



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
- 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



Board Meeting Notes

The BTU Board of Directors met on Monday, September 8, 2014 and discussed the following topics:

Financial

Doug Lyles, BTU's Chief Risk Officer & Controller, presented the financial report to the BTU Board of Directors. Mr. Lyles highlighted several items illustrating net revenues and operating and capital costs of the City and Rural systems. BTU's CIP spending is under budget due primarily to the deferral of several projects to the FY15 budget as well as the timing of spending on transmission construction projects.

Mr. Lyles stated that Standard & Poor's recently reviewed BTU's City and Rural credit and reaffirmed BTU's A+ and stable outlook rating.

Operations

David Werley, BTU's Group Manager of Business and Customer Operations, reviewed the SmartBUSINESS Incentive Program with the BTU Board of Directors. Mr. Werley stated that a reduction in the incentive cap from 25% to 20% will allow several additional commercial customers to take advantage of the Smart Business Incentive Program going forward into FY15. The Board approved the modification.

Shawndra Green, BTU's Division Manager of Engineering & System Planning, presented the following:

- Bid tabulations for one 69kV to 12.47kV, 37MVA transformer. The Board awarded the contract.
- Resolution authorizing the Board Chair to sign a partial release of a City of Bryan easement located at 1100 Autumn Circle in College Station. BTU facilities are covered by a separate easement. The Board approved the resolution.

Ms. Green also presented the safety statistics for the previous month, stating BTU had no at fault vehicle accidents and one recordable incident giving BTU an overall 5.76 incident rate thus far for the year.

The SAIDI and SAIFI reports for the month of August were presented. Ms. Green stated that August was a good SAIDI and SAIFI month and the outages which occurred in both city and rural systems were mostly due to summer storms.

The Board of Directors voted to recommend to the Bryan City Council the reappointment of Carl Benner as Chairman of the BTU Board of Directors.



Employee Spotlight

Farah Mack

Meter Data Analyst - Customer Operations



Story by Gina Florence.

Photos by Ryan Stout.

“My charisma is the secret to my success,” Farah Mack admits that she is not a typical data analyst in the energy field. “I’m young and female.”

She joined Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU) a little more than a year ago in the position of Meter Data Analyst – Customer Operations. With 16 years in the energy industry, Farah has worked for several companies including Honeywell and Austin Energy, completed training from the Project Management Institute, and earned her first six-sigma certification.

As a Meter Data Analyst, Farah receives the raw meter readings from the BTU electric and water systems. Her job is to review and validate the data by looking for any abnormalities in the readings which could happen from an electrical outage. She validates to finalize the readings and if they need to be edited, she uses a scientific method to validate. Once the meter readings are validated, the final reports are handed off to the billing department.

She credits her “nerdy” nature and finding good female mentors along the way to help her push forward in a male-dominated industry. “Ashley Chaffin Glover is a Harvard Business graduate that I worked with at Velocity/Real Page, a 3rd party utility billing service. I learned so much working for her and she was a wonderful mentor. Rita

Holmes at Austin Energy picked up where Ashley left off,” Farah said. “I feel it’s important for women to help each other as we juggle the duties of work and family. Through this support we are all better able to succeed.”

Now Farah tries to give back and mentor other women in the industry field as well. But it’s not just at work that she helps coach others on their path. Farah and her husband started their own Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Basketball team and college prep for the basketball players. The team travels all over the country to play in tournaments and they won the 2011 Vegas Live Championship.

“My son was playing on a team and we saw things we didn’t agree with. So instead of complaining about it, we decided to do something. We’ve taken everything we didn’t like and flipped it into something positive.”

Her son Dion was among the first graduating class of her AAU team, which saw all eight high school seniors go on to attend college. Dion was given a scholarship to play for Bakersfield College in California. (He was featured in the local pages of the August 2014 issue of *Texas Co-op Power Magazine*.)

