

Call for Award Nominations

Each year during the Public Power Conference, the MESO Board of Directors honors individuals who have made significant contributions to their community and public power. Additionally, MESO member utilities are recognized for the contributions they made to enhance and improve their electric systems.

MESO is seeking nominees to be recognized at the 2019 MESO Awards Luncheon, Tuesday, April 16, 12:00 p.m., at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Norman, Oklahoma. The attached information sheet describes the individual awards.

To submit a nomination, please complete a nomination detailing the individual's contribution to both their community and public power as appropriate. Sufficient detail should be provided so that the Awards Selection Committee is provided a clear understanding of the individual's contributions. Further, each submission should have contact information for the person submitting the nomination.

All Recognition Award nominations are due **NO LATER THAN – February 1, 2019**

Nominations should be submitted to MESO in one of the following methods:

Mail: Tom Rider, GM
308 NE 27th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-2717

Fax: (405) 524-5095

Email: tom@meso.org

Questions should be submitted in writing to tom@meso.org. Nominations received after February 1, 2019 may not be considered.

MESO Recognition Awards

Ray Duffy Personal Service Award

The Ray Duffy Personal Service Award is named for Ray Duffy past president of the Municipal Electric Systems of Oklahoma and an original Board member. He served on the Board from 1971 to 1982, just before his death. Duffy served as electric superintendent in Walters, Altus, and Frederick and was a very active proponent of municipal public power across the state. In 1972 and 1973, Duffy went from city to city encouraging membership in MESO. Additionally, he was a tireless worker for the creation of municipal power plant ownership, leading to the formation of what would become the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority. For his actions and selfless promotion of public power in Oklahoma, this award was created and named after Ray Duffy.

Nomination letter should describe the individual's active efforts in supporting and/or promoting public power. The letter should include enough detail as to assist the selection committee in fully understanding the individual's efforts.

Marvin Hicks – Al Middleton Meritorious Service Award

Awarded to an individual employee from a MESO member city/town/utility who has 25 years of employment as a good employee and is/ has been very active in their community. This award is named for two of MESO's original Board members – Marvin Hicks, Tahlequah and Al Middleton, Pryor. Hicks and Middleton both helped to grow MESO membership and were committed to the success of their respective communities. Together, they had almost 80 years of service to their communities.

To be considered for the award, the individual or the person nominating the individual, should provide a letter stating why the individual should be considered for the award. The letter should include details about the individual's work history and active involvement in the community.

Drake Rice Customer Service Award

Awarded to individuals who best exemplify the qualities of a true customer service professional.

For more than 30 years, Drake has served as the Director of Member Services for the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority, focusing on programs and services that benefitted OMPA members and their citizens. During this time, Rice exemplified customer service through his tireless efforts to assist municipal electric utilities throughout the State of Oklahoma regardless of their power supply affiliation. Prior to OMPA, Rice was a former City Manager in both Prague and Blackwell; a past president of MESO. Rice was an early organizer of MESO's efforts in creating OMPA.

By approval of the Board of Directors, Municipal Electric Systems of Oklahoma, the Drake Rice Customer Service Award is established to recognize individuals who best exemplify the qualities of a true customer service professional –

- consistently positive attitude towards customers to assist them as needed;
- a positive and helpful attitude with co-workers to ensure a cooperative, customer-focused work environment; and,
- a personal commitment to always giving his or her best in every situation.

Updated: October 2018

Clarence Fulkerson Electric System Achievement Award

Awarded to a MESO member (city/town/utility/joint action agency) that has distinguished itself during the year for its exemplary system enhancement, improvement, reliability or other innovative efforts to improve municipal power in Oklahoma. The Clarence Fulkerson Electric System Achievement Award was named for the utility director in Ponca City who was an early board member at MESO and proponent of municipal power plant ownership. *I might change that to the Roland Dawson award to give Harry some recognition on his role at OMPA or add his name to this award making it the Dawson-Fulkerson Award.*

Nomination letter should include specifics about what the system as done during the past year, or specified time frame, that meets the criteria of the award as described above. Pictures should be included if appropriate.