# Texas Water Recycling Association

The voice for water recycling in Texas

Spring / Summer 2013 | Volume 2

Water is the driving force of all nature. - Leonardo da Vinci

# President's Letter

Water is a critical, finite resource. Growing populations, changing migration patterns, booming business and industry, expanding residential and commercial development and the lingering drought have strained the state's water supplies to the breaking point.

The Texas Water Recycling Association (TWRA) was formed in part to address and help alleviate some of the impacts on water consumption across the state by bringing together industry leaders who are committed to developing positive, sustainable solutions to Texas' water challenges. We are honored to be the voice of the water recycling industry at the Texas Capitol, working to ensure that the legislative and regulatory framework of Texas allows businesses to prosper while operating in a safe, environmentally friendly manner with an eye on recycling and reusing water whenever and wherever feasible.

For the past few months, TWRA has worked with both the Railroad Commission of Texas and the state legislature on numerous bills and regulations, and we will share developments with our members at our membership meeting to be held Thursday afternoon, July 18 in Austin.

Consider that water recycling and reuse has positives beyond just the reduction in freshwater consumption and other ecological benefits: safer and less congested roads due to a decreased need for water to be trucked in and out of communities; less change of spills and potential contamination; and cleaner air from greatly reduced road traffic. These are just a few of the benefits.

We encourage you to join us in our efforts as we work to grow water recycling and conservation in Texas.

John J. Tintera President

# Membership Meeting Notice - Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for our next membership meeting, to be held in Austin the afternoon of **Thursday, July 18**. Arrangements will be finalized in the coming days so watch your email for details. We strongly encourage you to join TWRA as a member so you realize the full benefits of partnership with the leading voice for recycling in Texas.

To ensure you don't miss important updates, join our e-blast list by sending a note to info@txwra.org

### **Editor's Note**

Keep up with TWRA happenings between newsletters. Connect with us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter!

Facebook.com/
TexasWaterRecyclingAssociation

£

LinkedIn.com/company/ texas-water-recycling-association



Twitter.com/TXWRA



## Meet the Board

The Texas Water Recycling Association encourages voting participation on committees and Board interest from its membership. Full members may serve on the Board and Executive Committee, and Affiliate members may serve on committees. The founding Board members of TWRA are listed below.

## **Brent Halldorson, Acting Chair**

Brent Halldorson is Chief Operating Officer for Aqua-Pure, a Canadian public company that specializes in oilfield related water treatment. Aqua-Pure pioneered the use of evaporator technology in Alberta's heavy oil industry. Mr. Halldorson also manages Aqua-Pure's US-based service company, Fountain Quail Water Management. Fountain Quail pioneered commercial recycling in shale gas development, starting in the Barnett Shale in 2004.

Brent is a professional engineer that has been with the company since 1999. In that time, Fountain Quail has recycled close to a billion gallons of shale gas wastewater back into freshwater for re-use in the Barnett Shale utilizing its patented NOMAD evaporators and has expanded operations into the Marcellus Shale (Pennsylvania) and the Eagle Ford Shale (south Texas). Fountain Quail recently unveiled its new high capacity ROVER mobile treatment system which is capable of generating clean brine for re-use at a very economic rate for customers which do not require freshwater (i.e.: NOMAD).

Mr. Halldorson participated in the Barnett: Powering Progress campaign and served on Flower Mound's Oil and Gas Advisory Board to review town ordinances regarding gas drilling within town limits. Mr. Halldorson was recognized by the Dallas Business Journal in December 2012 as a "Who's Who in Energy" for his contributions to oilfield services. Brent currently lives in Fort Worth, Texas with his wife and three children.

#### John J. Tintera. President

John Tintera is a regulatory expert and licensed geologist (Texas #325) with thorough knowledge of virtually all facets of upstream oil and gas exploration, production, and transportation, including conventional and unconventional reservoirs. As former Executive Director and 22-year veteran of the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC), considered the premier oilfield regulator in the nation, if not the world, John oversaw the regulatory process: drilling permits compliance inspections, response/pollution remediation, and pipeline transportation. Mr. Tintera has BS and MS degrees in Geology from Michigan State University and almost 30 years of combined technical and managerial experience. He has an in-depth knowledge of the E&P industry and the state and federal regulatory framework that oversees it, including RCRA, CERCLA, SDW Act, and OPA. In addition, Mr. Tintera has a comprehensive knowledge of environmental assessment, remediation and emergency response.

