



# BOARD MEETING NOTES

THE BTU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET ON MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2015 AND DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

## FINANCIAL

Joe Hegwood presented the financial report to the BTU Board of Directors. Mr. Hegwood highlighted several items illustrating net revenues and operating and capital costs of the City and Rural systems.

BTU's Capital Improvement Program spending in the City system is currently under budget due primarily to the timing of transmission work. Spending in the Rural system is slightly over budget due to costs associated with TXDOT's widening of FM 2154 and the rewind of a transformer. Staff expects year end to be at budget.

Mr. Hegwood also discussed large items purchased in June:

### Items over \$100,000

- Upgrade / replacement of 138Kv breakers and 138 & 69Kv switches awarded to Integrated Power Company in the amount of \$125,356.
- Oracle storage for Oracle infrastructure upgrade was awarded to Freit Data Solutions in the amount of \$156,545.

### June 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.

The BTU Investment Report dated June 30, 2015 was also presented to the BTU Board of Directors. Mr. Hegwood stated that the Investment Committee met and reviewed the report in July.

## OPERATIONS

Gary Miller presented the safety statistics for the previous month to the BTU Board of Directors, stating BTU had no recordable incidents for the month making the incident rate 1.67 for Fiscal Year 2015 to date. Mr. Miller stated the second Continuous Improvement Team would be formed at the beginning of BTU's new fiscal year. Mr. Miller noted that he continues to see a positive change to BTU's safety culture.

## TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION REPORT

The SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index) and SAIFI (System Average Interruption Frequency Index) report for the month of July was presented. Randy Trimble stated the outage with the longest duration, which occurred in the city system, was due to an underground equipment failure. The outage with the longest duration in the rural system was due to a storm with high winds causing a tree to fall into the system.



## BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

205 East 28th Street • Bryan, TX 77803

email: [ContactBTU@btutilities.com](mailto: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

**T**his month, Walter is celebrating 15 years with BTU. He started in Customer Service and held a few positions within that department before moving to line design three years ago.

“They showed me how to do a bunch of different things in customer service when I started. I came over here and I’m learning everything I can,” said Walter Williams, Line Designer for BTU.

When the company he previously worked for closed down, Walter found himself without a job.

“I was heading to the unemployment line. I didn’t know where it was so I ended up going to City Hall. I was given directions and when I got to the correct location, I was told that BTU was hiring. I headed back and filled out an application.”

As a line designer, Walter has to identify and design routes for getting electricity from point A to point B. “We look for the best possible route to get it to the customer.”

When he meets with customers, the job requires taking detailed notes of the project on-site. The electric line design process begins back at the office. However, new technology that BTU is implementing will allow him to design in the field. This will help to better plan for obstacles like gas and water lines, since the software will show all lines.

*“If you teach me, I’ll learn it!”  
Walter Williams, Line Designer*



*“I like helping people, drawing, and numbers. Line design brings all of it together.”  
- Walter Williams*

Aside from his daily job at BTU, Walter has been a pastor for 20 years. When he’s not working, he can be found volunteering with the Prairie View A&M band. “I have two sons in the band. My oldest is a drum major and my other son is in the drum line.

My youngest says he’s also going there to play in the band.”

When he isn’t working or volunteering, Walter enjoys carpentry and building things. He also loves to travel to see new parts of the country. ■



# SERVICE AWARDS BANQUET

22 Service Awards were presented at this year's banquet held in August. BTU appreciates all it's staff and board members - together we really are making a difference!

PHOTOS BY RYAN STOUT

## 5 YEARS

Maurice Carlson  
Production

Joshua Carmack  
QSE

David Hering  
Distribution

Doug Lyles  
Fiscal

Danielle Mabrey  
Fiscal

Andrew Piper  
Transmission

Michael Seaton  
Transmission

James Tanneberger  
Transmission

## 10 YEARS

James Coe  
Distribution

Noe Escamilla  
Distribution

Robert Lopez  
Distribution

Gary Miller  
Administration

Michael Trowbridge  
Transmission



Maurice Carlson



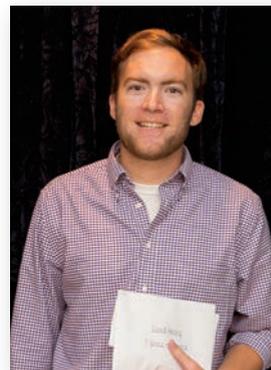
Danielle Mabrey



Joshua Carmack



Michael Seaton



David Hering



James Coe



Doug Lyles

THE DIFFERENCE IS YOU!

THE DIFFERENCE IS YOU!

