



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
933 E. Court Street, Seguin TX 78155
www.gbra.org

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GBRA General Manager Earns AAWRE's Highest Honor

For more information

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SEGUIN—Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) General Manager, William E. West, Jr., will be recognized as an Honorary Diplomat, Water Resources Engineer (Hon.D.WRE) from the American Academy of Water Resources Engineers (AAWRE) on May 24, 2011, in Palm Springs, CA at the 7th Annual Environmental and Water Resources Institute (EWRI) World Environmental and Water Resources Congress.

Since the beginning of AAWRE in 2004, more than 600 water resource engineers worldwide have qualified for the Hon.D.WRE program, but West will be one of only 20 professionals who have received the Honorary Diplomat status.

According to the AAWRE's mission, the Hon.D.WRE represents strong professional ethics and a commitment to life-long learning and continuing professional development. AAWRE Board Member, Bill Espy, nominated West based on this philosophy. "West's eminence and leadership in the water resources field is exemplified by his appointment by the Office of The Governor of the State of Texas to various commissions and committees dealing with Water Resources development in the State of Texas," said Espy. "Plus, West's contribution to the water resources profession for 35 years has encompassed engineering and management of major water supply projects in Texas."

"My parents were products of the great depression and as such they instilled in me a strong work ethic, insured that I got a good education and taught me that diplomacy was always the best option," said West. "Timely opportunities have allowed me to have a full career of public service," he added.

West graduated from Texas A&M University in 1970 with a B.S. Degree in Agricultural Engineering and began his water resources career at Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), as a system operations manager. He then became a water resources director, and eventually executive director of Natural Resources with LCRA.

In 1994, West was tapped for the position of General Manager at GBRA. In addition to overseeing day-to-day operations, functions and providing leadership and direction, he deals daily with achieving a long-term solution to the Edwards Aquifer conflict, as well as being Top of Forma member of the Senate Bill 1 Region L Water Planning Committee. In 2003, West was appointed by Governor Perry to the state's Study Commission on Water for Environmental Flows. He also served as president of the Texas Water Conservation Association (TWCA), and is a member of the TWCA Board. West also served as president of NWRA, and past chairman of the Texas Water Forum.

AAWRE's mission is to improve the practice, elevate the standards, and advance the profession of water resources engineering by certifying engineers with specialized knowledge in water resources, recognizing the ethical practice of water resources engineering at the expert level, encouraging continued professional development for engineers, and supporting positions on water resources issues important to the public health. The American Academy of Water Resources Engineers was founded by members of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Environmental and Water Resources Institute (EWRI) and is the first Academy of the Civil Engineering Certification, Inc. (CEC) and ASCE. For more information, visit www.aawre.org.

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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