



Regular Board of Directors MEETING NOTES | November 14, 2024

Contract for Pole Inspections and Reinforcements

The Board approved a contract with Davey Resource Group, Inc. for annual pole inspections and reinforcements.

Contract for Design and Staking of FY26 CIP Projects

The Board approved a contract with Heart of Texas Utility Design and M&S Engineering, LLC for design and staking services for certain Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Projects.

Master Service Agreements for Transmission Design and Construction Services

The Board approved four (4) Master Service Agreements for design and construction management services for various Transmission projects with the following engineering firms:

- Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.
- M&S Engineering, LLC
- Stanley Consultants, Inc.
- SynchroGrid, Inc.

Contract for Transmission Line Design from Rayburn Substation to East Substation

The Board approved a professional services contract with M&S Engineering, LLC for the design of a transmission line from Rayburn Substation to East Substation.

Contract for an Infrastructure Upgrade Project

The Board approved a contract under the terms of an existing Application Managed Services Agreement with Sensus USA, Inc. for an infrastructure upgrade project.

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Hours of Operation
Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM

Board of Directors

- Ms. Rosemarie L. Selman, Chair
- Mr. Pete J. Bienski, Jr., Vice Chair
- Mr. Paul Madison, Sr., Secretary
- Mr. John A. Bond
- Mr. Andrew Nelson
- Mr. A. Bentley Nettles
- Mr. Buppy Simank
- Mr. Jason Bienski, Ex-Officio
- Mr. Kevin Boriskie, 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

City of Bryan

- Kean Register, City Manager
- Katherine Tapscott, Chief Financial Officer

Important Numbers

Billing/Collections/Connects
(979) 821-5700

Electrical Outage/Lines Down
(979) 822-3777

Line Design
(979) 821-5770

Social Media

- BryanTexasUtilities
- BTU_BryanTX
- cityofbryan



BTU KIOSKS

Pay using cash, card or check at any one of our three convenient locations by entering your account number, listed on either your bill or your reminder letter, or by scanning a keycard provided by BTU. Keycards can be requested in the BTU main office.

KIOSK LOCATIONS

- BTU Drive Thru – open 24 hours
- HEB at Texas Ave. & Hwy 21 – open 6am-12am
- HEB in the Tejas Center – open 6am-12am



2025 Government-in-Action

YOUTH TOUR

Applications are
NOW OPEN!

The When

Applications are currently being accepted through February 3, 2025.

The trip will take place June 15-22, 2025.

The Where

Students from Texas travel by chartered flight to Washington D.C. for a week of fun-filled days touring attractions and historical sites.

The Who

Three local high school students will be chosen as winners for the trip. To be eligible students must be a sophomore, junior, or senior in high school and either live in or attend school in the BTU service territory.

All applicants must apply online at: btutilities.com/youthtour

Candidates will be judged on their responses to an essay question, their extracurricular activities, and academic and civic leadership.

The Why

The idea to send students to Washington D.C. came from President Lyndon B. Johnson, a Texan who advocated for rural electrification and youth development. In 1957, when he was still a U.S. senator, Johnson suggested "sending youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."

This notion evolved in the 1960s into a nationwide effort to send young people on organized, fun and educational trips to the nation's capital. Today, electric utilities from nearly every state send more than 1,500 youths to Washington, D.C. each June. Since 1965, more than 50,000 students have toured the capital thanks to their local utilities.

Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU) is committed to powering and 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 three local high school students to attend the Government-in-Action Youth Tour.

Apply online today at btutilities.com/youthtour



START THE NEW YEAR WITH ENERGY-SMART RESOLUTIONS

As the calendar turns to a new year, it's a great time to set goals that benefit your wallet, the environment, and your community. At BTU, we're here to help you achieve your energy resolutions with programs designed to make saving energy easier and more impactful.



Through BTU's RENEWability program, you can power your home entirely with renewable energy sources like wind and solar—no solar installation required! For a minimal additional cost of less than one penny per kilowatt-hour, this program allows you to reduce your carbon footprint while maintaining the convenience of grid power.



