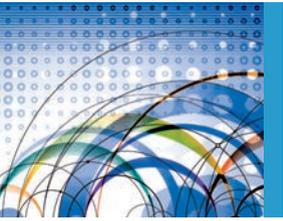
Local radio and TV is one of the best methods to monitor the situation as it progresses. In the event of an emergency, the Emergency Alert System will be activated over these channels and will provide you with updates, information, and instructions. You can also monitor updates on the web and social media. This can be especially helpful if your power goes out.

The best places online to view updates will be your local news outlets' websites, Facebook, and Twitter accounts. These accounts will be relaying information provided by local government and emergency management officials.

IF YOU HAVE TO EVACUATE

It's a good idea to create a family disaster supply kit containing medicines, canned food, a can opener, water, and information on where to go in case you must evacuate.

In the event of an evacuation order, the Emergency Alert System (EAS) will be activated over radio and television channels and will inform you what to do and where to go. Remember those batteries for your radio and/or mobile device!



CRAFT PE SUBSTATION TECHNI

BTU'S SUBSTATION TEAM OF RELAY TECHNICIANS, YET ANOTHER PART OF THE GREATER BTU T

STORY BY GINA FLORENCE

They often report to work at odd hours and under a variety of circumstances. Their skills are most visible when they team with other groups to restore power during outages. During these emergency situations, they work in adverse conditions such as thunderstorms, rain, and extreme heat while safely addressing potentially deadly hazards such as exposed electric lines, potentially explosive equipment and volatile materials housed in confined spaces. Their duties are seldom routine from one day to the next, and they use their skills to ensure that power is safely and reliably delivered to thousands of homes and businesses in and around the Brazos Valley.

When BTU customers experience a power outage, the substation team mobilizes as necessary and stays on the job until power is restored. "Our team has worked for days straight through until the job is completed," said Kevin Rodgers, BTU's Manager of Substation and Transmission Maintenance. "Relay techs might be behind a computer for eight hours, while substation techs may be working in any number of BTU facilities keeping our team safe," said Kevin.

Substations are the heart of BTU's power delivery system, and the eight people who make up the

Transmission and Substation team at BTU consists of relay technicians, substation technicians, and engineers. This team not only keeps 28 BTU substations and 158 miles of transmission lines in proper working order, but also responds to abnormal situations and works in conjunction with other BTU teams to safely and quickly restore power to customers.

BTU substations receive bulk electric power at 69,000 and 138,000 volts and reduce it down to 12,470 volts that can be safely delivered to its customers through BTU's local power distribution system. To accomplish this critical function safely and reliably, each substation has a sophisticated protection and control system that continuously monitors the status of the section of the electric system to which it is connected. These protection systems are automated and not only allow BTU to monitor everything that is happening within its power distribution system, but also react to hazardous situations to help ensure lives and equipment are protected from dangerous conditions. They also allow substation personnel to quickly diagnose problems and work with other BTU teams to safely and efficiently restore power during an outage situation.

"We don't get second chances in this job," said Travis See, Electrical Transmission Relay Technician. "We have to make sure our grid stays stable," said Travis. "If we were to have a major event in our area it could affect other sections of the Texas electric grid."





PERSONNEL TECHNICIANS & ENGINEERS

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SUBSTATION TECHNICIANS, AND ENGINEERS ARE A TEAM THAT IS PURSUING EXCELLENCE DAILY.

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Just how much of an impact do protection systems have on customers? In 2003, the Northeast experienced a blackout due to a substation alarm system that ultimately affected 50 million people from Michigan to New York and parts of Canada.

“The relay technicians implement and maintain the relays to make sure what is happening is accurate,” said Kevin.

Relays have changed over the years; transitioning from basic mechanically based devices to technically advanced computerized systems. The advancement of relay technology is analogous to the technological evolution from the typewriter to the computer. Relays are more sophisticated now, and the technicians who work on them usually have at least two years of formal education with an associate degree focusing on system protection. After completion of this degree, a technician must spend at least five years receiving on-the-job training to become proficient at trouble-shooting and maintaining relays.

Substation technicians work closely with relay technicians to test all the equipment, including breakers and transformers, and they keep the equipment in good working order.

