



NEWS

GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY
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MOU Signed to Promote Water Resource Planning Among GBRA, City of Boerne, Kendall County, and Cow Creek GCD

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SEGUIN- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) approved at the Boerne City Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 23 completed a cooperative agreement process among the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA), Kendall County Commissioners Court, the City of Boerne and Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District (CCGCD).

This cooperative effort will ensure that the rules and regulations regarding future growth and development in the area will remain in place by each entity. The MOU was previously approved by GBRA Board of Directors in September 2006 and subsequently by the City of Boerne, Kendall County and CCGCD.

“The City of Boerne has had a long association with GBRA, as well as with our local governmental partners, in assuring that our planning efforts have a regional scope. Many of the issues we face, such as potable water supply and clean air, do not respect political and jurisdictional boundaries. So, it is more and more imperative that our entities plan jointly to assure that our natural resources are used wisely,” said Mayor Patrick Heath of the City of Boerne.

“This agreement demonstrates the spirit of yet another partnership between government entities, and GBRA is proud of the outstanding relations with each,” said GBRA general manager Bill West. GBRA has also participated in other MOUs and interlocal agreements with Hays County, the Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA), and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA).

GBRA’s responsibilities will include delivery of treated water to serve portions of Kendall and Comal County. The City of Boerne will manage the demands for water and wastewater treatment service within the city limits, while Kendall County will regulate the unincorporated area located within GBRA’s District. Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District will help preserve and protect the groundwater resources located within Kendall County.

“Both life and growth rely on water. As we work to provide and protect our water resources for the existing citizens of Kendall County, and those whom growth may bring, it is incumbent on all of the governmental entities to work together. This MOU provides the mechanism for each of the entities to maintain a dialogue, to foster an exchange of information and to develop the essential coordinated management of our water resources,” said Tommy Mathews, President of CCGCD.

"It is important to the orderly development of Kendall County that all governmental entities with jurisdiction in the area work together in a cooperative manner. The MOU provides that the member entities will share information, coordinate provision of services, initiate long-term regional planning, recognize the regulatory authority of the other member entities and require compliance, to the extent allowed by law, of each member entity's ordinances, rules, regulations and orders. This last provision is particularly important to Kendall County in that it provides needed support to the Kendall County Commissioners Court in its efforts to provide for the orderly development of the unincorporated area of the County. We look forward to working with GBRA, the City of Boerne and the Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District under the terms of the MOU so that we can better serve our citizens," said Don Allee, Kendall County Attorney.

The MOU will help the participants pursue common goals and objectives such as providing protection of existing surface and water supplies. Future applications for development will be handled consistently to ensure that they meet all criteria set forth by each participating entity.