BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

Board Meeting Notes

The BTU Board of Directors met on Monday, May 12, 2014 and discussed the following topics:

Financial

Joe Hegwood, Chief Financial Officer for the City of Bryan/BTU, presented the financial report. It remains consistent with previous reports. Mr. Hegwood also

- presented a Five Year Capital Improvement Plan, that after review and discussion was approved by the Board;
- presented the Operating and Maintenance budget for review, discussion and voting at the June meeting; and
- advised the Board that the Texas Municipal Power Agency needs to increase its commercial paper capacity to finance transmission construction through 2018. The Board passed a recommendation to the Bryan City Council to approve an increase in the commercial paper limit to allow for necessary increased transmission construction.

David Werley, BTU Group Manager of Business and Customer Operations, introduced a representative from NewGen Strategies and Solutions who presented the results of BTU's Cost of Service Study.

Operations

Randy Trimble, BTU Group Manager of Transmission and Distribution, presented the safety statistics for April, which showed BTU had no at fault vehicle accidents, two lost time accidents and three recordable incidents giving BTU an overall 4.75 incident rate for the year.

The SAIDI and SAIFI report for the month of April indicated the outages that occurred in both city and rural systems were mostly due to spring storms.

The Board discussed and approved the award of a contract for the NERC Alert Clearance Project.

The Board passed a recommendation to the Bryan City Council to appoint David Bairrington to the TMPA Board of Directors effective in July.

Gary Miller, General Manager of BTU, presented a congratulatory letter from Gary Barnes, Associate Vice President for Finance and Controller for Texas A&M University, recognizing BTU's national recognition for earning the Reliable Public Power Provider RP_3 Diamond Award.

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. Chris Peterson, Vice Chairman
Mr. Paul Turney, Secretary/Treasurer
Mr. Art Hughes, Ex-Officio
Mr. Flynn Adcock
Mr. David Bairrington
Mr. Bill Ballard
Mr. Ben Hardeman

General Manager

Gary Miller

Group Managers

Larry Gurley
Randy Trimble
David Werley

Division Managers

James Bodine
Bill Bullock
Shawndra Green
Michael Hering
Ken Lindberg
Doug Lyles
Vicki Reim
Scott Smith
James Tanneberger

Lee R. Starr, Chief Risk Officer

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

BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES
BTU
THE DIFFERENCE IS YOU

Employee Spotlight

Stephen Copeland

Transmission Engineer

Story by Gina Florence.
Photos by Ryan Stout.

Stephen Copeland developed an interest in math and science at a young age. He attended magnet schools for both elementary and high school. While he was attending high school at Townview, a Dallas magnet school for math and science, Stephen became interested in working for a power company.

His father serves as the Deputy City Attorney for Denton, Texas, and had taken Stephen to Denton Municipal Electric to speak with engineers and learn about their jobs.

"I asked several questions, such as what to look for in a college, what to study and what type of classes to take," Stephen said.

With their advice, Stephen was led to study Electrical Engineering at Iowa State University. After graduation three years ago, Stephen wanted to move closer to home, so he started to look at the member cities of the Texas Municipal Power Agency (TMPA). BTU had the right opening for him as a Transmission Engineer.

"Every day has a new challenge and learning opportunity," Stephen said. "The knowledge base among the engineers is amazing. Everyone is willing to pitch in and help out on projects."

The opportunity to help on other projects allows Stephen to see the entire process of how the utility is run, from compliance to operations. There is no typical day for him, as he spends some time behind a desk monitoring the digital logic of the micro-processing relays, the sensors that monitor the performance on the power lines. Other days, he may be at a substation working with the relay technicians and the substation technicians on ways to improve reliability or look for what needs to be maintained.

"The digital logic that we have gives us scans to know how the electricity is flowing on the lines. It gives us insight on how all the pieces interact with one another," Stephen said.

Some of the projects Stephen is working on include implementing an Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) system to track BTU vehicles in real time to know where they are in response to a power outage, and working on the Remote Terminal Units which set up an internal network that efficiently transfers data to dispatchers.

Over the next few years, BTU will be upgrading more substations to make them more secure and robust with the digital micro-processing relays. "We are always trying to improve the systems as much as possible," he said.

From improving the systems to improving the community, Stephen and his wife volunteer with Habitat for Humanity in their spare time. "My first year here, BTU sponsored a Habitat house. My sister had worked on Habitat homes before, so I got involved. We really enjoy helping with this organization. It's led to a new interest in carpentry and I've been making some tables."

While he does not see a future in building furniture, he does see one at BTU. "I plan to be here, working in Engineering for a while."