## 15 YEARS

John Bounds  
Production

Ricardo Castaneda  
Distribution

Christopher Green  
Distribution

Angie Sosa  
Customer Service

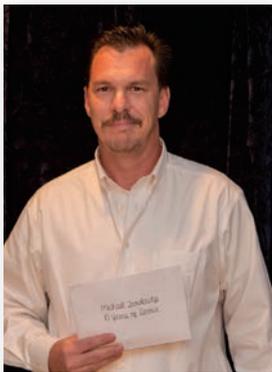
Phebe Mosley  
Fiscal

Randy Trimble  
Distribution

Walter Williams  
Distribution



Noe Escamilla



Michael Trowbridge

## 20 YEARS

Frank Boley  
Distribution

Robert Crawford  
Customer Service



Gary Miller



John Bounds



Ricardo Castaneda



Angie Sosa



Phebe Mosley



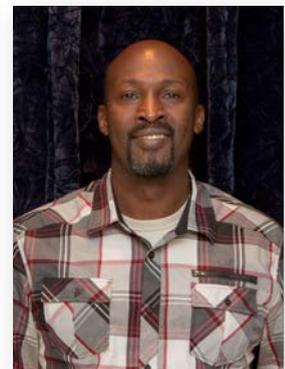
Randy Trimble



Robert Crawford

“BTU employees continue to take a great deal of pride in the work that we do and the value that we bring to the community.”

Gary Miller  
General Manager



Walter Williams





# BRYAN HEALTH and WELLNESS

STORY BY KENNETH W. SMITH JR.

*How do you reinvent an area of your city to be a vibrant, growing and healthy neighborhood? You start with a plan.*

Often when people think about economic or community development they envision new expansion - new neighborhoods, new stores, new facilities. Those kinds of projects are popping up all over Bryan, and they are able to start with a clean slate and have a defined scope.

But how do you take visions for economic and community development and apply them to existing neighborhoods? Well, the first thing you do is get all of the involved parties together and create a plan. That's what recently happened in Bryan with the City's new Health and Wellness Area Plan.

The purpose of this plan is to create a shared community vision and implementation strategy for improvements to the area around St. Joseph Regional Health Center and Blinn College.

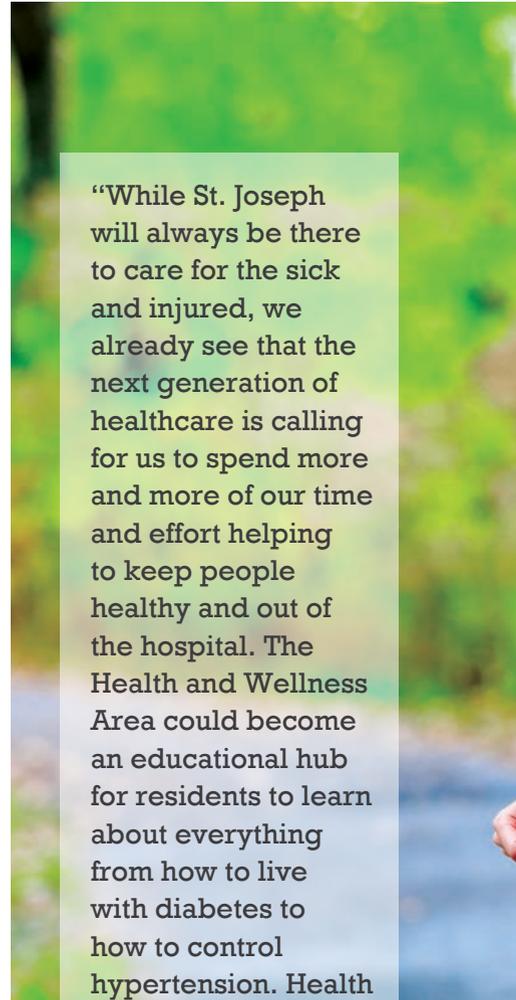
Building off of the success of a community-based planned effort in revitalizing Downtown Bryan, the City, St. Joseph, and other partners created this guide for future development and land uses, infrastructure improvements, and enhancements to the area in and around Briarcrest Drive, East Villa Maria Road, and East 29th Street.

"This plan is the result of strong public-private partnerships between the City of Bryan, St. Joseph Regional Health Center, Crestview Retirement Community, Bryan Independent School District, Blinn College, and local commercial and residential property owners," said Lindsey Guindi, Director of Strategic Projects for the City of Bryan. "The partnerships resulted in a master planning document that is intended to promote healthy lifestyles for residents in and around the St. Joseph campus, and to encourage similar development throughout the Bryan area."

The plan establishes priorities and identifies investments to help stabilize the neighborhood as a key economic center in Bryan. It also aims to increase the presence and awareness of St. Joseph Regional Health Center and surrounding medical and educational facilities, while enhancing and branding the area as a "healthy neighborhood." It also promotes adding destinations serving employees, residents, and visitors, and promoting continued private investment in the area.

"The Health and Wellness Area Plan is an idea that could reshape Bryan as a hub for healthy living," said Tim Ottinger, Advocacy Officer, St. Joseph Health System. "The concept of the area is to work with residents, businesses and other organizations to create a livable space that would actually promote health for area residents."

