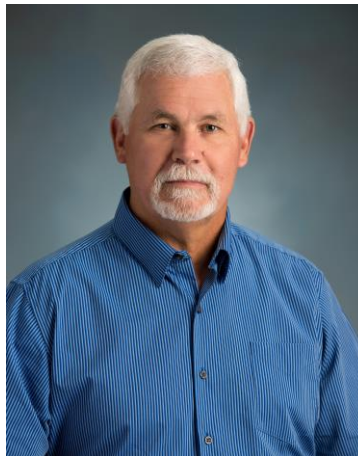




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**EMPIRE DISTRICT – LIBERTY UTILITIES CENTRAL
ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT OF DERALD BOMAN**



JOPLIN, MO – September 26, 2017 – Mr. Derald Boman retires from The Empire District Electric Company on September 30, 2017, following 38 years of service.

Mr. Boman joined the Company in June 1979 as a Groundman at Lanagan Line Operations. During his career he spent time as a Meter Reader, Electrician, and Lineman, achieving first-class or journeyman status in each field. At the time of his retirement, he held the position of Journeyman Lineman – Meter & Service Truck.

Mr. Boman is a graduate of Neosho High School and attended Crowder College.

Mr. Boman married Lou Jenkins in March 1978. They have three children and nine grandchildren.

Previously, Mr. Boman worked at American Family Homes as a Welding Shop Foreman.

Based in Joplin, Missouri, The Empire District Electric Company is a subsidiary of Liberty Utilities Co. and headquarters for the Liberty Utilities Central Region, providing electric, natural gas, water, and wastewater service to nearly 320,000 customers across six states. A subsidiary of the company provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding Empire, visit www.empiredistrict.com. For more information about Liberty Utilities, visit www.libertyutilities.com.

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