Take control of your energy consumption with BTU's SmartHOME program. This initiative helps customers improve home energy efficiency with rebates for installing new ENERGY STAR-rated windows, upgrading insulation, or installing solar screens on windows. By investing in your home, you can reduce energy costs year-round while staying comfortable.

Small Changes, Big Impact

When it comes to saving energy, even minor adjustments to your habits and home can lead to noticeable benefits. By making these small changes, you can reduce your energy usage and lower your utility bills:

- **Switch to LED Bulbs:** These bulbs use up to 75% less energy and last significantly longer than traditional incandescent lighting. Plus, they come in a variety of brightness levels and colors to fit any space.
- **Unplug Devices:** Electronics and appliances can consume electricity even when they're turned off, a phenomenon called "phantom power." By unplugging chargers, gaming consoles, and other devices when not in use, you can cut down on wasted energy.
- **Smart Thermostat Settings:** Setting your thermostat a few degrees lower in winter or higher in summer can result in substantial savings without sacrificing comfort. Consider programmable or smart thermostats to automate these adjustments.
- **Energy-Efficient Appliances:** When it's time to replace appliances, look for ENERGY STAR-certified models. These products are designed to use less energy without compromising performance.
- **Seal and Insulate:** Prevent drafts by sealing gaps around windows and doors. Proper insulation helps keep your home warm in the winter and cool in the summer, reducing the workload on your HVAC system.

Let the small changes lead the way to big results in 2025! Pair them with BTU's SmartHOME program for more significant savings and efficiency upgrades, or go green with RENEWability to support renewable energy effortlessly.

Visit btutilities.com for more tips and programs to help you save.

BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES | SPOTLIGHT

FLYING PENGUIN ICE



Each holiday season from Thanksgiving to New Year's, families across Texas make their way to Moody Gardens in Galveston to marvel at Ice Land, an enchanting winter wonderland filled with brilliantly colored ice sculptures. What many visitors may not know is that the magical ice blocks that bring this attraction to life are crafted by a longtime Bryan Texas Utilities' customer: Flying Penguin Ice. From their facilities in Bryan, this specialized ice manufacturer has been adding color—and holiday cheer—to Ice Land for more than a decade.

Flying Penguin Ice has been a trusted ice supplier in the Brazos Valley for nearly 50 years. The business began as a beer distributor, delivering kegs around the Bryan/College Station area. As the years went on, the beer business dwindled, but the ice business grew. Owner, Robert Heath, transitioned to solely focus on ice, and Flying Penguin Ice was born. Large coolers filled with bagged ice featuring the recognizable flying penguin artwork can be found at convenience and grocery stores around the Bryan/College Station area. However, it's the production of unique block ice that makes the local business stand out.

When Moody Gardens began dreaming up Ice Land—a holiday installation carved by master ice sculptors from China—they sought out Flying Penguin Ice to make their vision a reality. The Flying Penguin team specializes in creating crystal-clear and colored ice blocks perfect for carving wintry scenes. The blocks are created in special machines that circulate sub-freezing saltwater around the basins to quickly freeze rectangular slabs.

While creating crystal clear ice is more complicated than one might think, it's the colored ice that took some research. "It was trial and error to find best way to create vibrant colors in the ice," Manager, Wesley Spelbring said.

The team at Flying Penguin Ice found that using a proprietary blend of child-safe paint and milk produces the best color distribution. The paints and dyes are child-safe to ensure that any curious attendees do not get a surprise if they cannot resist licking the ice. Moody Gardens requests custom colors each year to fit their theme, anything from frosty blues to festive reds and greens. Each color requires experimentation to find the perfect blend.

The power-intensive nature of Flying Penguin Ice's work requires consistent and reliable electricity, especially when it comes to freezing large volumes of ice in varying colors. Flying Penguin Ice's production facilities rely on BTU to keep their operations running smoothly. With BTU's support, the team can create and store hundreds of ice blocks to ensure a continuous supply for Ice Land, which uses over 1 million pounds of ice each year.

