The Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce recently named the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce the best Hispanic chamber in Texas. The award was accepted by the chamber's CEO, Cindy Ramos-Davidson.

In addition, several El Paso businesses were also honored at the association's 34th annual convention Aug. 1 in McAllen.

Ray Hernandez of RHO Logistics was recognized as the Hispanic Business Man of the Year, Patty Holland-Branch of Facilities Connection as the Hispanic Business Woman of the Year, and Maria Mendez as the Corporate Hispanic Business Advocate of the Year.

“These businesses are an example that even during difficult economic times, with determination, you continue to achieve new heights,” said Alex Jimenez, TAMACC chair, as he congratulated the El Paso businesses.

El Paso Electric

El Paso Electric recently announced that David G. Carpenter was promoted to the position of chief financial officer, and Rocky Miracle to the position of senior vice president of corporate planning and development.

Carpenter has more than 30 years of experience in the electric utility industry and joined El Paso Electric in 2005. Most recently, he served as vice president of regulatory services, controller and principal financial officer.

He has a bachelor's in Accounting from Texas Tech University and completed the Public Utility Executive Program at the University of Michigan. He is a Certified Public Accountant.

Miracle has more than 30 years of utility experience and most recently served as El Paso Electric's vice president of corporate planning. Before joining El Paso Electric, Miracle served as the director of business operations support for American Electric Power's Texas operations.

He holds a master's in Political Economy from the University of Texas at Austin and an MBA from Texas A&M University and a bachelor's in Finance from the University of Texas at Austin.

EPISO promotions

The El Paso Independent School District recently named several new members to the superintendent's leadership team to replace employees who have retired or resigned from the district.

Terri Jordan was promoted to the position of chief of staff. She began her career with EPISO in 1986 and has been an assistant principal and principal at Franklin High School, executive director of technology and information systems, and an assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction.

Joseph Lopez was appointed to the position of associate superintendent of curriculum and instruction. Lopez began his career in the Dallas Independent School District in 1971 and served in Corpus Christi ISD, Rockford Public Schools in Illinois and most recently with Garland ISD. Lopez received his doctor of philosophy at the University of North Texas.

Debra Carden was promoted to the position of assistant superintendent of middle schools. Carden, who came to EPISO in 2008, has been an assistant principal and principal with Santa Fe Public Schools, Socorro Independent School District and Ysleta Independent School District. She has a master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of New Mexico.

Physician recruited

El Paso Cosmetic Surgery recently announced that Frank Agullo is joining the practice.

Agullo is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon. He did his residency in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He has authored multiple peer-reviewed publications and has given multiple presentations at national and international settings in the areas of cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. He is also experienced in hair transplantation and laser treatments.

Surcharge reduced

The Public Utility Commission of Texas recently approved El Paso Electric's request to reduce its fuel factor charge, the amount customers pay for fuel used to generate electricity and to purchase power.

The lower charge will be implemented beginning with the August bills. The typical residential customer using 500 kWh per month will see a $2.50 reduction on their bill.

Kohl's hiring

Kohl's recently announced that it will hold a job fair Sunday-Thursdays to fill 150 positions at its new store located at Bassett Place.

The department store needs associates for customer service, department service, cash register operation, early morning stocking, truck unloading, housekeeping and evening signage/pricing updates. The new store will open in late September.

For more information and to schedule an interview, call (877) 408-4343.