

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
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Veteran Water Resource and Utility Manager Retires from GBRA

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SEGUIN – The deputy general manager and chief operations officer for the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) is retiring after over 33 years with the organization. Fred M. Blumberg’s retirement from GBRA will become effective around August 1, 2007.

A seasoned professional in the water resources field, Blumberg will join Malcolm Pirnie, an environmental engineering and science consulting firm as its state water resources leader.

“GBRA is an outstanding organization, and I am extremely proud of its accomplishments over the last 33 years,” Blumberg said, adding, “I am also proud of the small part that I played in GBRA's achievements during that period.”

Blumberg also noted, “While it is with very mixed emotions that I announce my retirement from GBRA, it does not diminish the excitement I have about the challenges that lie ahead at this new stage of my career.”

William E. “Bill” West, Jr., GBRA general manager said, “Fred’s contributions over the years to GBRA are immeasurable. He not only has greatly contributed to GBRA but has also served as a mentor for many people.”

During Blumberg’s career with GBRA, he managed the sale of stored water, the application and permitting processes for GBRA’s water rights, the operation of a dozen wastewater plants, the operation and maintenance of a half dozen water treatment plants and seven hydroelectric dams, and he led the operations, engineering and construction management departments.

Blumberg also served as the GBRA’s safety director, negotiated water supply and operating contracts, and was involved in a variety of major projects. These projects included the Coletto Creek Reservoir and Park; two expansions to the Victoria Regional Wastewater Reclamation System; an expansion of the Port Lavaca Water Treatment Plant; construction of the Lockhart FM 20 Wastewater Reclamation Plant; the Western Canyon

Water Supply Project; the IH 35 Water Supply Project; the Luling-Lockhart Water Supply Project; major amendments to GBRA's Canyon Reservoir and lower Guadalupe water rights; and GBRA's operational recovery efforts after the 1998 flood.

Clint Walker of Malcolm Pirnie said, "We are excited about Fred's decision to join Malcolm Pirnie and lead our efforts in making a positive impact on water resources in the State of Texas."

Blumberg earned his bachelor of science degree in 1969 and his master of agriculture degree in 1975, both from Texas A&M University. He is a member of the American Water Works Association, Texas Water Conservation Association, Association of State Dam Safety Officials, and the American Society of Safety Engineers.

The GBRA was established by the Texas Legislature in 1933 as a water conservation and reclamation district. GBRA provides stewardship for the water resources in its 10-county statutory district, which begins near the headwaters of the Guadalupe and Blanco rivers, ends at San Antonio Bay, and includes Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.

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