Ottinger said that while the area is home to the region's largest and busiest medical center, which is a draw for



"While St. Joseph will always be there to care for the sick and injured, we already see that the next generation of healthcare is calling for us to spend more and more of our time and effort helping to keep people healthy and out of the hospital. The Health and Wellness Area could become an educational hub for residents to learn about everything from how to live with diabetes to how to control hypertension. Health

education and healthy activities could be available for people of all ages in the Health and Wellness Area."

- Tim Ottinger  
Advocacy Officer  
St. Joseph Health System





residents, businesses, and more than 2,000 healthcare workers, the area lacks amenities and infrastructure that would make it a place where health-minded people want to come to live and enjoy outdoor activities, such as walking, biking, and playing sports.

“We hope the area will attract investors to improve housing options in the area, allowing our staff and other healthcare professionals to live within walking distance of their work,” Ottinger said. “That residential development could draw in more retail businesses and dining establishments, which are needed in the area.”

One component that makes this plan great for the City of Bryan is the transparency it aims to offer to citizens. Guindi described the objective as creating a more proactive approach to healthcare through increased medical options. Businesses would offer more up-front health services that would allow citizens to form relationships with health professionals before illness occurs or emergency treatment is needed.

That goes hand-in-hand with the changing landscape of healthcare that hospitals are facing. St. Joseph is investing more than \$22 million in building a new state-of-the-art Emergency and Trauma Center that will provide services for residents across the region. But that is only one component of healthcare of the future.

There are many different goals within the overarching plan, but some that stand out are the creation of more green spaces, making the area more pedestrian friendly, creating better business opportunities, and addressing future traffic concerns.

“*The City of Bryan Health and Wellness Area Plan will be a great tool for Bryan. It will help bring greater economic value to our City, increase the number of healthy lifestyle options, and provide proactive health care treatment to keep our citizens happy and healthy.*”

- Lindsey Guindi  
Director of Strategic Projects  
City of Bryan

For more details, and to view the City of Bryan Health and Wellness Area Plan, visit [www.bryantx.gov](http://www.bryantx.gov). ■





# PUBLIC SAFETY

*Safety is a top priority at BTU and it's even more important when it comes to our kids.*

Kids don't always know - or remember - what can be dangerous, so it's up to all of us to watch out for their safety.

Here are a few safety rules for power lines:

*Don't plant trees or install tall playground equipment under or near power lines.*

*Don't build tree houses in trees near electric lines.*

*Don't allow children to climb trees growing near electric lines.*

*Teach your children to always look up to check for power lines before climbing trees or any tall objects.*

*Keep children away from ladders, poles or work equipment that may be near power lines.*

And the No. 1 safety rule for everyone to remember is this: **DON'T TOUCH A POWER LINE OR ANYTHING THAT'S TOUCHING A POWER LINE.** No one can tell simply by looking at a line whether it is energized or not, and contact with a power line can be deadly. Remember, electricity always seeks the easiest path to reach the ground, and, unfortunately, human beings are good conductors of electricity.





# RECYCLE YOUR WAY TO A BETTER WORLD

*Recycling is an important part of BTU's culture - we encourage you to make it a part of your daily life, too.*

## CHANGE THE WAY YOU SHOP



### USE REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS

Reusable shopping bags are better for the environment, wildlife, and the economy. They last much longer and significantly help to reduce problems that plastic and paper bags produce.

### AVOID PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES

Disposable water bottles litter highways, clog waterways, or end up in incinerators and landfills. Switch to reusable water bottles - they're better for the environment and your wallet!



### PLAN AHEAD

Plan your shopping trips ahead of time to reduce the number of trips and automobile emissions. Make a shopping list and keep a supply of reusable bags in your car.

## START AT HOME

### MAKE IT A HABIT

Make recycling a part of your day-to-day life and your family's daily routine. Set up recycling bins where everyone can find them and be sure your kids know how and where to recycle.

### THINK GREEN WITH ALL YOUR GARBAGE

Did you know that broken computers, tv's, batteries, cell phones and even some non-stick pans can be recycled? Other recyclables include fluorescent light bulbs and toner cartridges.

### MAKE IT EASY

Post a list of recyclables in a designated area of your home. Having a list handy will help make recycling easier and more likely to become a habit.



## USE LOCAL FACILITIES

### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR LOCAL RECYCLING CENTER

The City of Bryan's Drive-In Recycling Center is located on Briarcrest in Bryan - next to Walmart. The City of Bryan operates the Center which is open seven days a week - closed only for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Visit the Center's website at [www.bryantx.gov/environmental-services/recycling-programs/](http://www.bryantx.gov/environmental-services/recycling-programs/) for a complete list of the Drive-In Recycling Center guidelines.