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Marlow Electric city administrator receives national award

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 9, 2020 — Jason McPherson, city administrator of Marlow Electric in Marlow, Oklahoma, received the Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award during the American Public Power Association’s Public Power Connect: Virtual Summit & Business Meeting. 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.

Jason McPherson has been employed with the City of Marlow for seven years. He has represented Marlow on the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority’s Board of Directors since 2016 and manages 42 full time employees, as well as four part time employees. Jason was instrumental in securing funding for the redesign of Marlow’s substation and he was a driving factor in the city installing a second backup transformer to their new substation. Jason was also responsible for the completion of the City of Marlow's new automatic metering infrastructure. He designed Marlow’s CINCH (Caring in Neighborhoods with Cooling and Heating) program and worked with the Good Samaritan's group, which is the only United Way group in Marlow, to develop the rules and program. Marlow's CINCH program allows utility rate payers to round up their bill or to donate to a private fund to help those in need pay their City of Marlow utility bills. He has also served as a Marlow School Board member and is past president of the Marlow Chamber of Commerce and the Lions Club. When Jason is done working his full-time job as city manager, he volunteers his time to broadcast all the high school football and basketball games on the local radio station.

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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.