

BOARD MEETING NOTES

THE BTU BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 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 ended the fiscal year under budget due primarily to the timing of transmission work. BTU's Capital Improvement Program spending in the Rural system ended slightly over budget, driven by higher new customer growth and the purchase of a substation power transformer that carried over from Fiscal Year 2014.

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. Mr. Miller stated the safety database has been implemented and employees are able to report and track issues of safety concern.

Mr. Miller stated the end of the year incident rate was 2.80 for Fiscal Year 2015. Mr. Miller also stated this is the lowest incident rate BTU has recorded since 1989. The BTU Board of Directors was very complimentary of Fiscal Year 2015 safety results.

TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION REPORT

The SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index) and SAIFI (System Average Interruption Frequency Index) report for the month of October was presented. Mr. Trimble indicated that the major outages which occurred in both the City and Rural systems were due to weather related storms and fallen trees.



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. Paul Turney, Chairman
Mr. David Bairrington, Vice Chairman
Mr. Bill Ballard, Secretary
Mr. Buppy Simank, Ex-Officio
Mr. Carl L. Benner
Mr. Flynn Adcock
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

STEPHANIE WILKINS

STORY BY CLAIRE WHITFIELD | PHOTO BY RYAN STOUT

BTU Database Administrator Stephanie Wilkins first discovered her love of Information Technology in a Southeast Texas high school classroom.

"I have dyslexia and dysgraphia," Stephanie said. "I had a hard time in my high school English class and my teacher told me I could do a research paper about dyslexia to get credit for the class."

When Stephanie began doing research on a computer for her assignment she discovered she enjoyed working with computers.

"As soon as I put my hand to the keyboard and began to type I realized my thoughts were clearer," Stephanie said. "I liked working with computers but I didn't know what I could do as a job."

Stephanie began working towards an education degree at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas where she took an education class that focused on technology and computers.

"I loved my professor and he changed the way I saw technology," Stephanie said. "He inspired me to change my major to IT."

Graduating from Lamar University in 2004 with a business degree in management information systems, Stephanie began her IT career. In November of 2014, Stephanie moved to Bryan and began working at BTU.

Stephanie maintains database information for all BTU data to make sure it is secure and protected. She uses software to safeguard the information that BTU collects.

"I like my career," Stephanie said. "It's challenging and changes every day. I have to stay on top of technology and keep moving forward."

When Stephanie isn't working at BTU, she enjoys playing disc golf with her daughter and friends.

"I wanted to exercise with my daughter so I decided to try disc golf," Stephanie said. "It's been a good thing for both of us. We get to be outside with no TV or distractions. I plug my phone into speakers and we have a great time."



Bryan is a great community and has great schools for my daughter. I feel like part of the BTU family.

FORWARD THINKING

AXIS PIPE AND TUBE

STORY BY KENNETH W. SMITH JR.

Commitment to the Environment

Often when people think of manufacturing facilities, they conjure up outdated images of unregulated smoke stacks, or visions of the Industrial Revolution more than 100 years in the past. But today, manufacturers take environmental concerns much more seriously, and they can utilize newer technologies to make their processes more efficient and eco-friendly at the same time.

One of these forward-thinking companies resides in Bryan's backyard.

Axis Pipe and Tube is the anchor resident of Bryan's Texas Triangle Park and is a leading manufacturer of oil country tubular goods (OCTG) and line pipe products for the oil and gas industry. A part of the Prolamsa Group, which has facilities in Mexico and Texas, Axis's cutting edge manufacturing facility can produce more than 300,000 tons of electric resistance welded (ERW) OCTG and line pipe each year.

That's a lot of pipe. And you would think that it would produce a lot of waste. Well, no.

"You would be hard-pressed to find a cleaner pipe and tube manufacturer," said Francisco Garza, GM of Axis Pipe and Tube. "Axis manages nearly all aspects of our business with an eye toward our environmental footprint. In addition to providing a safe and healthy

work place to our internal partners, we are committed to conserving energy and natural resources, treating water wisely and sparingly, and being a responsible neighbor to our community."

Nearly all of Axis's waste is recycled, Director of Human Resources Jeff McMillian explained, allowing the company to vie for the coveted classification of Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator. All of Axis's environmental management efforts might be typical of an industrial complex full of hazardous materials and processes. But Axis has no significant hazardous wastes, yet they choose to safeguard the environment as though they do. And they can do that with modern technology.

"Our state of the art equipment maximizes yields, reduces scrap and increases productivity," McMillian said. "We work hard to envision a future where we have NO environmental impact."

Simple uses of technology at Axis ensure lights, heating, and cooling come on only in the presence of human activity. They schedule their hours of operation to account for peak utility demand times. They implement advanced systems for water conservation that reuse the process water within closed loops of operation.

Advanced welding and cutting techniques eliminate typical air emissions from the Axis manufacturing process. And they even have sophisticated systems that channel their rainwater

through complex detention structures so it can be managed and monitored to insure any rainwater that leaves their property is clean and safe.