Locally-Owned FIBERTOWN Provides High-Tech Support for Gulf Coast Companies

Story by Louellen S. Coker. Photos courtesy of FIBERTOWN.

Historic Downtown Bryan is more than the site of majestic buildings, delectable culinary fare, unique shopping and live entertainment. Nestled amongst all the history is a state-of-the-art facility that serves Fortune 500 and mid-size organizations based along the Gulf Coast. This hidden gem is FIBERTOWN Data Centers, and their world-class technology campus offers state-of-the-art offsite business continuity options and a disaster recovery (DR) data center.

Founded in 1997 by local entrepreneurs from Texas A&M University and owners of Astin Partners, FIBERTOWN has two campuses. The original Bryan campus began providing support in 2003 and is home to a 26,000-square-foot data center that is interconnected and concurrently maintainable with a 50,000-square-foot data center in Houston that was opened in 2011. The combined force of the two data centers gives FIBERTOWN's Gulf region clients something no other city in Texas can: proximity. They are far enough away from the coast for safety, yet close enough for convenience.

Brandon Perryman, Senior Vice President, explained, "The logistics of managing technologies and coordinating personnel every day or in a disruptive time can be a challenge. Our Houston location offers our customers local options for their data needs, literally, just down the street. In the event of a hurricane or other disruptive event, our Bryan-College Station campus is ready to activate at a moment's notice. Because we are only 90 minutes away from Houston, Bryan-College Station is arguably the best location in Texas for business continuity and disaster recovery support."

Companies are turning to FIBERTOWN for their unique needs for several reasons. Specifically, the Bryan-College Station campus is

- situated far enough from the Gulf Coast to be protected against storms;
- located outside the FEMA 500-year flood zone;
- a short drive away from the coast, offering reduced operational costs and lost productivity while simplifying post-hurricane realities for employees; and
- surrounded by local amenities that ease the rigors of relocation.

Convenience aside, FIBERTOWN brings so much more to its customers. Their connectivity is unparalleled. Mr. Perryman noted, "There is a major fiber interchange a short 150 feet from the Bryan facility, and the Houston facility is located on a major fiber route. We have a dedicated, private gateway connecting our data centers along with diverse fiber entrances into the buildings."

He explained, "We are able to provide up to Tier IV infrastructure support because each location has multiple

"Because we are only 90 minutes away from Houston, Bryan-College Station is arguably the best location in Texas for business continuity and disaster recovery support."

"Our small team has allowed us to get to know our customers and understand their needs. ...we are able to listen to and address their needs very quickly. We do more than provide a service; we are partners."

generators configured as N+1, onsite backup fuel supplies, contracts with fuel suppliers, and during a disruption, our Bryan location offers dedicated work space that is perfect for small to large-scale disaster recovery efforts."

In praise of the organization, Mark Lennon, Head of IT Americas for Maersk Oil, stated that FIBERTOWN provides the precise mix of performance, security and customer service. "We know we can scale quickly with the upmost levels of redundancy."

In addition to its state-of-the-art technology that ensures continuity, compliance and proximity to the Gulf Coast, FIBERTOWN also stands out in the area of customer service. Their staff is 25 strong and growing, with each center providing dedicated customer support from experienced and knowledgeable technicians who their customers recognize and can count on.

Holly Gary, Vice President of Marketing, said, "Our small team has allowed us to get to know our customers and understand their needs. Because our customers always work with the same person on our team, we are able to listen to and address their needs very quickly. We do more than provide a service; we are partners."

Speaking of their relationship with FIBERTOWN, Jimmy Whorton, Vice President of IT for Camden Living, expressed, "FIBERTOWN is excellent to work with and a true business partner from pricing/contract negotiations through implementation and ongoing support. We feel very comfortable using both the Houston and Bryan facilities for our primary and disaster recovery data center locations."

To discover if FIBERTOWN is a good fit for your business needs or for more information, please visit their website, www.FIBERTOWN.com.

FIBERTOWN

George Bush Presidential Library Foundation and BTU Name 2014 Public Service Scholarship Winners

Story by Louellen S. Coker.

The George Bush Presidential Library Foundation, along with its partner, Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU), has selected the 2014 recipients of the George Bush High School Public Service Scholarship. This accolade honors former President George Bush and his commitment to service in the Bryan-College Station community.

This scholarship is awarded to high school seniors in the Bryan-College Station school districts who have both outstanding academic and community service records. The ultimate goal of the scholarship is to encourage young adults to give back to their communities. Recipients of this award receive a $3,000 scholarship for post-high school education and their high schools receive an academic grant of $2,500.

