

Minutes

Regular Board of Directors Meeting Notes

October 9, 2017

Safety Report

Ray Berger, Safety and Training Officer, presented a summary safety report for fiscal year 2017. BTU had multiple achievements related to its safety program in 2017. The final safety incident rate for the year was 1.07, which is the lowest rate that BTU has achieved in over 20 years. Mr. Berger also announced that the fourth Continuous Improvement Team (CIT) would be addressing the topic of vehicle safety.

Transmission and Distribution Operating Report

Randy Trimble, Executive Director of Energy Delivery, reported that the outages affecting most customers in both the City and Rural systems were primarily due to public accidents. Mr. Trimble also provided an update on both the Vegetation Management Program and the Pole Inspection Program, which have both been successful in helping to maintain system reliability.

Financial Report

Joe Hegwood, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the City system's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) spending is below budget through August due to the deferral of some transmission and production projects for fiscal year 2017 and lower cost estimates for the South College underground project. The Rural system CIP spending is also projected to come in under budget.

Presentation Regarding 2015 Utility Uncollectible Debt Write-Off

David Werley, Executive Director of Business and Customer Operations, gave a presentation detailing the 2015 electric debt write-offs, which totaled \$238,823.77. In 2017, over \$73,000 of previously written-off debt was collected thanks to the diligence of the Customer Operations staff in enforcing the Electric Deposit Ordinance which requires that past debt be collected from a returning customer prior to re-establishing them as a BTU account holder.

Election of a Vice-Chair and Secretary for the Board of Directors

The BTU Board of Directors elected Director Flynn Adcock to serve as Vice Chair and Director Bentley Nettles to serve as Secretary.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Paul Turney, Chairman

Mr. David Bairrington, Vice Chairman

Mr. Flynn Adcock

Mr. Carl L. Benner

Mr. Art Hughes

Mr. A. Bentley Nettles

Ms. Rosemarie Selman

Mr. Buppy Simank, Ex-Officio

Mr. Jason Bienski, Ex-Officio

GENERAL MANAGER

Gary Miller

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Randy Trimble

David Werley

DIVISION MANAGERS

James Bodine

Bill Bullock

Shawndra Curry

Ken Lindberg

Clay Lindstrom

Kristi Nash

Vicki Reim

Scott Smith

Wes Williams

Doug Lyles, Chief Risk Officer

CITY OF BRYAN

Kean Register, City Manager

Joe Hegwood, Chief Financial Officer

Bernie Acre, Chief Information Officer

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Billing/Collections/Connects

(979) 821-5700

Electrical Outage/Lines Down

(979) 822-3777

Distribution/Line Design

(979) 821-5770



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS



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DEPARTMENT FEATURE:

LINE *DESIGN*

As many of you who have built a home know, there is more to it than picking out cabinets and shades of paint. There are scores of behind-the-scenes workers that make the dream a reality. Bryan Texas Utilities' Line Design Department is a group of those many workers. When construction begins on any new structure in BTU's service territory, including homes and businesses, the Line Design Department is involved.

To begin the process, the homebuilder or contractor contacts BTU's Line Design Department to create an initial request for services. The builder and a Line Designer meet at the construction site to discuss the logistics of the project, including the proposed location of electrical equipment. Once the builder provides a load analysis from a certified electrician detailing how much electric capacity will be needed to power the new building, an electronic design layout of the required infrastructure is created. This design specifies the location, type, size, and construction details for utility poles, wire, transformers, etc., that are essential to adequately serve the load. Once the final design is approved and any costs have been paid, it is sent to the Distribution Department to be scheduled and constructed according to specifications.

FIVE YEAR STATS:

2012  2016
51K+ 55K+

Active Customer Counts

2012  2016
1,426 2,558

New Projects
(Investigations)



As project managers, Line Designers are involved in all aspects of each project including customer communications, design, field staking, easement acquisition, and cost estimation. They are committed to providing excellent customer service, which is important since in most cases the interaction with Line Design is the only face-to-face contact that developers, builders, contractors, and electricians will have with BTU throughout the project. Line Designers diligently guide customers through each step of the design and construction process to help insure power is delivered to the site as quickly and seamlessly as possible.

With growth skyrocketing in the Brazos Valley, the amount of work for BTU's Line Design Department has also grown. The team

takes on approximately 60 new projects per week, as compared to ten years ago when there were only 60 new projects assigned per month. BTU's service territory is approximately 650 square miles. To cover new construction throughout the area, each Line Designer travels approximately 300 to 400 miles per month. Line Designers are also trained, educated, and participate in safety practices to ensure the wellbeing of all employees driving to and from or working at job sites.

"The Line Design Department is an essential piece of BTU's services to our customers," said Gary Miller, BTU General Manager. "They do a wonderful job facilitating the growth that the Brazos Valley is experiencing."

DAVID WERLEY

Named APPA Business & Financial Section Chairman



David Werley, BTU's Executive Director of Business and Customer Operations, has assumed the role of Chairman of the American Public Power Association's (APPA) Business and Financial Section for 2017-2018 after serving as the Vice-Chairman for one year. The APPA is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. These utilities serve over 49 million customers within the continental United States and American territories.