As both a petroleum and environmental geologist, John

mapped and drilled dozens of prospects in his early career, hthen founded and ran the pollution cleanup section at the RRC, bringing toxicologists, hydrologists and engineers into the agency for the first time to focus solely on complex environmental issues. He is a hands-on expert for emergency response, and has personally responded to and overseen dozens of major oil spills in a variety of environmental settings. Mr. Tintera retired as the RRC's Executive Director in 2012 to return to the private sector.

John's expertise, sought in the US, extends abroad where European governments, confronted with the potential of developing unconventional energy in their countries, find themselves at various stages of preparedness, given the complexity of issues. John shares practical ideas, technical know-how and regulatory best practices as they create and update regulatory frameworks to allow safe economic development of natural resources, mirroring what has long been underway in Texas. John also delivers papers and consults on brownfield developments and other environmental issues. John and his wife Jenna live in Austin.

Be sure to visit the Texas Water Recycling Association web site for information on recent news, conference presentations and other speaking engagements by Board members.

## Strength in Numbers: Thanks to our Members

All associations gain strength through a robust and active membership base, and TWRA is no exception. We encourage you to join TWRA today to help us develop positive, sustainable solutions to Texas' water challenges. We welcome all industries and all technologies to help us devise and implement strategies to minimize freshwater consumption necessary for our industries to safely prosper yet remain environmentally friendly.

We welcome our most recent members: Fountain Quail Water Management; Select Energy Services; Pioneer Natural Resources; Cimarex; PureStream Technologies; Swire and Omni Water Solutions.

Just a few of the other benefits of membership in TWRA include:

- Timely news and updates through a subscription to our communications program, including our e-newsletter and other resources to enhance our collective outreach efforts.
- Listing in and access to TWRA's online directory of other leading industry professionals.
- biscounted rates for the TWRA Conference as well as other TWRA workshops and seminars.
- Professional recognition through your commitment to TWRA's Code of Ethics and best practices.

Membership in TWRA consists of two primary levels: Full and Affiliate.

- Full membership for water recyclers encourages your voting participation on committees along with Board eligibility, including the Executive committee. Full dues are \$5,000 per year.
- Affiliate membership for users of water recycling and other interested parties allows committee participa tion. Voting Affiliate dues are \$4,000 and Non-voting Affiliate dues are \$2,500 annually.

We are exploring membership options for Municipal, Educational and Research institutions. If you are interested in working with TWRA in one of those capacities, please let us know.

Your membership dues enable access, collaboration, and representation: access to policy makers and water recycling industry leaders; opportunities for collaboration to discuss best practices in the recycling and conservation of water; and legislative and regulatory representation supporting industry efforts to recycle and conserve water. Join TWRA today.

# At the Capitol - 83rd Regular Session

TWRA is the strongest voice for the water recycling industry at the Capitol, working with legislators and professional colleagues to ensure water recycling is recognized as an important component of statewide conservation efforts. TWRA is working with state legislators on a framework of incentives, not mandates, to motivate companies to capture, recycle and reuse water when appropriate.

TWRA is also working with the Railroad Commission of Texas so ensure rules and regulations are updated to allow oilfield wastewater recycling to be a viable alternative to disposal, which is good news for everyone.

Following are a couple of the bills TWRA actively tracked and lobbied through the legislature:

H.B. 2133 (Larson) amends the Water Code to include in the state's public policy regarding the conservation and development of the state's natural resources the facilitation of the efficient and effective use of innovative and alternative water treatment technologies whenever possible to meet the natural resource needs of Texas and the promotion of direct reuse of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes whenever possible to enhance and preserve the state's freshwater supply. This bill did not pass.

