

REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS *Meeting Notes*

November 8, 2018

Resolution Recommending to the Bryan City Council the Approval of a Bond Ordinance for the City System

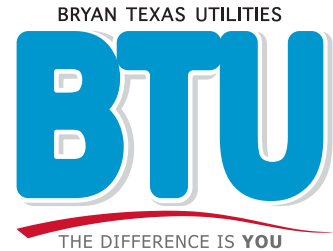
Mr. Steve Adams with Specialized Public Finance, Inc. presented a resolution to the Board recommending to the Bryan City Council the approval of a bond ordinance authorizing the issuance of an amount not to exceed \$46,500,000 in revenue bonds for the City system. The bonds reflect the level of City system projects to be debt funded in the approved FY19 budget. Mr. Adams informed the Board that Fitch Ratings recently upgraded BTU's City System credit rating from A+ to AA-, potentially resulting in a significant reduction in interest costs to BTU. City system projects include both Transmission and Distribution capital improvements.

Resolution Recommending to the Bryan City Council the Approval of a Bond Ordinance for the Rural System

Mr. Adams presented a resolution to the Board recommending to the Bryan City Council the approval of a bond ordinance authorizing the issuance of an amount not to exceed \$21,500,000 in revenue bonds for the Rural system. The bonds reflect the level of Rural system projects to be debt funded in the approved FY19 budget. Mr. Adams informed the Board that both Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poor's recently upgraded BTU's Rural System credit rating from A+ to AA-. Rural system projects include only Distribution system capital improvements.

Lake Bryan 2018 Fisheries Management Survey Report

Mr. Gary Miller, BTU General Manager, informed the Board that BTU staff involved with the operations and management of Lake Bryan met with Texas Parks and Wildlife and are looking forward to a productive partnership to work on water quality and fishery improvements at Lake Bryan. TPWD has agreed to provide a list of recommendations for future cooperative efforts, including the introduction of beneficial vegetation to discourage unwanted algae species. Mr. Miller stated that BTU staff will communicate to the public any improvements resulting from this partnership.



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES
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www.btutilities.com

Hours of Operation
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ms. Rosemarie Selman
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Mr. Buppy Simank, Ex-Officio
Mr. Jason Bienski, Ex-Officio

GENERAL MANAGER

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

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Shawndra Curry
Ken Lindberg
Clay Lindstrom
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Wes Williams, Regulatory Compliance 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

SOCIAL MEDIA



BryanTexasUtilities



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Resolve TO SAVE ENERGY IN 2019

Saving energy—and money—should be on everyone's resolution list. Here are 10 quick tips to help you get started in 2019!

1. **Replace your lightbulbs.** Most people have switched from traditional incandescent bulbs by now, but in case you're still on the fence: An \$8 LED lasts up to 25 times longer and costs only \$30 to operate over that period.
2. **Beef up the insulation in your attic.** Attics can be sources of heat loss in the winter and heat gain in the summer. Your project may also be eligible for a rebate through BTU's SmartHOME program!
3. **Install programmable thermostats.** Up to 48 percent of the average home's yearly energy bill goes toward heating and cooling. Programmable thermostats save money by adjusting the temperature during unoccupied hours.
4. **Maintain your HVAC system.** Heating and cooling system equipment runs best when maintained. Change your filters on a regular basis and have equipment serviced annually to make sure it's running efficiently.
5. **Unplug.** Check around the house to see if devices are unnecessarily plugged in. Cellphones, chargers, TVs, entertainment systems, computers and appliances still draw power when not in use.
6. **Weatherize.** Weatherizing your home means sealing against airflow around doors, windows and places where pipes enter the home.
7. **Conduct your own energy audit.** Do you really need two refrigerators? Is there a fish tank with no fish? Is your house so hot in the winter that you need to wear a Hawaiian shirt? Walk around your house to check for—and eliminate—wasteful energy loads.
8. **Replace your single-pane windows.** Upgrading to more energy-efficient windows can help control temperature and air infiltration in your home. It can be costly, but payback can take just a few years. Your project may also be eligible for a rebate through BTU's SmartHOME program!
9. **Upgrade your appliances.** Energy Star-rated appliances mean more energy efficiency and can save you hundreds of dollars over their life span.
10. **Contact BTU for information about rebates, and other ways you can be more efficient in 2019!**



BTU'S SAFETY CULTURE:

FOR EMPLOYEES, BY EMPLOYEES

BTU began the process of cultivating an employee driven safety culture in April 2015, and since then has encouraged employees to embrace continuous education and hands-on implementation of all aspects of a safe working environment.

