



The TAGD Bylaws (Article 4.C) allow for the award of honorary memberships to persons in appreciation of outstanding service to the Alliance or in recognition of distinguished achievement related to groundwater management and conservation in Texas. Any District Member may nominate a person for Honorary Membership in the Alliance. More information on the processing of nominations can be found in the Bylaws. Nominations should be made using this form and submitted to the TAGD Executive Director or Secretary of TAGD.

Name of person making nomination: Janet Guthrie

District making nomination: Hemphill County UWCD

Nominee Name: Steve Walthour

Nominee district: North Plains Groundwater Conservation District

Please describe the nominee's outstanding service to TAGD:

Steve has served TAGD as an officer from 2011-2015 as Treasurer. (it may have actually been 3 terms – I am not sure) Steve was also very active in committee membership and service including the legislative committee, finance committee and Groundwater Summit planning committee. Steve was always willing to take whatever role he was asked to serve in. Steve's quiet demeanor and vast knowledge of groundwater management, groundwater production and groundwater regulation has benefited TAGD, the member districts and the State of Texas. Many times, Steve just got things done. No one asked, no one gave him an award or featured him in a news article. Steve just worked for the benefit of everyone as a mentor, a leader, and a friend. It was through Steve's expertise and leadership that GMA 1 was able to complete the joint planning process and produce the first Explanatory Report. This report's format is still being utilized in the joint planning efforts of GMA 1 as the basis of all subsequent reports. As Wade Oliver stated, "the work has already been done."

Please describe the nominee's distinguished achievement related to groundwater management and conservation in Texas:

Steve has worked in every facet of groundwater. His education and his work experience – even his time in the oilfield led him to explore and develop his knowledge of groundwater, which then led to his work with the Edwards Aquifer Authority. It was at the EAA where he established a permit review process and enforcement program to allocate some of the most historic water rights in Texas. Steve has served 16 years as the General manager of the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District which is one of the largest GCDs in the state of Texas. Steve was vital in implementing newly adopted rules mandating the metering and reporting of groundwater use in the Ogallala when meters were not the norm. Steve was instrumental in developing and overseeing a demonstration program that shows how currently available water conservation technologies and irrigation management practices can

reduce groundwater use and allow farmers to remain profitable and financially viable with restricted and diminishing groundwater resources. Steve and his board members believed it was the role of the groundwater conservation district to show producers *how* to save water, not just require that they do it. The Blue Legacy Award was given to the NPGCD in 2011 for the “200-12 Reduced Irrigation on Corn Project” dubbed the “200-12 Project.” This was not the only award-winning conservation program Steve collaborated on. The Master Irrigator Program has taught best management practices to hundreds of irrigation operators in the Texas Panhandle. This program won the Texas Environmental Excellence Award for 2018 and has been duplicated in Colorado and other states. Steve just keeps working and has most recently dedicated his time and expertise to the Ogallala Project to Mitigate Flooding in the Missouri River Basin or other basins and increase water supplies in the Ogallala-High Plains Regional to ensure food security and economic stability. Steve’s unwavering work has helped build the foundation of groundwater management practices and law in Texas.

Please email this completed form to tagdexec@texasgroundwater.org



TAGD

TEXAS ALLIANCE OF
GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS

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Name of person making nomination: Janet Adams

District of person making nomination: JDCUWCD

Nominee name: Ron Fieseler

Nominee district: Blanco-Pedernales GCD

Please describe the nominee's outstanding service to TAGD: Ron has served on the Executive Board for the past ??? years He has always represented his District to the fullest Also he has reported on the many projects they have done. And helped other Districts in any way he could.

Please describe the nominee's distinguished achievement related to groundwater management and conservation in Texas: Ron has worked for only 2 Districts in his 34 years of being involved in groundwater. Before that he was involved in exploration, conservation and scientific study of caves.

I have to add Ron is well known for the costumes he wore if TAGD met around Halloween Also he loved to talk at meetings. Asked him what would happen when I was President.

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