The Mack’s AAU team is based in her former hometown of Georgetown. Now that they call the Brazos Valley home, they are looking to add a new team to the region and may debut a girls’ team.

“We are so blessed with how everything worked out. I really enjoy the people I work with. They are fun and hardworking. The public never sees how hard they work.”

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Kent Moore CABINETS

Provides Quality, Service and Innovation to Custom Cabinet Industry

Story by Louellen S. Coker. Photos courtesy of Kent Moore Cabinets, Ltd.

As a Texas A&M University Education major with his sights set on becoming a biology teacher and coach in 1971, Kent Moore decided to subsidize his college education by subcontracting to do cabinet and trim work in the Bryan-College Station area. Kent's abilities, coupled with a vibrant growth period in the region, quickly turned his part-time employment into a flourishing full-time business: Kent Moore Cabinets, Ltd.

"In the early years," explained Teresa Galliher, Vice President of Marketing and Human Resources, "Kent, along with two employees, would move equipment from job to job to build cabinets on-site. At that time, production capacity was limited to installations in two houses each week. Over the years, we've grown and streamlined the process in a way that allows us to build 700-1000 cabinets a day and install complete cabinets in approximately 125 homes a week."

"We've always looked to provide the best quality and service in the custom homebuilding market," Ms. Galliher said. "And in so doing, our commitment to craftsmanship, dependability, innovation and willingness to change has put us in the position to be pioneers in the custom cabinet industry. Our cabinets are all custom made, not modular and don't contain any fillers. You'll

find them in custom homes throughout the state."

Since they started building in-shop and shipping custom cabinets that are within 1/16th of an inch to specification, Kent Moore Cabinets has experienced consistent growth since 1976. Growth which spurred a move in 1989 to a larger location in Bryan which still houses the cabinet construction process. In 2004, the addition of a 47,000-square-foot facility in the Brazos County Industrial Park and the company's incorporation of technological advances, waste reduction, recycling, waterborne finishing materials along with the purchase of environmentally approved construction materials have allowed further expansion in terms of both capacity and the integration of a high-end furniture finish. Another 77,000 square feet were added in 2009.

Kent Moore Cabinets works primarily with home builders who construct homes in the \$400,000-\$1 million plus range throughout Central Texas as well as independent builders and homeowners in all markets.

Along with creating high-quality products in an environmentally responsible manner, Kent Moore Cabinets believes in supporting charitable endeavors within the communities it serves. In addition to providing specialized silent auction items for fundraising





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events, the company participates in projects such as Habitat for Humanity, Homes for Veterans and Project Playhouse that assist people in obtaining affordable or transitional housing.

“We are delighted to contribute to such important community projects,” enthused Ms. Galliher. “The pride our employees put into making our cabinets is increased by being able to help those in need when their need is greatest. We care deeply about our product, our community and our employees.”

Kent Moore Cabinets employs more than 500 workers in its two production facilities in the Bryan-College Station area and six design center showrooms located

in Austin, Bryan-College Station, Clear Lake, Houston, San Antonio and Spring/The Woodlands. The business is the largest privately held custom cabinet manufacturer in Texas and was recently recognized by the Brazos County Better Business Bureau “for creating a culture of pride and teamwork and being honest and truthful.” Employees enjoy competitive wages, insurance, paid vacations and holidays, among other benefits. A listing of job opportunities, position requirements and application instructions are available on the company’s website, www.kentmoorecabinets.com.

Please visit their website or one of their showrooms to learn more about where innovation meets inspiration.



FOOD FOR FAMILIES



KBTX-TV 3
The People You Know
The News You Trust

**BRAZOS VALLEY
FOOD BANK**
FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS FEEDING HOPE

Wednesday, December 10

Brazos Center in Bryan

5:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

**Kimbro Center
in Madisonville**

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Mid-South Synergy Office
in Navasota**

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Live Streaming on
KBTX-TV**

throughout the day

www.KBtx.com

all day



“Hunger is an issue that impacts a lot of our neighbors. Support from those families who are food secure will make a tremendous difference in the lives of those who are not. Here is my challenge to all: Please don’t just think about giving to this year’s Food for Families Food Drive, *GIVE*. You can help by dropping off canned goods or making a monetary donation. KBTX-TV’s Food for Families Food Drive makes it easy to be a part of the solution.”

