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Jamestown Board of Public Utilities general manager receives leadership and managerial excellence award

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 9, 2020 — David Leathers, general manager of Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) in Jamestown, New York, received the Mark Crisson Leadership and Managerial Excellence Award during the American Public Power Association's Public Power Connect: Virtual Summit & Business Meeting. The award recognizes managers at a utility, joint action agency, or state or regional association who steer their organizations to new levels of excellence, lead by example, and inspire staff to do better.

David is known as a strong leader and team player who always thinks about BPU and issues within the BPU community. He drives teams to develop creative, cost-effective solutions and supports community partners, especially city government, to help progress key issues to stabilize the community. Under David's leadership, the utility is one of the most stable community assets, giving residential and business customers reasons to stay in BPU territory. He actively supports and progresses improvements for the utility's reliability including advocating for new approaches and technologies. Across all five utility divisions, David inspires leadership and promotes "change and improvement." He encourages employees at all levels to become better leaders and team players. He identifies and promotes training opportunities, gives constant constructive feedback to his direct reports and expects them to do the same to their own employees. David makes a great effort to keep Board Members apprised of ongoing issues and potential solutions so that the directors may make informed decisions for the betterment of the community.

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The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 93,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.