

The Bandera PROPHEET

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BEC helps Medina Community Library reach sustainability goal

Bandera Electric Cooperative recently commissioned a 23.4-kilowatt solar installation on the new addition of the Medina Community Library. The solar system was part of a planned initiative to make the library sustainable.

“We knew from the beginning that we wanted the building to be environmentally friendly, and we worked with the designers to incorporate a solar array in the initial planning session,” David Lackey, Medina Community Library board president, said.

The library’s solar system is capable of generating roughly 31,600 kilowatt-hours annually, and will provide renewable energy for the meeting hall and the existing library whenever the meeting hall is not in use.

“We chose BEC as our solar installer because they were already our electric provider, and we wanted to continue that relationship,” Lackey said.

The solar installation also includes Apolloware, BEC’s energy analytics software that allows the library to determine energy consumption and production in real-time.

“Last week we consumed 328 kW and produced 502 kW, so we are currently producing more than we need which is a really good thing for the library,” Allison Harbour, Medina Community Library director, said. The library plans to showcase Apolloware on a monitor display as an educational tool.

“We hope the energy analytics will provide students with an opportunity to learn more about renewable energy, and how we are saving on energy costs,” Harbour said.

The new meeting hall opened to the public on Oct. 1. To learn more about BEC and its renewable energy services, please visit BanderaElectric.com/Solar.