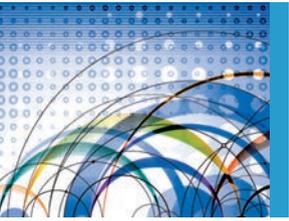
The relay and substation technicians work alongside BTU’s transmission and relay engineers on a daily basis. The engineers partner with the relay techs to ensure the protection systems are designed properly to perform the desired tasks. They also manage BTU’s supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system, which allows one central location to control system relays from the field. Finally, they examine the protection system after an emergency event to ensure that the protection system performed as it was designed.

Keeping the relay network functioning also helps BTU know when, where, and why a power outage occurred. The engineers troubleshoot problem areas by either checking the relays on-site at the substation or by accessing them remotely through BTU’s secure fiber-optic communication network.

While typically working behind the scenes, BTU’s substation team all work together in a highly collaborative manner and play a critical role in BTU’s effort to provide safe, reliable power to customers at a highly competitive rate.

Beyond their technical skills, each member of the team possesses a unique desire to do an exceptional job for the community in which they live. ■

This is the last in a series to explore the craft personnel who help power BTU.



BRYAN DRIVE-IN RECYCLING CENTER

Recycling is everyone's responsibility



HERE ARE JUST A FEW
RECYCLING IDEAS:

Purchase products made
from recycled materials.

Bring your own reusable
bag to the grocery store.

Avoid disposable items
such as paper plates,
paper cups, and utensils.

Buy products packaged
in cardboard instead
of styrofoam.

Use gift bags instead of
wrapping paper or
reuse wrapping paper.

Before you leave home,
adjust the air conditioning
and water heater thermostats
to conserve energy.

Recycling begins at home. Learn how to recycle, reuse, and reduce to decrease household waste. You will be saving money, energy, and natural resources. Bryan's Drive-In Recycling Center is easy to find - located on Briarcrest Drive next to Walmart - and open seven days a week: Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

SINCE 2007, THE BRYAN DRIVE-IN RECYCLING CENTER HAS DIVERTED MORE THAN 2,900 TONS OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS FROM ENTERING OUR REGIONAL LANDFILL.

DID YOU KNOW THE CITY OF BRYAN OFFERS A FREE DO-IT-YOURSELF OIL CENTER TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF USED OIL, FILTERS AND GREASE? This facility is designed for residential use only. The Center is open six days a week, Monday - Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and is located at the corner of Martin Luther King Blvd. and Dansby Ave. The Oil Center accepts:

- Used oil
- Oil filters
- Used cooking grease

DID YOU KNOW ONCE PER YEAR EVERY BRYAN RESIDENT IS ELIGIBLE TO EARN A FREE MONTH OF GARBAGE SERVICE?

Bring the receipt portion of your most recent utility bill or the automatic draft receipt to the recycling center when you recycle. A stamp will be placed on your utility bill by one of the Drive-In staff members. Save 12 months of stamps and return all receipts with the stamps to the recycling center. A voucher is issued verifying your free garbage service and a credit will appear on a future utility bill. Look for the word "adjustment" - this will be your credit. Please allow up to 45 days for the credit to appear.

For more information on the Bryan Drive-In Recycling Center and the Do-It-Yourself Oil Center, go to www.bryantx.gov or call 979.209.5675. Commit to recycling - you'll be helping our environment and our community!



Tradition lives in Bryan

START YOUR AGGIE FOOTBALL WEEKEND
OFF WITH A WIN IN THE CITY OF BRYAN.



With delicious locally owned restaurants, unique shopping and a family-friendly atmosphere, Bryan is the perfect place to start your weekend fun.

The historic downtown area is a great place to catch up with friends while taking in the local culture before the big game. Bryan is home to art galleries, craft product shops and a historic hotel. Experience excellent dining at any of our award winning restaurants, many of which are Aggie owned and operated.

Spend the afternoon at one of our many parks or out on Lake Bryan. Equipped with hiking trails, picnic tables and a variety of athletic courts, our Bryan parks are sure to keep you and your family having fun all weekend.

Plan to make Football Fridays in Bryan a part of your Aggie traditions this football season. Everything is bigger in Texas, and better in Bryan!