



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

Regular Board of Directors *Meeting Notes* September 14, 2020

Presentation of BTU's Strategic Plan

Tim Blodgett, President and CEO of Hometown Connections, presented BTU's Strategic Plan to the Board of Directors. The Strategic Plan highlights BTU's mission statement, core values and goals regarding safety, infrastructure, service, finance, and workforce objectives.

Approval of a Contract for the Relocation of Electric Distribution Facilities for the Distribution Service Center

The Board approved a contract with Bayer Construction Electrical Contractors, Inc. for the relocation of existing electric distribution facilities to enable construction of the new Distribution Service Center.

Approval of a Contract for Construction of FY21 CIP Projects

Randy Trimble, Executive Director of Energy Delivery, presented the bid tabulations for electrical contractors to assist BTU with eighteen selected Capital Improvement Projects for FY21. The Board approved a contract with Echo Powerline, LLC. for the completion of the selected FY21 CIP projects.

Approval of a Contract for the BTU Distribution Service Center Site Reclamation Project

Randy Trimble, Executive Director of Energy Delivery, presented the bid tabulations for site reclamation work for the BTU Distribution Service Center. Mr. Trimble stated that after evaluation and reference checks, staff determined that MBCM Management, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder. The Board approved a contract with MBCM Management, Inc. for the Distribution Service Center Site Reclamation Project.

City Council Update

Gary Miller, General Manager, informed the Board that Vicki Reim, Division Manager of Customer Operations, presented an update regarding BTU's COVID-19 Customer Service operations at the Bryan City Council meeting on September 8, 2020.



Steele Store Substation ▶

BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES
KIOSKS
BTU Drive Thru – 205 E. 28th St. (Open 24 Hours)
HEB Grocery – Tejas Center on Villa Maria
HEB Grocery – Texas Ave. & Hwy 21

WAYS TO PAY



CASH



CHECK



CARD

Bring your BTU account number, BTU bill, keycard or reminder letter.

BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

205 East 28th Street • Bryan, TX 77803

email: ContactBTU@btutilities.com

www.btutilities.com

Hours of Operation

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

Board of Directors

Mr. Flynn Adcock, Chairman

Mr. Pete J. Bienski, Jr.

Mr. Paul Madison, Sr.

Mr. A. Bentley Nettles

Ms. Rosemarie Selman

Mr. Paul Turney

Mr. Buppy Simank, Ex-Officio

Mr. Jason Bienski, Ex-Officio

General Manager

Gary Miller

Executive Directors

Randy Trimble

David Werley

Wes Williams

Division Managers

James Bodine

Shawndra Curry

Ken Lindberg

Clay Lindstrom

David McIntyre

Vicki Reim

Gary Massey

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

SOCIAL MEDIA



BryanTexasUtilities



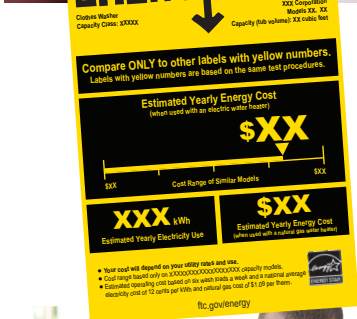
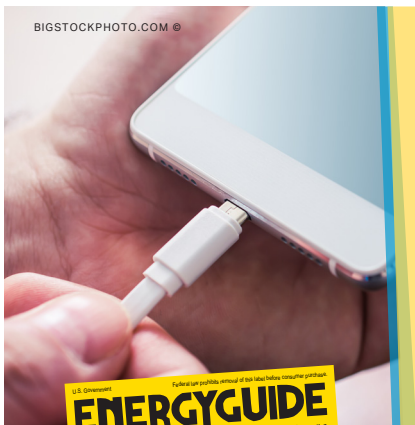
BTU_BryanTX



cityofbryan



cityofbryan



Save Electricity!

While Working or Going to School Remotely

As American families and businesses transition to remote work and school options to slow the spread of COVID-19, many have seen a surge in home energy use—and in electric bills. Simple money-saving steps can help lower your bills without jeopardizing safety or comfort. Recommended energy saving tips include:

- **Unplug appliances and electronics when not in use.** Small appliances and electronics consume some energy even when not in use. When powered on, game consoles, TVs and similar electronics are responsible for up to 12% of a home's energy use.
- **Be tech smart.** Use ENERGY STAR® certified office equipment to ensure that it is the most efficient model. According to the Department of Energy, ENERGY STAR®-labeled computers use 30% to 65% less energy than computers without this designation, depending on usage. Also, turn on your computer's sleep mode or power management feature to save energy when you leave the desk for a break.
- **Adjust your habits.** Have adults and children read a book instead of watching TV or playing video games. Only open the fridge when you need something, not to stand there and see what might interest you.
- **Utilize natural heating and cooling.** Keep curtains and blinds drawn on hot days to keep the sun from adding heat to your home. Conversely, if it is cold outside, use the sun's radiant heat to warm your home by opening blinds and curtains. If it is nice weather, open your windows to let in natural light and a breeze.
- **Program your thermostat to maximize energy savings.** Setting your thermostat 1 degree lower when heating or 1 degree higher when cooling can reduce energy use by up to 5%. The smaller the difference between the outside temperature and the temperature in your home, the less your HVAC will have to run, saving you money.
- **Do only full loads of laundry and wash with cold water.** Using warm water instead of hot can cut a load's energy use in half, and using cold water saves even more. There are many cold-water detergents available today that have enzymes that clean just as well in cold water as hot.
- **Air-dry dishes.** This can cut your dishwasher's energy use by up to 50%.
- **Replace incandescent or CFL lightbulbs with LEDs.** Lighting can amount to up to 12% of monthly energy use. LEDs can cut lighting costs by up to 75%.