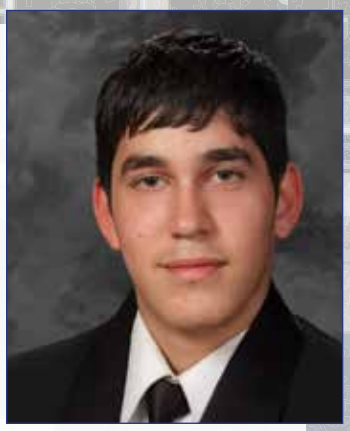
This year's recipients are Emily A. Carroll of Travis B. Bryan High School, Cesar Alejandro Ruiz Guerra of Bryan Collegiate High School, August Montana Hammack of James Earl Rudder High School, Brooke A. Versaw of A&M Consolidated High School and Michael D. Walker of St. Joseph Catholic School.

"BTU is pleased to partner with the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation in their scholarship program," said Gary Miller, BTU General Manager. "We feel it is important for everyone to encourage our youth to participate in community service and to help them receive the education they need to be successful in their endeavors."

Emily A. Carroll

Emily A. Carroll, daughter of Robert and Denise Carroll, a former student of Travis B. Bryan High School will attend Oklahoma State University to pursue a degree in Microbiology. Throughout high school she was active in the National Honor Society, varsity volleyball, chorale and musical choirs. Emily was also active in the Meals on Wheels program at St. Anthony's Catholic Church and volunteered with the Women and Youth Supporting Each Other mentoring program with the senior citizens at the Crestview Retirement Center. She is excited to receive this scholarship that will help her pursue her dreams of ultimately becoming a doctor. She reflected, "Receiving this scholarship means my hard work has paid off and that my community cares about my career and future. This scholarship will further my goals in assisting others through medicine. I am grateful for this support for both me and my dreams."

Cesar Alejandro Ruiz Guerra



Cesar Ruiz Guerra, son of Cesar Ruiz and Patricia Guerra, who just graduated from Bryan Collegiate High School, plans to attend Texas A&M University to pursue a degree in Biological & Agricultural Engineering. While working two part-time jobs and being diligent with his studies, Cesar found time to raise money to help those fighting cancer, tutor at Stephen F. Austin Middle School, participate in teen court and church activities, as well as exercise his passion for soccer by serving as an assistant coach at Bryan Soccer Club. Concerning the scholarship, Cesar said, "I cannot find the words to describe how grateful I am to receive the George Bush Scholarship. Along with the great honor to have won this prestigious award, it serves as proof that hard work really pays off. I am thankful to everyone who made this scholarship possible and have gotten me one step closer to attending TAMU."

"We feel it is important for everyone to encourage our youth to participate in community service and to help them receive the education they need to be successful in their endeavors."

August Montana Hammack

Montana Hammack, son of Allen and Claire Hammack, is a 2014 graduate of James Earl Rudder High School. Beginning this fall, he will continue his undergraduate studies in Agribusiness at Texas A&M University. Along with rigorous high school studies that included dual credit and AP classes, Montana garnered recognition for his involvement with FFA, 4H, Rudder Varsity Baseball, Brazos Valley Renegades Baseball, Zion Youth Ministry, National Honor Society, Peer Assistance and Leadership Program, Young Life, and the Junior Leadership Brazos Class of 2013. He was also active in numerous charitable projects including Relay for Life, KBTX Food for Families Food Drive, Habitat for Humanity, Twin City Mission Blanket and Coat Drive and Meals of Love. Reflecting on the scholarship, he said, "Receiving this scholarship is a tremendous honor. It is a privilege to represent my school and I am proud that a grant is being awarded to my high school so that future students can receive the best education possible."

Brooke A. Versaw

Brooke Versaw, daughter of Lori and Wayne Versaw and a 2014 graduate of A&M Consolidated High School, will study Chemistry at Texas A&M University. While in high school, she played viola in her school's orchestra, was a member of the school's UIL Spelling and Vocabulary Team and held leadership roles in the Spanish Club and National Honor Society. She helped her fellow classmates by tutoring mathematics in addition to chemistry and physics through the Brown Bag Science tutoring program. She also donated her time as a junior docent at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum. When asked what receiving the scholarship means to her, she said, "This award represents both an acknowledgement of my attempts to serve my school and community and a source of encouragement to continue President Bush's legacy of service. Moreover, this scholarship offers me the ability to further my education without financial concerns—an opportunity that I consider a gift of the highest order."

Michael D. Walker

Michael Walker, son of Mary and Duncan Walker, will benefit from his studies at St. Joseph Catholic School as he pursues an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering at The United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. In addition to his studies and part-time job at a local grocery store, Michael actively participated in varsity sports — football, track and field, weightlifting, as well as band, Boy Scouts, National Honor Society, Student Council, Robotics, and the Knights of Columbus. "I am so thankful to the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation for their great generosity," he reflected. "I am proud to live in a community with such great supporters of education. I hope to make the best use of this scholarship at The United States Naval Academy and pay it forward by serving in the United States Navy."

