



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: January 31, 2022

Contact: Mark Nibaur, Austin Utilities

507-438-1593

MarkN@AustinUtilities.com

JAY LUTZ APPOINTED TO NATIONAL PUBLIC POWER COUNCIL

AUSTIN, Minn.— (January 31, 2022) – Jay Lutz, Commissioner, Austin Utilities, was named to a one-year term on the American Public Power Association’s (APPA or Association) Policy Makers Council (PMC or Council) by its Board of Directors. APPA is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. APPA represents public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million customers that public power utilities serve, and the 93,000 people they employ. The Association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Its members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.

The Policy Makers Council assists APPA in promoting federal legislation that is important to public power utilities like Austin Utilities and opposing legislation. It also provides advice on other issues of importance to the Association. The PMC is made up of members who serve on either utility boards or are elected officials in public power communities. Members of the Council meet a minimum of twice a year and participate in meetings with elected representatives and congressional staff for the purposes of supporting APPA’s national legislative agenda.

Lutz was elected to the Austin Utility Board of Commissioners in 2020 and is active in community affairs, including the Austin City Charter Commission, the Austin Planning Commission, the Cedar Valley Services Board of Directors, and the Mower County Humane Society. This is the first time an Austin Utilities board commissioner has held a position with one of our national associations.

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Austin Utilities is a municipal utility serving approximately 12,300 electric customers, 10,300 natural gas customers, and 9000 water customers. Their mission is to offer utility products and services in a safe, reliable and responsible manner in order to enhance the quality of life in our community. Austin Utilities’ Board of Commissioners are elected by the consumer-owners of Austin to represent their best interest. For more information on Austin Utilities visit their website at www.austinutilities.com.