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Comments

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April 1999

Governor Reappoints Seale, Dell'Olio

Governor George W. Bush reappointed Chambers County's Shirley Seale and Galveston County's Sam Dell'Olio for a second term to the GCA Board of Directors. Both Seale and Dell'Olio were originally appointed to the GCA Board in 1997 and will continue to serve another two-year term.

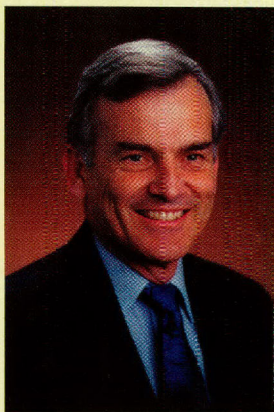


Shirley Seale
Treasurer
Chambers County

Sam Dell'Olio was elected Secretary for the GCA Board during the 1998 September Board of Directors meeting. During that same meeting, Shirley Seale was elected as the Treasurer. Both members bring to the GCA Board a strong financial management background.

Native Galvestonian Sam Dell'Olio graduated from Lamar University with a BBA in 1963. Dell'Olio is the bank manager for Texas First Bank at Pirates Beach in Galveston and was recently ordained as a Deacon for St. Peter's Parish.

After more than two decades of banking expertise ranging from bookkeeping, accounting, reporting, to executive management, Shirley Seale has recently opened an office with Edward Jones Investments. A native of Rusk, Texas, Seale resides in Anahuac.



Sam Dell'Olio
Secretary
Galveston County

Assistant General Manager Jerry Dunn Retires

After 24 years of dedicated service to GCA, Assistant General Manager Jerry Dunn has taken the high road to the golf course and retired from the rigors of daily work. As Assistant GM, Dunn was also responsible for the firm growth pattern of GCA's financial management.

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General Manager Dick Brown (left) and GCA Board of Directors Chairman John Wildenthal (right) congratulate Jerry Dunn for 24 years of service.

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Cooksey Joins GCA Management Team

Jim Cooksey stepped in and hit the ground running as Manager of Financial Services. He replaces Jerry Dunn who retired as GCA's Assistant General Manager. Cooksey brings more than two decades of water, wastewater, and economic development experience to GCA.



Jim Cooksey is a hands-on manager who strongly believes in communicating with his staff. Cooksey's objective is to continue moving GCA forward, not each facility as a separate entity, but all together.

A third generation Texan of Norwegian heritage, Jim Cooksey was born the third of four children into a strong Lutheran family residing in Boskey County, just North of Waco. Closely following the path that most Norwegians take in Texas, Cooksey grew up and graduated from high school in the Texas Panhandle, spent four years at Texas Lutheran College and then moved to Seguin. After serving three years as an Ensign in the United States Navy, Cooksey returned to Seguin and began his water/wastewater career at the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority as Assistant to the General Manager.

While working at the GBRA, Cooksey enrolled at Southwest Texas State University and graduated with a degree in Accounting in 1971. Cooksey became the Assistant to the Controller and within one year, started on 22 years of service as the GBRA Controller.

Jim Cooksey and his wife, Pat, have three active teenagers, Craig (16), Ky (15), and Kate (14). The family has not yet made the move to the Houston area. Through the work week, Cooksey is busy developing a 3-year Management Information System (MIS) plan and long-term network strategies inclusive of all GCA computer systems, in addition to manag-

ing GCA's financial affairs. But on the weekends, the Finance Manager returns home to Seguin and becomes the all-around fix-anything person.

On any given weekend, Cooksey can easily be found at one or both of Seguin's historical landmarks, Vivroux's Hardware Store and Pape's Lumber Company. As Jim Cooksey says, "There aren't many places that you can go and locate a hard-to-find screw for your sausage grinder and be entertained at the same time."

Jim Cooksey is a hands-on manager who strongly believes in communicating with his staff. Cooksey's objective is to continue moving GCA forward, not each facility as a separate entity, but all together.

