



Current

News from Floresville Electric Light & Power System

Volume 24, Number 2

March/April 2022

Stockdale Reappoints Member for FELPS Board

The city council of Stockdale has reappointed John Akin to represent the city for an additional four-year term on the FELPS Board of Trustees. A Stockdale native, Akin began his board service at the beginning of 2018.

After graduating from Stockdale High School and completing a degree in education at the University of Houston, Akin taught in Spring Branch for a year before returning to Stockdale. He started Akin Propane, a business he owned and operated for 22 years.

Akin's volunteer work has included: charter member of the Stockdale Volunteer Ambulance Association, fireman and fire chief of the Stockdale Fire Department, board member on the Stockdale Independent School District and board member of the State of Texas Propane Dealers Association.

The Board of Trustees includes five voting members and two non-voting advisory members who set policy and approve expenditures and allocation of revenue for FELPS.

The Mayor of Floresville serves on the Board, along with a member appointed by each of the city councils of Floresville, Poth and Stockdale. The fifth voting members is appointed by the city councils of Stockdale, Poth and Floresville on a rotating basis.

The Board also has two advisory members to represent Falls City and La Vernia. The advisory members are named by their respective city councils and also serve four-year terms.

Trustees and advisory members may serve only two terms, but voting members may be named as advisory members, even if they have served two terms in a voting capacity. Likewise, advisory members may be named as voting members after serving two terms in their advisory capacity.

Current Board members and their term expiration dates:

Braden Lyssy, (Chair), City of Poth
December 31, 2023

John Akin, (Vice Chair), City of Stockdale
December 31, 2025

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

Daniel M. Tejada, City of Floresville
December 31, 2022

Royce Wetz, City of Stockdale
December 31, 2024

Advisory Members and their term expiration dates:

Tim Braniff, City of Falls City
December 31, 2023

City of La Vernia position is open
December 31, 2025

FELPS Briefs

- The FELPS office will be closed on April 15 for Good Friday. Regular business hours will resume at 8 a.m. on April 18.
- To report outages, including on holidays and after business hours (Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.), please call 830-216-7000 and select sub-option 2 or submit your outage through the FELPS web site www.felps.us.
- FELPS supports the stock shows in its service area through contributions. The utility contributed \$1,500 to the buyers' pool for the Wilson County Stock Show and \$1,000 to the La Vernia Stock Show

FELPS to Pay Owner Cities

Based on gross electric revenue in 2021, FELPS will pay \$962,292.99 to the three owner cities. Floresville will receive \$615,867.51 and Stockdale and Poth will each receive \$173,212.74. The payments represent 3 percent of the utility's gross electric sales during the previous year.

FELPS also will transfer 2.5 percent of gross electric sales within La Vernia and 2 percent in Falls City.

The payments go into the cities' general funds, allowing the cities to keep tax rates lower than otherwise would be the case.

FELPS Website Offers Notifications, Services

The FELPS website allows customers to sign up to receive a variety of notifications, such as bill due dates and payment receipts. Customers can receive the alerts by email and text messages.

Just go to the Customer Services portal and select the tab “My Accounts” and then “Manage Alerts.” Complete the required information, including your email address and mobile phone number. Then mark the categories of alerts you wish to receive and the timing.

You also can report outages and electric service problems on the FELPS website. The other option for reporting outages is through the automated telephone system. Whether during or after regular business hours, just call 830-216-7000 and select sub-option 2 to report a problem.

When you call, you will need to provide the telephone number on your account, your meter number or your complete five-digit account number and three-digit sub-account number. If trouble crews need additional information, you may get a call back from 507-437-2572, the after-hours dispatcher from Cooperative Response Center, Inc. (CRC). The agent represents FELPS to relay information to you or to verify the outage. A call cannot be returned to this number; instead customers should call 830-216-7000, sub-option 2.

Insulation Pays Off in Winter and Summer

Insulation is one of the most important energy-saving steps you can take, because it will save on electricity in both winter and summer. Since heating and cooling can represent as much as 50 percent of your total utility bill, it’s important to consider adding insulation if your home isn’t adequately insulated already.

The attic is the most effective and easiest place to add insulation, since it is generally the most accessible. The general rule for South Texas is to attain an R rating of at least 38 for the attic.

Since different insulation materials have different R ratings per inch, you probably should designate the R rating you want when talking to a contractor, rather than the number of inches. But as a general guide, an R-38 rating will require at least 12 inches.

Insulation can be installed from rolls, or loose insulation can be blown into the attic. But first, be certain that any openings are sealed up.

Compare Energy Usage When Buying Appliances

When you buy a new appliance, consider the cost of operation, as well as the purchase price when making a selection. Often, less expensive appliances are also less energy efficient, and that can cost you more in the long run.

Running appliances, such as refrigerators, washers and dryers, can represent as much as 20 percent of your total energy bill, so efficiency can add up to big savings.

Before selecting an appliance, compare the yellow EnergyGuide labels on each model to determine the estimated annual energy cost of operating it. Over the life of the appliance, you may find that the energy savings of a more efficient model will outweigh the additional costs when purchasing the appliance.

EnergyGuide labels appear on all new furnaces, air conditioners, washing machines and dryers, water heaters, refrigerators and freezers, dishwashers and heat pumps.

Outage Information Available on Website

The FELPS website includes a tool that allows customers to report outages and learn where outages are occurring. Go to the website at www.felps.us and select the red ribbon labeled “Outage Map” to see where outages are located.

A colored circle will appear in the area of the outage. The color and size of the circle indicate the magnitude. Basic information, such as the number of customers affected and the estimated restoration time, also is listed if available. The information shows a close but not exact location to ensure privacy.

To report an outage, select the “Report Outage” tab. You will need to provide identification, such as your account number, meter number or phone number associated with the account. After pressing “submit,” you can request a follow-up text or email after the electricity has been restored. Customers also can use the telephone system to report outages or can text the outage to 55050.

This tool represents just one of the many ways FELPS continuously works to improve service using technology.



Contacting FELPS

187 Highway 97 E., Floresville, TX 78114

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.-4:30 p.m. Drive-through closes at 4:15 p.m.

The FELPS Board of Trustees meets the last Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in the utility offices, 187 Highway 97 E., Floresville.