Mr. Werley has served in a variety of roles during his more than 35-year career in the public power industry. In his nine years with BTU, he has been responsible for economic development, corporate communications, retail regulatory compliance, retail pricing and all commercial and residential customer service functions.

As Section Chair, Mr. Werley is responsible for managing issues brought before the APPA's Business and Finance Section as well as coordinating the annual APPA Business & Finance conference, which will be held in Anaheim, California in 2018.

"It's an honor to have David represent BTU by serving in this capacity and to work with such an experienced and knowledgeable group of public power professionals from all over the United States," said Gary Miller, BTU General Manager. "The members of the American Public Power Association hold up the high standards of public power such as local control and not-for-profit rates, not only in the Brazos Valley, but throughout the country," he shared.

“I have spent my entire career serving public power utilities and their customers and I’m honored to have been chosen to serve in this capacity.”

- David Werley

The APPA is a not-for-profit organization which represents the interests of public power utilities in many forums including before the federal government. BTU is a two-time recipient of APPA’s Reliable Public Power Provider Diamond award—the highest recognition offered by the association.

Mr. Werley has previously served on both the Key Accounts and Customer Accounting and Services committees for APPA and the Retail Market Subcommittee for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), the independent system operator covering most of the Texas transmission grid.

When asked about this appointment, Mr. Werley stated, “I have spent my entire career serving public power utilities and their customers and I’m honored to have been chosen to serve in this capacity.”



MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC SAFETY EXCHANGE CONFERENCE

In September, BTU representatives attended the 23rd annual Municipal Electric Safety Exchange (MESE) conference in Boerne, Texas, which provides safety topics and information to municipal utilities and electric cooperatives in Texas.

The safety culture at BTU was featured as a case study to demonstrate to other entities how to move from a safety program to a safety culture. BTU Safety and Training Officer Ray Berger and Caterpillar Senior Safety Consultant Tristina Meche presented how the employees of BTU have adopted a “safety first” mentality at home and at work.

GIVING *Efficiency*

With the holiday rush starting earlier every year, get a jump-start on your shopping list with some great green gifts. Using the tips below, you can have everything wrapped up before the ho, ho, ho turns into go, go, go!

Why give efficiency? Green giving is thoughtful on many levels. The person receiving the gift has a new gadget that can keep electric costs low year-round.

Choosing a green gift can be easy, too. Be aware of energy use. Look for energy ratings on large appliances and televisions, or select unplugged gifts—think renewable, reusable and recyclable.

Even something as small as packaging and wrapping can make a difference. Look for items with lightweight packaging. And think about wrapping your gift in something like a fabric bag that can be reused or even an accessory like a scarf to tie things up.

For decorators: LED Christmas lights (\$15–\$35). These energy-efficient lights are becoming easier to find. They save on holiday electric bills and stay cool to the touch. For a festive package, wrap in a decorative stocking.

For gardeners: solar garden lights (\$15–\$50). Available in endless colors, styles and sizes, solar garden lights can be a lovely addition to your favorite green thumb's garden. To up the green quotient, wrap in a burlap bag.

For cooks: toaster oven (\$60–\$140). Especially great for the empty nester or those cooking for only one or two, toaster ovens are a good alternative to heating a large standard oven.

For movie buffs or sports fans: Energy Star-rated TV (prices vary). TVs are getting bigger and better. But before you give something that uses too much energy, look for the Energy Star label. It will offer the smallest impact possible on electric bills.

For techies: smart strip (\$20–\$40). This cutting-edge technology is great for plugging in electronic gadgets. Not your average power strip, smart strips offer designated outlets that make it easy to power down certain devices to save energy while not affecting others plugged into the same strip.

Solar cellphone charger (\$55–\$100+). Help unplug energy-sucking chargers from the wall; solar chargers can be placed in a window to charge a cellphone, GPS unit or music player anywhere the sun shines—even in a car on the move.

You'll find many options once you start looking for green gifts, so get creative. Remember that what you give affects future electric bills, so give the green light for energy-smart gifts this year!



12 Days OF HOLIDAY SAFETY

Day 1: *What's that noise?*

Test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

Day 2: *Shocker!*

Before use, inspect all electrical lights, decorations and extension cords for damage.

Day 3: *Two's company, three's a crowd.*

Do not overload outlets with too many decorations or devices.

Day 4: *Is it working?*

Test ground-fault and arc-fault circuit interrupters.

Day 5: *Ouch!*

Prevent falls by arranging cords safely along walls and out of doorways and high-traffic areas.

Day 6: *Kids eat the darnedest things.*

Avoid placing lights, hooks, ornaments and other small decorations within reach of young children.

Day 7: *Thirsty?*

Keep the Christmas tree stand full of water. A fresh tree poses less of a fire hazard than a dry tree.

Day 8: *Make a wish!*

Blow out candles before leaving the house or going to bed.

Day 9: *Nice and warm.*

Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from anything flammable.

Day 10: *Can't touch this!*

Install tamper-resistant receptacles to prevent kids from inserting objects into outlets.

Day 11: *Escape route:*

Share your family fire escape plan with overnight guests.

Day 12: *Hot stuff!*

Keep children away from cooking areas; use back burners and turn pot handles inward.



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