Cool Off This Summer!
10 Energy-Saving Tips to Help You Save Money

1. Replace your air filters. Dirty filters restrict airflow and can cause the system to run longer.
2. Turn off appliances, lights and other equipment. Unplug chargers and electronic devices that continue to use energy even when they are turned off.
3. Run the clothes dryer and dishwasher at night on hot days, or better yet, air-dry your clothes and dishes.
4. Spend less time in the kitchen. Use a microwave, toaster oven or outdoor grill instead of the oven; this keeps your kitchen cooler and uses less energy too.
5. Fill up the fridge. Having lots of food in your refrigerator and freezer keeps it from warming too fast when the door is open.
6. Take shorter and cooler showers. Not only will you use less water, but also you'll feel better in the Texas heat with a cooler shower.
7. Keep the sun out. Close curtains and blinds during the day to keep the sun from heating up the house.
8. Get out of the house. Take advantage of the 40 parks and the aquatic facilities that Bryan has to offer. The pools and pavilions will cool you off from the summer activities.
9. Change out light bulbs to more efficient ones such as compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) or light-emitting diodes (LED).
10. Mow the lawn. Keep tall grass, weeds and vines away from the outside condenser unit so that air circulation is not impeded.

Bonus Tip: Save Money and Water!

Run your washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

Going Green from the Ground Up: Building an Energy-Saving Home

Story by Gina Florence. Photo by Ryan Stout.

Twice a year, local homebuilders showcase their work in the Parade of Homes. With residential home construction on the rise, this past spring Bryan had several homes featured in the Parade. "The Parade is a perfect time to go out and see the homes being built, meet with the builders to ask questions and look at their craftsmanship," said Rose Selman, Executive Director of Bryan-College Station Home Builders Association.

From the Red River to the Rio Grande, Texas is growing. More than 1.3 million people have migrated to Texas from other states between 2010 and 2013—roughly the same population as San Antonio.

Most of the growth is occurring in Houston, Austin and Dallas/Fort Worth. Perfectly centered between these markets, Bryan is developing commercially and residentially just as quickly. In March, Bryan launched a Home Builders Incentive Program to attract more home growth in the target range of 2,200–3,000 heated square feet. The influx of population and builders incentives have led to new subdivisions being built.

New and existing Texas homebuyers look to make their homes comfortable in the summer heat without spending a fortune on utility bills. Buyers are working with builders to ensure energy efficiency in their homes from the onset.

"The market is driving local builders to include the eco-friendly items as buyers become more knowledgeable and look at value they add over time by reducing utility bills," said Rose.

Homebuilders have readily adopted eco-friendly building methods and energy-efficient appliances. Technology is making residential home construction products, such as low-e windows, spray-foam insulation and tankless water heaters, more affordable and accessible for builders.

Before starting construction on a new home, it's important to do research. "A knowledgeable builder will show all the cost savings benefits with the eco-friendly products," Rose said. There are several builders locally who have obtained a designation as a Certified Green Professional from the National Homebuilders Association.

In order for a home to be considered energy-efficient, it needs to meet some requirements such as insulation in walls with a minimum value of R-13 and attic insulation

of R-30, programmable thermostats and 50% of all lighting to be high-efficiency lamps.

"There is a continuum of shades of green homes, from light green to deep green net-zero homes. Unlike in the past, today's deep green home does not look or feel all that different from it's energy-wasting neighbor," Rose said.

If a homebuyer is looking toward building on the deeper end of the green scale, the use of passive solar design to heat and cool the living space may be one option to include in construction. Another option might be to add a micro wind turbine if the local municipality allows for them.

Those items typically come with a hefty up-front cost and can place buyers outside of the intended budget. Homeowners should look for features that can pay back upfront costs over seven years, through rebates, incentives and savings.

Many Energy Star appliances offer rebates to homeowners and builders upfront, and save the homeowners throughout the years. Also, homebuyers should look for the Home Energy Rating System Index (HERS Index). This index measures a home's energy efficiency and where modifications can be made for greater energy savings. A lower HERS rating can command a higher resale price down the road. Lastly, talk to the homebuilder to find out what has been built to meet or exceed energy codes.

"Even if you aren't in the market now for a new home, the Parade can help give ideas on how to upgrade existing homes to be more energy-efficient," Rose said. "And if a newly-built home is in your future, make sure to research products, become familiar with energy-efficient guidelines and ask your builder questions that are important about your home."