

WATER WORKS

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Clayton County Water GM Makes History as First African American President of the Georgia Association of Water



CCWA's General Manager H. Bernard Franks made history on July 12 as he took over as President of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) during the association's annual conference in Savannah.

Franks is the first African American to serve in this role. He brings more than 25 years of service at CCWA, a passion for the water industry, and a long record of service to GAWP throughout his career.

"I am proud to have served in the water industry now for over 25 years. As servant leaders, we should all give thanks for this opportunity to be caretakers of the most valuable, life-sustaining natural resource in the world - water," Franks adds. "As water professionals we grow and prosper due to our diversity, humility, integrity, and innovation."

Franks will lead the Association to its 90th anniversary. He will oversee the development of a new Strategic Plan for the Association, to focus on how GAWP will assist with the most critical needs of the Georgia water professionals in the next decade. His theme for his leadership year is "Why Water Matters" as he works to further the understanding and appreciation of the industry, and the work of water professionals.

"Bernard inspires me to think big about the future of the water profession, and how the association can serve and lead to more innovation and protection of precious water resources," says GAWP Executive Director Pam Burnett. "His style of servant leadership brings people together to do more than they could as individuals, to build a

thoughtful and supportive community of water professionals."

"We are extremely proud of Mr. Frank's ascension to president of the Georgia Association of Water Professionals. His commitment to CCWA, and the water industry, has made him one of the most respected water professionals in the nation," adds CCWA Board Chair Robin Malone. "He is knowledgeable, forward thinking and a visionary; all attributes necessary to lead GAWP over the next year."

CCWA Welcomes New Board Member Emma Godbee



In May 2021, the Clayton County Board of Commissioners appointed Emma Godbee to the CCWA Board of Directors to complete the unexpired term of the late Vivian Baldwin who passed away in April 2021. Ms. Emma Godbee is

an independent financial advisor who has been a resident of Clayton County for 40 years. For the past 35 years, she has called Riverdale home. She was a founding member of Clayton County Coalition for Quality Education (CCCQE) and served on the Clayton County Tourism Authority Board for 20 years. She currently serves on The Zoning Appeals Board in Riverdale. She is active in the Education Ministry at her church and with the national Democratic Party.

Westervelt Honored for 18 Years of Service on CCWA Board

CCWA Board Member John Westervelt was honored during the August Board Meeting for 18 years of service on the board. Clayton County District 3 Commissioner Felicia Franklin presented him with a proclamation on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The CCWA Board and GM H. Bernard Franks presented Mr. Westervelt with a service award for all of his contributions.



Milestones of his service include:

- Appointed February 18, 2003
- Served as Secretary/Treasurer from 2012 - 2018
- Continued financial security by achieving a Bond Rating of AA+ from Standard & Poor and refinancing several CCWA bonds to save millions in interest payments and keep rates lower than most metro Atlanta water utilities
- Implementation of a unified Stormwater Utility
- Completion of the E.L. Huie, Jr. Constructed Treatment Wetlands
- Completion of a \$10 million meter replacement project
- Creation of a dedicated Call Center and other significant customer service improvements
- Renovation/expansion of the HQ Building
- Completion of the W.B. Casey WRRF Polishing Plant

CONVENIENT PAYMENT OPTIONS



Invoice Cloud

Pay online (ccwa.us), or by phone (770.960.5200), using our payment processing partner Invoice Cloud. A \$2.15 convenience fee is charged for each transaction.



Go Paperless

Cut the clutter and go paperless. Visit www.ccwa.us to sign up for Paperless Billing.



Walmart

Pay your CCWA bill, along with other utility bills, at any Walmart location for a convenience fee. Payments may be made using cash or a pin-based debit card.

To make a payment:

- Just take your current water bill to any Walmart location.
- Make a payment in cash or with a pin-based debit card.
- Once the transaction is processed, the customer receives a receipt as proof of payment.

Highlights

CCWA's Newman Wetlands Center Receives Tourism Grant

Clayton County's Tourism Authority Board chose to fund CCWA's "Welcome to the Wetlands!" project. The received grant along with CCWA matching funds will be used to make the Newman Wetlands Center (NWC) more accessible and to better tell the NWC's story.

The upgrades will include a new website that includes a page dedicated to accessibility, an interactive trail map featuring audio descriptions, and new educational videos. They will also include an offroad power chair that guests with accessibility difficulties can use to explore, hiring an accessibility consultant to help us update and plan for the future, and marketing materials to reach folks who might not know we exist.

Thank you Clayton County Tourism Authority for this opportunity.



CCWA Finance Department Earns 15th Distinguished Budget Award

Congratulations to CCWA's Finance staff as, shown above, they earned their 15th Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). This is the fifth time CCWA has received Special Distinction for excellence in the reporting of one of two primary topics: Performance Measures (KPIs) and Capital.

CCWA Receives Guca 2021 In-Kind Community Service Award

Vikki Consiglio, Executive Director of the Georgia Utility Contractors Association, Inc. (GUCA), presented CCWA with their 2021 In-Kind Community Service Award during CCWA's July Board Meeting. This award honors members who have stepped up to the plate and gone above and beyond to assist the association with in-kind community service needs by giving their time and resources, transportation, and services when called upon. GUCA is a not-for-profit statewide trade association located in metro atlanta. Representing more than 400 utility contractors and affiliated firms statewide, GUCA members provide thematerials and workforce to build and maintain the state's network of water, sewer, gas, telecommunications, and other utility systems.

Shown below is Distribution & Conveyance Director Jeff Jones, Consiglio and GM H. Bernard Franks.



CCWA Conveyance Manager Earns Alva T. Storey Award at GAWP Annual Conference

Congratulations to CCWA's Conveyance Manager Cornell Sims who received the Alva T. Storey Award during the GA Association of Water Professionals Annual Conference in July. This award is bestowed for a 'level of service above and beyond the call of duty, which exemplifies the essence of GAWP success.' Cornell is shown with outgoing GAWP President Keith Higgs (Douglasville-Douglas County Water and Sewer Authority) and current GAWP President H. Bernard Franks (Clayton County Water Authority).



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