H.B. 2767 (P. King) amends the Natural Resources Code to specify that a person who takes possession of fluid oil and gas waste, produces from that waste a treated product generally considered in the oil and gas industry to be suitable for use in connection with the drilling for or production of oil and gas, and transfers the treated product to another person with the contractual understanding that the treated product will be used in connection with the drilling for or production of oil or gas not liable in tort for a consequence

## At the Capitol, cont'd.

of the subsequent use of that treated product by the person to whom the treated product is transferred or by another person. This issue came from joint Energy Resources and Natural Resources Committee hearing earlier this legislative session. This bill passed both the House and Senate and was signed by the Governor.

#### Meet the Board, cont'd.

#### Ben Sebree, General Counsel

Ben Sebree is an attorney with a practice focused on governmental, regulatory, energy, and environmental counsel and advocacy with Sebree & Tintera, LLC. Previously, Mr. Sebree was Vice-President for Governmental Affairs and General Counsel for the Texas Oil and Gas Association (TXOGA). Formed in 1919, TXOGA is the only association which represents all segments of the oil and gas industry operating in Texas. Its members account for approximately 92% of all the oil and natural gas produced in Texas, 100% of the state's refining capacity, and a vast majority of the pipeline mileage in Texas.

Mr. Sebree was responsible for leading the efforts to develop, coordinate, and implement the governmental, regulatory, advocacy, and community affairs activities of the oil and gas industry's principal association in Texas. Under his leadership, Mr. Sebree took TXOGA, then an important but somewhat average state industry association, and transformed it into what it is today – the most powerful and effective association in Texas, a state that is, in its own right, ranked within the top fifteen economies in the world.

#### Chris Hosek, Vice President, Government Affairs

Chris Hosek is a principal of Texas Star Alliance, specializing in direct lobbying and state agency relations. Chris has experience with a broad range of legislative issues and policy initiatives including a specific expertise in the energy sector. Chris served as the chief of staff for 5 years to the Chair of the Railroad Commission of Texas, Elizabeth Ames Jones. The Railroad Commission is the regulatory body that oversees Texas' energy industries including all levels of the oil and gas industry, pipeline safety, gas utility rates and the permitting and reclamation of coal and uranium mines.

Prior to his work at the Railroad Commission, Chris was also the legislative director for Jones in the Texas House of Representatives for the 78th and 77th sessions. Chris served as the House's committee aide to the Appropriations Committee, responsible for drafting the state's two-year budget. He was also committee aide for Jones on the House Energy

Mr. Sebree managed the Governmental Affairs Division as a profit center for the industry. He pro-actively devised legislative, regulatory, and commercial strategies that saved, literally, billions of dollars in taxes, gained the industry significant state and federal incentives, created revenue and profit enhancing opportunities, and facilitated changes to legislation through creative negotiation and drafting that met the needs of both the regulators and the regulated in a way that either eased changes or actually improved conditions for the industry.

The Governor of Texas appointed Mr. Sebree to the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission in 2009. Mr. Sebree was elected by his peers to the Governing Council of the Oil, Gas, and Energy Resources Section of the State Bar of Texas in 2006. Mr. Sebree is well published and is frequently called upon to speak at energy, industry, and public events. He received a BA from The University of Texas at Austin and a JD from the University of Houston Law Center. He is licensed to practice in Texas as well as the federal Western District of Texas. He and his wife, Chrisy, have three boys.

Resources Committee, where he received his background in the energy field. Chris served in various roles for elected officials where he managed and developed legislative issues. Other committees Chris worked on include the Urban Affairs and State Recreational Resource committees.

Chris met with numerous international trade delegations at the Railroad Commission. He also participated in the Texas Trade Mission to Mexico, Qatar and United Arab Emirates. In 2008, Chris was selected by the American Council of Young Political leaders as a delegate to participate in an overseas governmental exchange with Taiwan.

Chris graduated from Texas State University at San Marcos in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in communications. He is a member of the Texas State at San Marcos Alumni Association and the Phi Delta Theta Alumni Association. Chris and his wife, Chandra, live in Austin, Texas.