

# Regular Board of Directors *Meeting Notes* **April 11, 2022**

### Renewal of an Easement with Texas A&M University System

The board renewed an easement with Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) originally granted in 2012. The easement is for a distribution line currently in service that crosses TAMUS property.

#### Discussion of BTU's TRE Audit

Miss Mary Downs, BTU Regulatory Compliance Officer, presented the results from the 2020 Texas Reliability Entity (TRE) audit of the BTU's operational and cyber readiness as required by regulated entities. TRE and BTU have finalized all outstanding items.





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









### **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. A. Bentley Nettles, Chairman Ms. Rosemarie Selman, Vice Chairman Mr. Pete J. Bienski, Jr., Secretary Mr. John A. Bond Mr. Paul Madison, Sr. Mr. Greg S. Owens Mr. Paul Turney

Mr. Jason Bienski, Ex-Officio Mr. Buppy Simank, Ex-Officio

### **General Manager**

**Gary Miller** 

#### **Executive Directors**

Doug Lyles Randy Trimble Wes Williams

David Werley, Chief Business Officer

### **Division Managers** James Bodine

Nick Cook Shawndra Curry Ken Lindberg Clay Lindstrom

Gary Massey Vicki Reim

### City of Bryan

Kean Register, City Manager Will Smith, Chief Financial Officer

### **Important Numbers**

**Billing/Collections/Connects** 

(979) 821-5700

**Electrical Outage/Lines Down** (979) 822-3777

**Distribution/Line Design** 

(979) 821-5770











cityofbryan



On an annual basis, Bryan Texas Utilities sponsors three local high school students through the Government-in-Action Youth Tour program. Young leaders submit their responses to our application that asks why they are interested in visiting the nation's capital, how they currently serve the community through service projects and extracurricular activities, and an essay question about a real-life scenario that impacts the electric utility industry. *Learn more about the three stellar students that reside in an area and/or attend a school serviced by Bryan Texas Utilities:* 



### Eli Dawson – Allen Academy

Eli Dawson is a sophomore attending Allen Academy in Bryan, Texas. His interests include sports, playing football, basketball, tennis, and golf, and he enjoys history and science. Eli has served on the Student Council, and currently represents his class on the Honor Council. He also participates in fine arts, playing cello in the school orchestra. Eli says "I'm most excited on our trip to D.C. to visit the Vietnam War memorial. Several members of my family that I know were in the service during that time, and I think it will be interesting to see the memorial. I'm also excited to visit the Capitol and meet representatives of the Brazos Valley and Texas, as it's something I won't forget.



### Lydia Demlow - A&M Consolidated High School

Howdy! My name is Lydia Demlow, and I'm a graduating senior at A&M Consolidated High School. I love all things crafty and creative- it's not uncommon to see me with yarn in my backpack, paint on my hands, or graphite all over my face. I also am an avid swimmer. I've been swimming competitively for 10 years, for both a club and my high school team. I am also passionate about sharing my enjoyment of the water with others. I've started a small business teaching private swim lessons to kids of various ages and abilities, as well as guarding and teaching lessons for my city's pool.



### Riena Mishima – Bryan High School

My name is Riena Mishima and I am a junior at Bryan High School. Since Freshman year, I have been a proud member of the Shy-Anne Drill team as both a dancer and a Social Officer. Aside from athletics, I strive for altruism by being as involved as possible with both my school and community; due to this, I proudly hold the positions of a Bryan Viking Ambassador, Historian of my high school's chapter of National Honor Society (NHS), and President of my school's Key Club. Through these organizations, I am able to help incite positivity and necessary change at the local level. To achieve these changes, I believe in pushing yourself to learn about your community and its problems in order to aid in movement towards a better future. As an International Baccalaureate Diploma Student, I am in constant pursuit of new knowledge and take every chance I can get to learn and improve both myself and the world around me!

# HURRICANE SEASON ARE YOU PREPARED?

Hurricane season in the United States begins June 1. While our area of Texas is not always impacted, we do find ourselves in the pathway of storms from time to time. Prepare your home and your family with these helpful tips from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

# **PRE-STORM** – Gather supplies in a basic emergency kit

- Water (one gallon per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation)
- Food (at least a several-day supply of nonperishable food)
- · Battery-powered or hand crank radio
- · Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery
- · Flashlight
- Fire extinguisher
- · Matches in a waterproof container
- First aid kit
- · Extra batteries
- · Whistle (to signal for help)
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place)
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation)
- Personal hygiene items
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
- Complete change of clothing appropriate for your climate and sturdy shoes

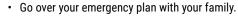
- · Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
- Manual can opener (for food)
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- Infant formula, bottles, diapers, wipes and diaper rash cream
- Prescription medications. An emergency can make it difficult to refill prescription medication or to find an open pharmacy. Organize and protect your prescriptions, overthe-counter drugs, and vitamins.
- · Local maps
- Prescription eyeglasses and contact lens solution
- · Pet food and extra water for your pet
- · Cash or traveler's checks
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records saved electronically or in a waterproof, portable container
- Paper and pencil