~Theresa Mangapora, Executive Director of the Brazos Valley Food Bank



Most Needed Items

- Beans (canned or dried)
- Canned Meats and Proteins (beef stew, chili, peanut butter, tuna, soups and chicken)
- Canned Vegetables (especially corn and green beans)
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pineapple and mixed fruit)
- Dry Staples (coffee, cereal, flour, macaroni and cheese, ravioli, sugar, pasta and rice)
- Paper Products (toilet paper, paper towels and child diapers)
- Pop-top Can Items (tuna, fruit and soups)

We cannot accept items which are:

- Homemade
- Perishable (frozen or refrigerated)
- Already Opened
- Without Labels
- In Glass Containers

You can find more information about needed items or volunteering on the web at <http://www.kbtx.com/kbtxcares/foodforfamilies>.

Generator Safety 101



This is the season for severe thunderstorms and freezing rain. When winter weather strikes, damage may occur to a power line or another part of the distribution system. Being left without power, even temporarily, doesn't mean staying in the dark. Whether being used during a weather-related power outage or a tailgate gathering, portable electric generators are a great alternative for a limited and temporary power source.

However, if used improperly, generators can create hazardous conditions. Keep these tips in mind as you use your generator responsibly:

- Use a portable generator only when necessary and only to power essential equipment.
- Never connect portable generators directly to a home or building's wiring, even through an outlet. This can "backfeed" power onto a power line and can harm utility employees who are working to restore the power.
- Purchase a portable electric generator only from a reputable dealer who can service and maintain the unit.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Never operate a generator near combustible material.
- Always use a generator outdoors, away from open windows, vents or doors.
- Plug appliances directly into the generator. Be careful not to overload the generator.
- Turn off all equipment powered by the generator prior to shutting it down.
- Allow the generator to cool completely before refueling.
- Always turn the generator off while you sleep or are away from the home or tailgate site to avoid a possible fire hazard.

Know before you go!

Before heading to a tailgate with a portable generator, make sure you know if the site allows generators or requires a noise-reducing device.



Holiday Lighting Safety Tips

Whether inside or outside the home, holiday lighting adds joy and cheer to the season's festivities. As you ready your lights for display, we'd like to remind you of some important tips that will not only keep your family safe, but will also help reduce your energy bill.

- Choose lights that have been tested and deemed safe by a reputable testing laboratory, the best are UL (Underwriters Laboratories) or ETL (ETL Testing Laboratories, Inc.).
- Try to use the cooler-burning "mini" lights as opposed to the traditional larger bulbs which burn much hotter.
- Only use strands of lights that have fuses in the plugs.
- Inspect each strand of lights—old or new—for damage. Return or throw out any strand with cracked or broken sockets, loose connections or those with frayed or bare wires.
- Replace burned out bulbs with bulbs of the same wattage.
- Follow manufacturer's guidelines for stringing light strands together. As a general rule, UL recommends using no more than three standard-size strands of lights together.
- Use extension cords properly; taking care not to overload them as they can get hot enough to burn. Outdoor cords can be used inside or outside.
- Secure outside lights with insulated holders (never use tacks or nails) or run strings of lights through hooks.
- When you leave or go to bed at night, turn off your lights.

ARE YOU PREPARED?

Don't wait until it's too late!!

Sign up for emergency notifications to your cell and unregistered internet phones. Be the first to know....

- › Train Derailment
- › Hazardous Material Releases
- › Flooding
- › Road Closures
- › Lost Person
- › Utility Outages
- › Public Health



<https://brazos.onthealert.com>