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **GOVERNMENT-IN-ACTION** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

YOUTH TOUR

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **COMMITMENT** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **COMMUNITY** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **LEADERSHIP** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **FRIENDSHIPS** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

WASHINGTON D.C.



Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU) is committed to empowering the community we serve, and that means providing more than electricity. BTU also works to improve quality of life in the Brazos Valley, which includes investing in the area's young people. We are working to shape tomorrow's leaders by proudly sponsoring two local high school students to attend the Government-in-Action Youth Tour. The Youth Tour is an all-expenses-paid, weeklong leadership tour to Washington D.C.

Since 1965, BTU and many other utilities in Texas and around the nation have sent young leaders to our nation's capital to learn about history, leadership, and fellowship with other young leaders each June. The local winners will join more than 150 others from Texas in touring memorials, museums, and monuments all while forging lifelong friendships. Uniquely, these young leaders have an opportunity to meet with their congressional representative to discuss issues important to their community.

Not only is the Youth Tour an enjoyable trip, it also changes lives. Many students who attend the Youth Tour go on to work in local, state, or federal government or choose to pursue a career with a utility. The trip and the skills learned therein are also highly favored in college essays or résumés.



Those wishing to apply for the “trip of a lifetime,” must apply online at:

www.btutilities.com/youthtour

Applicants will be judged on their responses to an essay question, their extracurricular activities, and academic and civic leadership. Applications are currently being accepted through February 5, 2021. The trip will take place June 13-22, 2021.

For questions, contact Meagan Brown at mbrown@btutilities.com.

NOTE **Special precautions are being taken to address the possibility of changes due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, including limiting group sizes, social distancing, and provisions for masks to be worn.*



DESTINATION Bryan



DESTINATION BRYAN FOCUSES EFFORTS TO BRING A SPOTLIGHT ON BRYAN

Destination Bryan officially began its work to promote Bryan as a tourism destination on Oct. 1, bringing a renewed focus on everything that Bryan has to offer in Aggieland. The organization serves as the City of Bryan's Destination Marketing Organization (DMO), with a purpose of inspiring travelers to visit the community, increasing the economic benefits from tourism and meetings, enhancing visitor experiences and attracting groups and events to Bryan.

The organization will play an important part for residents and the community by encouraging an influx of "new" dollars from visitors into Bryan. This impact provided by visitors increases sales tax, provides revenue to businesses, and helps to keep taxes low for residents through these additional tax revenues. In addition, businesses that cater to visitors, such as attractions, entertainment venues, retail, and similar, all contribute to the quality of life we, as residents, get to enjoy in our community. Tourism is part of a larger economic ecosystem and helps in many ways that may not always be immediately recognizable.

Since June, Destination Bryan staff have worked with the Board of Directors to establish the organization and create an operating budget approved by the City of Bryan. They are now focusing on forming partnerships and identifying business development opportunities to benefit Bryan. They will also be developing a robust, engaging website that they hope to launch in early 2021.

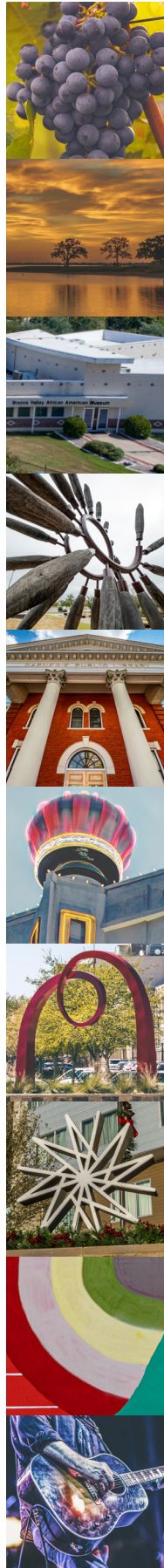
"I think ultimately, the prospect of building a new organization dedicated to the city of Bryan and watching the positive impacts it will have on the community for years to come is exhilarating," said Executive Director John Friebele. "As part of this overarching goal, it is broken down into developing new packages, identifying potential tourism products, creating new partnerships between stakeholders in town, and, hopefully, energizing residents on being involved in tourism, even if it's just a greater understanding of how it impacts them indirectly."

As Destination Bryan staff begin marketing the community, there will be some differences with the focus solely being on Bryan. There will be more opportunities to dive deeper into the stories that make Bryan unique and to focus on the variety of leisure attractions in Bryan.