"BTU has always had safety rules and regulations in place, and now our employee driven safety culture ensures 'safety first' is always in the forefront of our employees' daily practices," said April Bonifazi, Customer Operations and Business Analyst, and a member of BTU's Safety Steering Team.

Recognizing that our front line employees should be the catalyst for driving an employee safety culture, BTU teamed up with Caterpillar Safety Services and began adopting and implementing a very different type of safety outlook, which resulted in transitioning from a

management driven safety program to an employee driven safety culture. The first step was to survey every employee to gain the workforce perception regarding safety at BTU. The results allowed BTU to identify what worked and what needed improvement regarding safety.

The major component of the new culture is a series of teams in which employees from all departments come together to identify areas of concern, develop detailed processes and procedures to address those areas, and help lead their fellow coworkers in implementation. The Safety Steering Team (SST) leads the

effort to identify the direction of the program and four Continuous Improvement Teams (CIT) tackle individual issues while working together to keep the culture new and exciting while also keeping employees engaged and eager.

These teams encourage different departments within BTU to learn about one another and take into account each of their individual safety concerns as they vary. Employees have the opportunity to present with their department at safety meetings on a variety of topics ranging from home safety, emotional safety, hazards in the workplace, and more recently, vehicle safety.



Gary Miller, BTU General Manager said, "I am very happy to say that our employees have embraced this effort and participate fully in all of the ways in which their coworkers have determined best for the workforce. Without the employee's involvement in both the teams and the execution, we would not have seen the excellent results that we have experienced over the last two to three years."

Vehicle incidents among BTU employees have dramatically decreased over the last several years due in part to increased safety awareness in general,

but also directly due to the efforts of our newest CIT, whose focus is on safe vehicle operations. Processes developed by the team include having a spotter when backing and performing a 360-degree walk around the vehicle to ensure everything is safe before and after driving.

Thanks to the efforts of BTU employees, this safety culture has created a platform for employees to be heard and also be educated on safety concerns in all departments of BTU. "I have worked here for 16 years and I have been able to see our safety culture change from what it was to what it is now and I am so proud with how far we've come." Bonifazi stated. "This has become something that our employees have embraced and will use in their work and home lives."

"Other organizations have reached out to us about what we are doing and sometimes ask how they could implement a safety culture into their work place as well," Miller said. "We are extremely supportive and pleased when asked to discuss our situation and how what we have done might fit into any business who is looking to improve or create a safety culture."

Safety has always been a staple in BTU's workplace environment. Now, this employee led safety culture will assist in decreasing on-site accidents and help enable employees to efficiently serve our customers. From safety meetings to pre-job briefings to office and vehicle inspections and incident reviews, an effective and positive safety culture is vital to any work place.



GOVERNMENT-IN-ACTION YOUTH TOUR

APPLY BY FEBRUARY 4, 2019

Local high school students have the opportunity of a lifetime to visit Washington, D.C. as part of the Government-In-Action Youth Tour, an all-expense-paid trip with 150 fellow high school peers and chaperones from across Texas.

Selected candidates will have an opportunity to tour our nation's capital, visit historic landmarks and meet influential public figures including U.S. representatives June 12-21, 2019. Sponsored annually by Bryan Texas Utilities and organized by Texas Electric Cooperatives, this program has touched the lives of nearly 4,000 Texas high school student alumni since its inception in 1965.

Students will visit the Washington National Cathedral, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Smithsonian Institution, monuments, memorials, and more. Activities include learning about rural electrification, seeing a performance at the Kennedy Center, going on a boat cruise with dinner and dancing, and meeting elected officials.