Axis also pursues environmental compliance through programs including:

- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and Permit
- Spill Prevention, Countermeasures, and Controls Plan
- SARA (Superfund Amendments to Reauthorization Act) Tier II Compliance
- Air, Water, and Noise Monitoring Programs
- Monthly environmental facility audits and inspections

"In addition to providing a safe and healthy work place to our internal partners, we are committed to conserving energy and natural resources, treating water wisely and sparingly, and being a responsible neighbor to our community."

*Francisco Garza
GM, Axis Pipe and Tube*



Commitment to Employee Safety

These environmental commitments also help with providing a safe and healthy workplace for Axis's employees. And safety and employee health is something that Axis takes very seriously.

"We believe that every employee has the right to come to a safe, healthy workplace every day - and to return home safely to his or her family when work is done," McMillian said. "That's why we educate every Axis Pipe and Tube employee on the importance of safety from day one on the job. By making safety and health a personal responsibility for everyone, we create a 'safety first' culture where we can all work together towards our goal of eliminating all injuries and accidents."

Axis's safety policy isn't just good for its employees - it's good for its customers, too.

"When employees work in a safe, clean, healthy environment that's free of dangerous distractions, they can truly focus on excellence in everything they do. For our customers, that means better quality products - the kind of quality that keeps them coming back."

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*Jeff McMillian
Director of Human Resources
Axis Pipe and Tube*

WHY BRYAN?

Prolamsa Group officials said in 2013 that Bryan was chosen as the site for the new facility for several reasons including the business-friendly environment, the adequate supply of skilled labor nearby, and its proximity to a large and growing base of customers for the plant's products. And Axis Pipe and Tube is a big facility.

It sits on about 283 acres of land with rail access in the Texas Triangle Park. The facility itself has more than 600,000 square feet of manufacturing and office space, and there is more than 40 acres of pipe storage area, with additional acreage available for future expansion.



Competitive Advantages

Axis has a full metallurgical and quality-testing laboratory, coil slitter, tube mill, heat treatment line, and thread finishing line for quench and temper casing.

"Our integrated production and finishing process creates a one-stop shop," said Francisco Garza.

Quality infrastructure is yet another positive feature at the facility. There is currently three miles of railroad infrastructure with planned expansion for the future.

"We offer the strategic advantage and benefit of direct rail access and truck loading facilities to streamline logistics operations and thereby reduce product time to market," Garza said, adding that their inbound annual capacity for steel via rail is in excess of 300,000 tons.

300,000 TONS
annual production capability
for ERW OCTG and Line Pipe

600,000 SQUARE FEET
roofed manufacturing space and
offices at the facility

283-ACRE
site with rail access

300,000 TONS
annual inbound capacity of steel
via rail access

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IS SMART BUSINESS

Traditions Club in Bryan recently participated in BTU's **SmartBUSINESS** energy-efficiency program.



“We were first introduced to the Smart Business program while working on a LED lighting conversion for our clubhouse,” said Bill Horton, Traditions Club General Manager. “During this time, we also upgraded all four of our facilities’ ice machines, and found out that we would once again qualify for the SmartBUSINESS rebate. This rebate was definitely a factor in our decisions for both of these projects. The application process was simple, and our BTU representative worked with our schedule to come out and take pictures at our convenience. I would definitely recommend this program to any business looking to accomplish energy-efficient upgrades.”



Updating the Club’s four ice machines was one aspect of the energy-efficiency plan for Traditions.



Save energy, save money, and stay warm this winter with these winter energy savings tips:

LET THE SUN SHINE IN

Open blinds/shades on any windows hit by direct sunlight to help heat your home or apartment. Close them at sundown to help keep heat inside.

TURN IT DOWN

Set your central system thermostat at 68 degrees or lower. Thermostats for heat pumps are best left steady at 68 or lower, but should not be adjusted by more than two degrees at any single adjustment to avoid engaging the auxiliary resistance heat strips.

KEEP THE COLD OUT

Caulk and weather strip around windows and entry doors to prevent drafts. Or, place towels at the bottom of doors and on window seals to help reduce heat loss and prevent cold air from coming in.

DON'T LOSE HEAT UP THE CHIMNEY

When not in use, make sure your fireplace damper is closed to prevent heat from escaping up the chimney.

PUSH THE WARM AIR DOWN

Switch the setting on ceiling fans to run counter-clockwise to help push warm air back down. Turn fans off when not in the room.

STAY CLEAR OF DRAFTS

Try lounging near interior walls if possible. Exterior walls and older windows may be drafty.

For more information, go to btutilities.com.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CARE FOR PEOPLE, PETS AND PIPES THIS WINTER.



*One Big Day.
One Big Thanks.
One Big Event.*

Big Event - April 2, 2016
Registration begins January 18, 2016
(register at BigEventOnline.tamu.edu)

The Big Event provides students of Texas A&M University the opportunity to say "Thank You" to the residents of the Bryan/College Station community for their continued support throughout the years. Thousands of students volunteer each year to perform tasks that range from painting, to yard work, and cleaning for residents regardless of their socioeconomic status. **For more information, go to BigEvent.tamu.edu.**