Bryan's location is ideal for capturing visitors from the "Texas Triangle" who might be interested in trips to smaller towns for culinary excursions, shopping, heritage, culture and live events. Friebele said he and his staff are undergoing a branding study to refine the target audiences who are most likely to visit Bryan for a day, weekend or extended trip. Additionally, they will be focusing on ensuring that people visiting Texas A&M University for meetings or sporting events also know about the experiences available in Bryan. And, with the growth at the RELLIS Campus, in the Biocorridor and at Travis Bryan Midtown Park, the community is poised to begin offering more for both group meetings and leisure travelers.

Destination Bryan will also work closely with the Downtown Bryan Association to continue hosting the events Downtown Bryan is known for. Both organizations have an interest in seeing the downtown area continue to develop and motivate visitors to step into Downtown to experience shopping, dining and cultural experiences.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to reintroduce Bryan to the world as a vibrant, historic community filled with unique experiences and amazing people from all walks of life," said Destination Marketing Manager Chris Riggins. "From Messina Hof Winery & Resort to the Brazos Valley African American Museum, and from the Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo to Texas Reds Steak & Grape Festival, there are so many unique experiences to be had in Bryan, and I can't wait to tell the world about them."



TOP BRYAN ATTRACTIONS

Messina Hof

Lake Bryan

Brazos Valley
Children's Museum

Brazos Valley
African American Museum

Brazos Valley Museum
of Natural History

Aggieland Safari Park

Carnegie History Center

Queen Theater

Historic Downtown Bryan

Lakewalk Town Center

Public art installations

Live events
and performances

BTU VS. CUSTOMER-OWNED EQUIPMENT

There are several components that make up an electric service connection between BTU and our customers. Both BTU and the customers share certain components of this connection, and each is responsible for the maintenance and repair of their own equipment. The question is, who owns which of these components?

Here is a breakdown of the components of a standard electrical system that is owned and maintained by BTU, followed by the components owned and maintained by the customer:

Power distribution lines (BTU):

These are electric power lines that run from electric substations to the local customers. Distribution lines can carry 4,000 to 34,500 volts and cover relatively short distances. Transmission lines typically carry higher voltages of 69,000 volts and up and cover longer distances.

Power pole (BTU):

Also known as a utility pole, a power pole is used to support overhead power distribution lines, transformers, service lines, communication lines, and, in some cases, street lights. Attaching signs or other items to a power pole is strictly prohibited, as they can weaken poles and are a safety hazard for linemen.

Transformers (BTU):

Transformers are used to step down the high voltage from the distribution line to a voltage usable by the consumer, anywhere from 120 volts to 480 volts for most customers. Transformers can be pole-mounted if the distribution lines are overhead, and pad-mounted for underground electrical wiring.

Service line (BTU):

This is the bundle of cables that run from the transformer to the service point connection of the customer's building. If the service line is overhead, this connection usually takes place at the weatherhead (see definition below). If the service line is underground, this connection takes place at the meter socket

Trees or bushes near the service line (Customer):

BTU crews do not prune branches that contact or are close to contacting the overhead service line. However, at your request, BTU will disconnect the service and move it if necessary to allow you or your contractor to safely trim, prune, or remove trees and other vegetation. Call BTU at 979-821-5700 for more information. For any digging near an underground service line, call 811 at least two business days before digging to have all underground utility lines marked.

Weatherhead (Customer):

The weatherhead is the rounded cap on top of the service mast, and it is designed to keep water from flowing down the mast into the meter socket. The weatherhead is the point of transfer between BTU's service line and the customer's service entrance wires, which is called the "service point" (see inset in the graphic). The wires at the service point are anchored to the mast and dip downward before leading up to the weatherhead. This dip is called a "drip loop," as it allows rain to drip off of the wires before entering the weatherhead.

Service Mast (Customer):

The service mast holds the wires that run from the service point into the meter socket. The service mast plays an important role, as it protects the wires carrying 240 volts of continuous, unfused electricity into the meter socket. If there is any damage to the service mast, do not attempt to repair it yourself. Call a licensed electrician immediately to examine the mast for damage.

Meter Socket (Customer):

The meter socket, also called the meter box or meter can, is a weatherproof metal box usually mounted on the outside of a building. The meter socket is the connection point for the BTU meter. If the Meter Socket is damaged by weather or any type of accident, it must be repaired or replaced by a professional electrician.

Meter (BTU):

The electric meter measures the amount of electricity that flows from the BTU grid into the customer's home or business. The back side of the meter consists of four prongs, which fit into the meter socket to create the connection that allows electricity to flow into the customer's home or business.

Service Panel (Customer):

The service panel, also called the breaker panel or fuse panel, is the central distribution point for electrical service to the customer. The service panel houses the circuit breakers or fuses, which are safety devices designed to cut power to individual electrical lines that are overloaded or damaged.

Who Owns What?

Bryan Texas Utilities Owned Equipment vs. Customer Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by BTU (in **gold**) and the customer (in **blue**). If a storm damages any equipment owned by BTU, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any customer-owned equipment, the customer is responsible for repairs. Customers should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to customer-owned equipment.