"We're grateful for BTU's partnership," Spelbring says. "Keeping our facilities running without interruption is critical, especially when we're on a tight timeline for Ice Land. BTU's reliable service helps make our job possible."

Flying Penguin Ice begins the process of freezing and storing the blocks in February then deliver the blocks in October, each year. The magic of the holiday display takes nearly all year to produce. From candy-cane-striped walkways to towering ice castles, Ice Land's sculptures embody the spirit of the season. Flying Penguin Ice's contribution makes it all possible, bringing a unique holiday experience to thousands of visitors. As families stroll through the icy exhibits, admiring each carefully crafted detail, they can thank Flying Penguin Ice and the reliable power from BTU. Ice Land's memorable Christmas tradition wouldn't be possible without a little magic from Bryan.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY FLYING PENGUIN ICE



Inventory Process Underway for Bryan's Water Service Lines



ADOBE STOCK ©

The City of Bryan's Water Services is working diligently to identify city- and privately-owned service lines as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) updated Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR). This federal mandate requires all community water systems to identify and replace lead service lines within the next 10 years.

An initial inventory of Bryan's 36,446 water service lines was completed on Oct. 16 through a review of designs and plans. The results are as follows:

17,759 lines: *Unknown service line material*

15,910 lines: *Confirmed non-lead material*

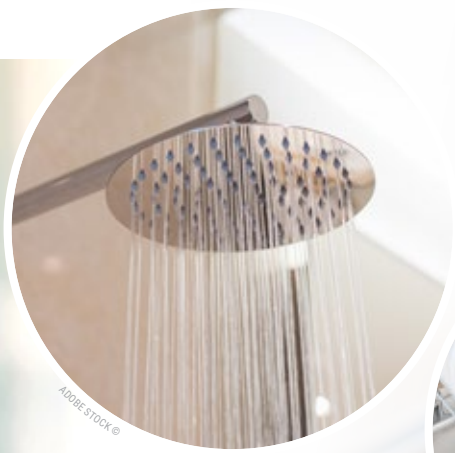
2,775 lines: *Vacant lots*

2 lines: *Galvanized or downstream of unknown material*

0 lines: *Identified as lead*

There is no indication of lead issues in Bryan's water supply.

Letters were mailed out on Nov. 13 to customers whose water line has an unknown material status. Water Services also created an online inventory map where customers can enter their address to view the classification status of their water line. Water Services staff will be conducting field investigations by digging small holes near the meter box to physically identify the line material. If a lead or galvanized line requiring replacement is found, staff will notify the customer immediately and advise on next steps. Note that, the city's line runs from the water main to the meter box and the private side runs from the meter box to the home/business. The inventory process will continue until all water service lines have been identified.



ABOUT LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1986 banning the use of lead piping and it was banned in Texas in 1988. The EPA adopted the Lead and Copper Rule in 1991 and the revision was adopted on Oct. 8, 2024.

Water Services has tested for lead since 1994. Historically, lead levels have been below actionable thresholds, with a range of 1.5 to 2 parts per billion (ppb). The recent LCRR update lowered the actionable threshold for lead from 15 ppb to 10 ppb.

Lead can enter drinking water when pipes and plumbing fixtures containing lead corrode, particularly in water with high acidity (a pH of 6.5 or less). Bryan's water has a pH of 8.3-8.5, which reduces the risk of corrosion.

If you are concerned about lead exposure, here are some steps to take:

- Use a filter certified to remove lead, and follow the filter cartridge replacement instructions. Do not run hot water through the filter.
- Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).
- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- Flush your home's pipes before drinking or cooking by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or washing dishes.

TO LEARN MORE

and to view the online inventory map, scan here:

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions or concerns, please email PWCC@bryantx.gov or call **979-209-5900**.

