



Current

News from Floresville Electric Light & Power System

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Falls City Advisory Trustee Joins FELPS Board

The city council of Falls City has named Tim Braniff as the city's Advisory Trustee on the Floresville Electric Light & Power System Board of Trustees. The appointment brings the FELPS Board to its full strength. Braniff will serve until Dec. 31, 2019.

A Falls City resident since 1978, Braniff moved to the city when he was hired by the school district as a coach. He has 36 years of experience in education and holds a B.S. degree from Stephen F. Austin University. He received a master's degree in school administration from Texas A&I University.

An active member of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church, he serves on many committees and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He also is an active member of various Falls City Independent School District associations and the Teachers Retirement Association. He and his wife, Mary, have three adult children.

FELPS Briefs

- Please note that the FELPS office will be closed on Sept. 4 for Labor Day. Regular office hours will resume at 8 a.m. the following day. To report outages, including on holidays and after business hours (Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.), please call 830-216-7000 and select sub-option 2. Report outages online at www.felaps.us and select the tab labeled "Report Outage."
- Your call is easy with the FELPS telephone system. When calling the office, first press 1 for English or 2 for Spanish. Then select one of five sub-options: 1 to make a payment or for Customer Service, 2 for outages or emergencies, 3 for new construction, 4 for street or security light repair or 5 for field service maintenance.
- Mark your calendar and plan to attend the 73rd Annual Floresville Peanut Festival on Oct. 10-14 in downtown Floresville. The event highlights the importance of the peanut to Texas agriculture and offers activities for the whole family.

Current FELPS Board members and their term expiration dates include:

Cecelia Gonzalez-Dippel, Mayor of Floresville
Serves during term as Mayor

Vernon R. Lambeck, City of Stockdale
December 31, 2017

Ignacio Vasquez, City of Floresville
December 31, 2018

Mark Moczygemba, City of Poth
December 31, 2019

Sherry Castillo, City of Floresville
December 31, 2020

Advisory Members and their term expiration dates include:

Sharon Tanneberger, City of La Vernia
December 31, 2017

Tim Braniff, City of Falls City
December 31, 2019

Energy Depot Answers Your Energy Savings Questions

The FELPS web site offers information to help you save money on your electric bill. Just go to www.felaps.us and click on the Energy Depot link at the bottom of the page. Then you can choose from four different options:

- Energy Snapshot – to get a complete analysis of your energy use and personalized recommendations for savings.
- Comparison Tool – helps you compare current heating, air conditioning, water heating and/or lighting systems with new options or compares two new options.
- Appliance Calculator – provides annual energy costs for a range of energy systems and appliances.
- Energy Library – includes energy fact sheets categorized by system or appliance and answers to energy savings questions.

Take a look today to see how you can save energy and money.

Cool Air Can Be Lost Many Ways

If you have a central air conditioner, the duct system represents an important source of potential energy loss. You may be wasting energy because of poorly insulated ducts that allow cool air from your air conditioner to escape into the attic. Joints in the ducts also can leak, allowing cooled air to be forced out or unconditioned air to be drawn into return ducts.

Minor duct repairs are easy to accomplish using sealing materials. First look for holes and for sections of ductwork that have separated. Cover the holes using tape with the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) logo to ensure the tape will not degrade, crack or lose its bonding capacity. The tape also can be used to join sections of ductwork that have come apart.

Insulation on ducts represents a big energy saver. Because replacing insulation can be a difficult job requiring not only the insulation but also a moisture barrier, plan to get professional assistance.

While looking for escaping air, check for cracks around doors and windows. Seal up air leaks with weather-stripping and caulk.

Other ways to prevent reduced air conditioning efficiency include:

- Limiting heat-producing activities, such as hot showers.
- Doing laundry during the coolest time of the day and with the coolest water needed to clean your clothes.
- Using a traditional oven for baking. A microwave uses less electricity and does not increase heat in the kitchen.

Plan Ahead for Storm Outages

Summer weather usually means electrical storms that can cause outages. Plan ahead so you're ready when the electricity goes off.

- Keep flashlights in areas where you can find them easily, even in the dark. And be sure they are ready with fresh batteries.
- Your cell phone is another option for light, so try to keep it in a convenient location.

- Put the FELPS phone number (830-216-7000) in your cell phone address book so you can use it to report the outage. Or you can report outages online at www.felps.us and select the tab labeled "Report Outage."

Keeping your food in the refrigerator and freezer cold during an outage can be a challenge. The key is to keep the doors closed. Resist the temptation to check the temperature until the electricity is restored. Then you can use a thermometer specifically for a refrigerator.

Most refrigerators and freezers purchased during the last few years are insulated well enough that food will remain cool for several hours during an outage. You can check with the manufacturer to determine the standards for your models.

If frozen foods are partially thawed, they can be defrosted in the refrigerator and eaten within a couple of days. In most cases, frozen foods that have defrosted should not be refrozen.

AACOG Offers Weatherization Assistance

The Alamo Area Council of Governments has announced a program that assists low-income households in installing weatherization and energy conservation measures in their homes. Both homeowners and renters can apply for the no-cost program.

The following schedule shows the income requirements:

Family Size	Monthly Income	Annual Income Guidelines
1	\$1,507	\$18,090
2	\$2,030	\$24,360
3	\$2,552	\$30,630
4	\$3,075	\$36,900
5	\$3,597	\$43,170

To be eligible, the house must be in good repair without need for roofing, leveling, plumbing or electrical work. Applicants must provide proof of all sources of income 30 days before the application date for all household members 18 years old and older.

Proof of U.S. citizenship is required and applicants must provide a copy of a recent electric and gas bill showing the account holder's name and service address.

To request an application, phone 210-362-5282 or toll free 800-749-2010. You can get an application and information on the web site at www.aacog.com/wap or by emailing wap@aacog.com.



Contacting FELPS

Floresville Electric Light and Power System

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www.felps.us Twitter: @FELPS_Electric Facebook: www.facebook.com/FELPS.OnLine

Phone: (830) 216-7000 • Fax (830) 393-0362

Business hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

After 5 p.m.: (830) 216-7000 (for outages, press sub-option 2)

The Floresville Electric Light and Power System Board of Trustees meets the last Wednesday of each month at 8 a.m. in the utility offices, 1400 Fourth Street, Floresville.