City of Albany administrator receives national award

Nashville, Tennessee, June 14, 2022 — Derek Brown, city administrator for the city of Albany, Missouri, received the Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. The award recognizes managers of small utilities serving fewer than 2,500 meters. These managers have a very small staff and must assume multiple roles. The seven hats they must wear are: planning and design, administration, public relations, field supervision, accounting, human resources, and community leadership.

Derek spearheaded a long-term upgrade plan and design to Albany’s electric distribution system to increase reliability and system efficiency, and engaged in the successful planning, design and construction of a new $5.5 million wastewater treatment plant, which went online in 2020. Derek is involved in almost every aspect of the Albany community, working tirelessly to get others excited about helping to improve their town. He has spent countless hours alongside city work crews, lending a hand wherever needed. Additionally, Derek has served 20 years on the Boards of Directors for the utility organizations that comprise the Missouri Public Utility Alliance.

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 96,000 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.