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Jackson Center Municipal Electric System village administrator receives national award

New Orleans, La., June 19, 2018 —Bruce A. Metz, Village administrator for Jackson Center Municipal Electric System in Ohio, received the Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award at the American Public Power Association's national conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. This 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.

About 40 years ago, Bruce joined the village as a member of the streets department. He works with engineers, contractors, and department heads to make sure that projects stay on course. Bruce takes on a range of tasks — answering questions from residents, overseeing new projects, or visiting job sites to check on progress and hear from supervisors and employees. He prepares the annual village appropriation budget and works with each department head to plan for the future. Bruce attends monthly safety meetings and quarterly trainings for the electric department. He is active in many community organizations and has been with the volunteer fire department for 24 years, including 8 as fire chief.

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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.

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