- · Keep checking for updates about the storm. Watch TV, listen to the radio, or check online.
- Call the hospital, public health department, or the police about special needs. If you or a loved one is older or disabled and will not be able to leave quickly, get advice on what to do.
- Put pets and farm animals in a safe place.
- Clear your yard. Make sure there's nothing that could blow around during the storm and damage your home.
   Move bikes, lawn furniture, grills, propane tanks, and building material inside or under shelter.
- Be ready to turn off your power. If you see flooding, downed power lines, or you have to leave your home, switch your power off.
- · Be ready to evacuate or stay at home.
- · Always listen to authorities regarding whether you should evacuate or stay at home.



# **DURING THE STORM** – Follow safety tips to avoid injury and reduce damages.

If a hurricane is coming, you may hear an order from authorities to evacuate (leave your home). Never ignore an order to evacuate. Even sturdy, well-built houses may not hold up against a hurricane. Staying home to protect your property is not worth risking your health and safety. If driving conditions are dangerous, however, staying at home might be safer than leaving.

### If you need to evacuate:

- Grab your emergency supply kit and only take essential items with you (cell phone, chargers, medicines, identification like a passport or license, and cash).
- Unplug your appliances. If you have time, turn off the gas, electricity, and water.
- Follow the roads that emergency workers recommend even if there's traffic. Other routes might be blocked or flooded. Never drive through flooded areas—cars and other vehicles can be swept away or may stall in just 6 inches of moving water.

### If you need to stay home:

- Keep your emergency supply kit in a place you can easily access.
- · Listen to the radio or TV for updates on the hurricane.
- Stay inside. Even if it looks calm, do not go outside. Wait until
  you hear or see an official message that the hurricane is over.
  Sometimes, weather gets calm in the middle or "eye" of a
  storm but then quickly becomes harsh again.
- Stay away from windows—you could get hurt by pieces of broken glass or flying debris during a storm. Stay in a room in the inner part of your home with no windows, or go inside a closet.
- Be ready to leave. If emergency authorities order you to leave or if your home is damaged, you may need to go to a shelter or a neighbor's house.

# **POST-STORM** – Return home when authorities declare it is safe to do so. Practice safe restoration practices.

- Always follow warnings about flooded roads. Don't drive in flooded areas—cars or other vehicles will not protect you from floodwaters. They can be swept away or may stall in moving water.
- Stay out of floodwater. If you have to be in or near floodwater, wear a life jacket—especially if the water is rising.
- Wash your hands with soap and water if you have been in floodwater. If you do not have soap or water, use alcoholbased wipes or sanitizer. Floodwater can contain many things that may harm health, including microbes, dangerous chemicals, human and livestock waste, wild or stray animals, downed power lines, and other contaminants that can make you sick.
- Never use a wet electrical device. Turn off the power at the main breaker in your house if your home is still or was flooded at any point during the storm.
- If the power is out, use flashlights instead of candles. If you
  have to use candles, keep them away from anything that can
  catch fire. Keep a fire extinguisher handy, and make sure your
  family knows how to use it.
- Prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. Fuel-burning equipment such as generators or grills create carbon monoxide (CO).
   You cannot smell or see carbon monoxide, but if it builds up in your home, it can cause sudden illness and death. Never use portable gasoline or coal-burning equipment inside your home, basement, or garage. Keep it outside and at least 20 feet from any window, door, or vent. Use a battery-operated or

- battery backup CO detector any time you use a generator or anything else that burns fuel. If you have a CO detector and it starts beeping, leave the area right away, get to fresh air, and call 911.
- Do not enter a damaged building until local authorities determine it is safe. Hurricanes can damage buildings and make them unsafe. Leave your home or building if you hear shifting or unusual noises. Strange noises could mean the building is about to collapse.
- Stay clear of fallen power lines. Call BTU or your electrical provider to report them.
- Throw away food that may have come in contact with flood or storm water. Unsafe food can make you sick even if it looks, smells, and tastes normal. Throw away perishable foods that have not been refrigerated properly due to power outages; also discard foods with an unusual odor, color, or texture. When in doubt, throw it out.
- Listen to reports from local officials for advice on water precautions in your home. Do not use water you suspect or have been told is contaminated to make baby formula, make ice, brush your teeth, wash and prepare food, wash your hands, or wash dishes. Bottled, boiled, or treated water are safe for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene. Your state or local health department can make specific recommendations for boiling or treating water in your area.
- Get first aid quickly to help heal small wounds and prevent infection.







Whether you've been here an hour or 20 years, explore the many ways you can make the most out of your summer here in Bryan! Warning: delicious food and family fun required!