**To submit your application,
visit btutilities.com/youthtour.**

As part of the application process, students must submit an essay and this year's contest topic is: discuss challenges currently facing the electric industry.

Eligible applicants must:

- Be in a sophomore, junior or senior in high school;
- Be a dependent of a Bryan Texas Utilities customer, or attend a school served by BTU; and
- Submit an application and essay on the topic: Challenges Facing the Electric Industry.

Apply by February 4, 2019 for a chance to win a ticket for this once-in-a-lifetime adventure!

For more information about Youth Tour, visit YouthTour.org and TexasYouthTour.com or contact Elisabeth Reyes at 979-821-5772 or ereyes@btutilities.com.



**ONE BIG DAY.
ONE BIG THANKS.
ONE BIG EVENT.**

Since its introduction in 1982, The Big Event has become the largest one-day, student-run service project in the nation. Each spring, tens of thousands of Texas A&M University students come together to say "Thank You" to the residents of Bryan+College Station.

In 1982, Joe Nussbaum, then Vice President of the Student Government Association at Texas A&M University, started The Big Event as a way for students to say "Thank You" to the surrounding community. Nussbaum envisioned a one-day service project where residents of Bryan and College Station would be shown appreciation for their continued support of Texas A&M University students during their college careers. Mr. Nussbaum viewed The Big Event as a means for students to show their gratitude by completing various tasks at area residents' homes. Joe believed that it was the least the students could do to give One Big Thanks to their community on One Big Day each year.

For the past 37 years, Aggie students have supported this idea and kept the call to service alive by showing their appreciation through the completion of service projects like yard work, window washing, and painting for residents.

Even though The Big Event has continued to grow exponentially year after year, the message and mission remains the same – to simply say "Thank You" to the citizens of the Bryan+College Station community.

The Big Event is a proud member of the Student Government Association at Texas A&M, and a recognized student organization of Texas A&M University.

Is there a project you have been putting off?

Is it because you needed a little extra manpower to get it done?

You're in luck!

The 37th Annual Big Event will be held March 30, 2019. Submit your job request form at **bigevent.tamu.edu** for free assistance with projects like trimming hedges, mulching, painting, and general spring cleaning.

2018 MAYOR'S DOWNTOWN IMPACT AWARD WINNER

PERRY PROPERTIES

The Mayor's Downtown Impact Award, created in 2000, celebrates progress in Bryan's oldest business district while recognizing those who go above and beyond to contribute to this progress. Every year, there are organizations and individuals whose positive impact on revitalization efforts in Historic Downtown Bryan is simply extraordinary.



This year's recipients are Brent and Krissie Hairston, owners of Perry Properties. In 1997, The Hairstons bought their first business and building in historic Downtown Bryan, Discount Carpet. At the same time, they invested in a second building at 208 North Main. Originally constructed in the 1920s, this building is now home to the fully renovated residential space known as Perry Lofts offering a variety of one- and two-bedroom floor plans. Prior to the development of Perry Lofts, the couple sold Discount Carpet and opened Texas Furniture Company, operating the business from 2001 to 2008.

As owners and managers of Perry Properties, the Hairstons have overseen the renovation of three significant buildings in Downtown Bryan as well as the recent construction of a fourth building, Perry Place. This 30,000 square-foot building is the largest new structure built in Downtown Bryan in almost 50 years and is located on the north corner of East 23rd Street and North Main.

Offering mixed-use properties including lofts, office, and retail space, Perry Properties has supported the redevelopment of Downtown North and provided uniquely designed real estate offerings while maintaining historic quality.

"Downtown Bryan is thriving because of the individuals that have invested their time and talents into the Cultural District," said Mayor Andrew Nelson. "These efforts continue to be supported by the City through partnerships to promote the vitality of Downtown and the unique variety of amenities it has to offer residents and visitors alike."

This annual award serves as a way to recognize those who continue to invest their time, effort, and resources into making Bryan an even better place to visit and to call home.