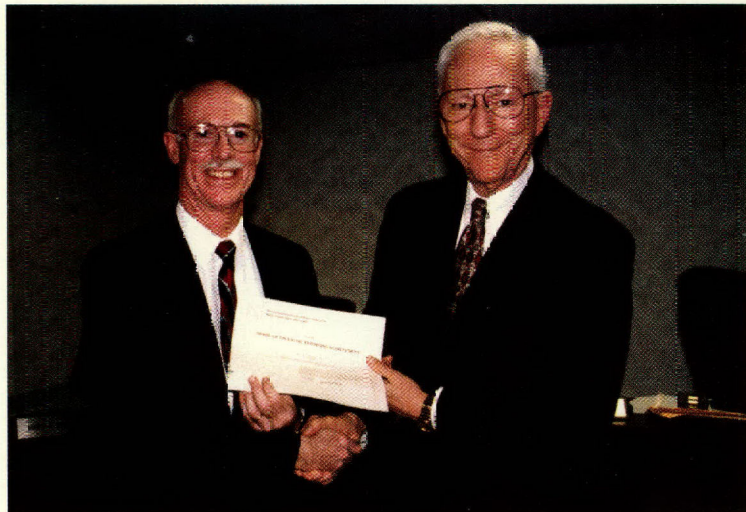
"Accounting, finance, and MIS become the common ground to make it all possible. Facility managers need to run their operations with an understanding of how we must continue to work together as an organization. We're all in this together. If we really organize and concentrate on the work before us, we realize that we can always do more." Cooksey identifies the GCA facilities as his main customers. A stickler for organization, Cooksey strongly believes in ... no new file cabinets!

GCA's Financial Report

Wins Highest Award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded GCA's comprehensive annual financial report for the 1997 fiscal year a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR). The CAFR is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

It takes an enormous amount of work by everyone in GCA's Financial Department throughout the entire fiscal year to prepare financial records for the GFOA. This particular financial certification program is over and above what is required for government financial departments throughout the United States and, therefore, many governments do not participate. GCA has received 11 consecutive CAFRs.



GCA Board Chairman John Wildenthal congratulates GCA Controller Paul Lessard.

Central Lab Scores 100% Acceptable for DMR QA Study

GCA's Central Laboratory has participated in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) nationwide laboratory quality assurance program known as the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Quality Assurance (QA) Study. GCA is proud to announce that Central Laboratory was within acceptable limits for all analyzed samples in the DMR QA Study Report 018.

All National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permittees are required to submit monthly DMR (a self-monitoring report) to the US EPA. The mandatory program is required of all laboratories generating NPDES self-reporting data. GCA's laboratory program has participated in the Study for the past 18 years. This program is designed to monitor and improve laboratory quality assurance. Each participating laboratory submits annual samples according to the self-reporting requirement of each NPDES permittee it services. After

receiving results from all laboratories in the nation that participate in the study, the EPA tabulates and generates a curve for each analysis. The result of each participant is checked against the curve and graded as acceptable, check for error (marginal), or unacceptable.

Special Projects Manager Lori Roussel says, "Reliable data analysis is first and foremost to any facility's ability to continually stay within regulatory compliance. Over the years, GCA's Central Laboratory has consistently submitted data that is acceptable by EPA. Everyday, compliance data is generated by Central Lab for our GCA facilities. This data is critical both for environmental compliance and for process control. The results from this study are representative of what a great job the staff continues to do at Central Lab."



GCA issued pollution control bonds valued in excess of \$2 billion during Dunn's tenure.

Jerry Dunn served in the U.S. Navy 1953 to 1957. After graduating from Texas Tech University with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Accounting in 1960, Dunn stayed close to his alma mater and worked for the Lubbock National Bank until 1966. Lubbock remained Dunn's place of residence for another two years while working for the City of Lubbock. In 1968, it was time to

move further north, to the City of Wichita Falls. In 1974, Dunn moved his wife, Mary Alice, and three children across Texas to Houston and began a distinguished career with GCA.

Jerry Dunn's professional affiliations include the Texas Municipal League, Texas City Managers' Association, and the Texas Chamber of Commerce. During the March meeting of the Texas Water Conservation Association, Dunn received an honorary lifetime membership.

Comments

Board of Directors

Harris County

R. Wayne Smith, P.E., Member-C
Hon. John Wildenthal, Chairman-M
Rafael Ortega, P.E., Vice Chairman-G

Galveston County

James A. Matthews, Jr., Member-C
Gail G. Bradley, Member-M
Sam Dell'Olio, Secretary-G

Chambers County

J.M. "Mark" Schultz, Member-C
Rita E. Standridge, Member-M
Shirley Seale, Treasurer-G

C - County Commissioners Court Appointee

M - Mayors Council Appointee

G - Governor's Appointee

Administration

Dick Brown

General Manager

James L. Cooksey

Manager Financial Services

Charles W. Ganze

Manager Industrial Operations

Charles Goode

Manager General Operations

Lori Rousel

Manager Special Projects

Pamela Collins

Editor

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Gulf Coast Comments

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