# **EXPLORE**

### Bryan's Historic Downtown and Cultural District

Take a stroll in Historic Downtown Bryan and take in the historic architecture, explore one of the many unique shops, or stop in at a local restaurant. With much to explore and experience, Downtown Bryan is the place to be.



A Texas Cultural District



## CONNECT

### with nature at Lake Bryan

With more than 20 miles of hiking and biking trails, campgrounds, swimming areas, a boat ramp, and great fishing spots, you'll find there are countless ways to connect with nature at Lake Bryan. Catch a sailboat gliding across the water or paddle your way across the lake yourself with kayak and paddleboard rentals.



# **TRY**

# our flavorfully diverse eateries

From authentic street tacos to Asian and European-inspired restaurants, you won't have to wander far to try international cuisine in Bryan! In the mood for something closer to home? Try one of the many homestyle and soul food eateries Bryan has to offer.



# **EXPERIENCE**

### First Friday in Downtown Bryan

Join in on the excitement in Downtown Bryan on the first Friday of each month for live music, arts and craft vendors, pop-up experiences, and all-around fun. Bring your family, your friends, or your pet; all are welcome at First Friday!



# **SHOP LOCAL**

### at the Farmers' Market

Featuring over 50 local vendors, the Brazos Valley Farmers' Market provides an opportunity to connect Bryan residents with locally sourced produce and product. From jellies and jams to farm fresh eggs and Texas beef, if you're interested in stocking your pantry locally, the farmers' market is a must!





# **EXPLORE** Bryan's history

With Bryan in its 150th year, it's no secret that Bryan is teeming with stories from the past. To experience it, you can stroll through our historic downtown, wander through the exhibits at the Boonville Heritage Park, explore the artifacts at the Brazos Valley African American Museum and the Brazos Valley Natural History Museum, or dive into the historical narrative at the Carnegie History Center.



# **JOIN IN** on the family fun

Bryan hosts many family-friendly locations and activities. Explore over 50 local parks and trails, join a local sports league, or make new friends at one of many Parks and Recreation programs. During the spring and summer months, you can dive headfirst into two public pools featuring water slides and splash features.



# **CHECK OUT** Bryan's Music Scene

As a certified Texas Music Friendly Community, Bryan knows how to enjoy music. With ample festivals and events featuring music throughout the year and several live music venues finding music in Bryan is not hard to do.

## **HAVE FUN** at Midtown Park

Midtown Park is where the outdoors meets competition and fun! Quickly becoming the center of sports and activities in Bryan, keep your eye on events and activities located here. Take a swing at Big Shots Golf, catch a game at Travis Fields, wander down the walking trail, or work on your kickflip at Williamson Skate Park.

# TAKE IN the Wildflowers

With wildflowers dotting alongside roadsides and front yards, the view in Bryan during the spring and summer is unbeatable! Enjoy the many colorful backdrops of bluebonnets, Indian paintbrushes, and coreopsis throughout town during the spring and early summer months.







For more information and links to things to do, go to bryantx.gov/bryan-bucket-list



# QUEEN THEATRE REOPENS IN THEATRE DOWNTOWN BRYAN

*The Queen is back!* Bryanites can now experience the magic of film again inside the crown jewel of Historic Downtown Bryan. The Queen Theatre reopened its doors in mid-March with a few updates and changes that bring modern amenities to this historic treasure.

While still owned by the City of Bryan, the theater is now operating under management of EPMC, LLC. EPMC is owned by the Schulman family, whose history in Bryan and with The Queen goes back decades.

Since the Queen's reopening, movie-goers have seen some upgrades. The theater now features 50 luxury recliners on the main floor and balcony, a new screen, and an improved sound projector system. These upgrades provide a premium experience for customers to enjoy first-run movies in the historic theater. They can also enjoy delicious food and drinks that are delivered right to their seats. On the third and fourth floors of The Queen, customers can enjoy a craft beer or cocktail in The Crown Bar. With comfortable lounge seating, this upscale, yet relaxing, atmosphere will become a staple in Bryanites' dining preferences. The Crown Bar is also open every day for lunch beginning at 11 a.m.

Generally, The Queen is open Thursday through Sundays for public showings each week, but it will be available throughout the week for private events. For more information on movies and rentals at The Queen, go to **queenbryantx.com**.

Now that the Queen has reopened, EMPC has begun work on The Palace Theater right across the street. This openair theater will also see renovations that will elevate its flexibility as a venue, including removing the permanent seats and changing the slope of the ground.

Billy's Grill & Bar – located in the former Sweet Relish space on Main Street – will serve as the food provider for both venues and eventually as a walk-in restaurant.

"We are thrilled to return these two facilities to full glory and bring the magic of the Queen and the Palace back to the City of Bryan," said Mark Schulman, President of EPMC Group, LLC. "It will be exciting for new generations to experience all the joy these facilities brought the Schulman family all those years ago."



