

CYCLE OF PERSONAL OWNERSHIP

DECEMBER 2022 WINNERS



CHELAN COUNTY

TOM MATSUZAKI

Following the long holiday weekend, the operating crew at Rock Island found themselves down one control station. The cable that allows the crew to acknowledge alarms at the chief station for both PH1 and PH2 had broken due to age. A service request was generated and entered into the system. While on the phone with Tom Matsuzaki about the weekly 911 test, the status of that alarm work was discussed along with a training request. Tom patiently went through some training over the phone about the radio system and provided some additional guidance as to a way to call radios that have accidentally gone into alarm. An issue that has been happening more frequently and definitely takes the focus of the operating crew when it does. He asked clarifying information about the work being requested and finished his 911 weekly test task. At the end of the same day which happened to be Friday, Tom requested from his supervisor to complete the work for the alarm. The time to drive to the project would be far longer than the job, which was completed in minutes. This restored alarm acknowledgment and silence capabilities for the chief operator for the weekend. Throughout the day Tom exemplified multiple district values, from safety (by taking the time to offer additional expertise on how to respond to a radio that is in emergency, to Operational Excellence by taking the time to fix a small item that has potentially huge impact). Failure of the senior alarm station would pull operators away from their equipment monitoring to address nuisance alarms and could potentially distract them from critical information. Each of these items individually support the district value of trustworthiness, he saw an issue that was within his capabilities to correct and championed getting it done making Rock Island better, safer, and ready to respond, Thank you Tom.

ERRIN BRATTON

In today's tough recruiting environment, it has become very tough to attract new employees to the district in some very sought-after positions, Lineman maybe being towards the top of that category with all the outside opportunities they have. We have, in Errin Bratton, a recruitment specialist that has been a fantastic addition, and incredibly valuable partner in the hiring process here at the PUD. We all understand the processes and directions we have to follow to make sure every candidate is treated fairly and equitably and creates a very long and drawn-out process in order to do it right and stay out of trouble. Errin has been a tremendous help in completing a lot of the process and directions by herself to help us time and time again. The last Lineman we were able to hire is a remarkable story to me and everyone involved with the process. We have had no less than four openings for the past two years that have been very difficult to recruit, so when we receive a resume, it is a big deal. A Lineman in Wenatchee for a family visit saw our posting on the internet and called to inquire. He stated that he was leaving town in two days to go back to work, but was interested in talking to us, we called Errin and, in a few hours, she had received his resume, set up an interview for the following morning, and we made an offer that afternoon after the interview and references were checked! We have waited longer for a pizza to be delivered than that. I believe that Errin personifies operational excellence every day in her job.