



01/2023

## Board Members



**Brooke T. Paup,  
Chairwoman**

Brooke Paup has served as a Board member of the Texas Water Development Board since February 22, 2018. Governor Greg Abbott designated her as Chairwoman on April 22, 2021.

Prior to her appointment to the Board, Paup served as the director of legislative affairs for the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts for the last three years. While there, she led a team of legislative professionals to address statutory tax reforms.

Paup is formerly the deputy division chief of intergovernmental relations and former special assistant for policy and research for the Office of the Attorney General, where she worked on legislative issues, special litigation, and public finance— notably House Bill 4 and Senate Joint Resolution 1 in the 83rd Legislative Session, which created the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) and the State Water Implementation Revenue Fund for Texas (SWIRFT). Paup has 16 years of state government experience.

In September 2022, Governor Abbott appointed her to the Environmental Flows Advisory Group. She is also a member of the State Bar of Texas and Symphony League and a board member of the Wine and Food Foundation of Texas Auction Committee. Paup earned a bachelor of arts from Texas A&M University and a juris doctor from Texas Tech School of Law.

She lives in Austin with her husband, Spivey, and their two children, Henry and Heidi.

Paup's term will expire February 1, 2025.



**George B. Peyton V,  
Board Member**

George Peyton was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott as a Board member of the Texas Water Development Board on July 11, 2022.

Peyton is president of River Valley Holdings, Inc., an investment holding company. He has a background in financial analysis and investment management, including direct investing experience in public equities, energy, real estate, and credit. Previously, he led financing and strategic decisions as the president of two oil and gas exploration companies and was the founder and former managing director of Fifth Well Investment Management, LLC, where he directed manager selection and asset allocation decisions. He began his career in the finance and capital markets department at XTO Energy, Inc.

Peyton received a bachelor of science in astrophysics and a bachelor of business administration in entrepreneurial management from Texas Christian University with a distinction of magna cum laude. He earned a master of business administration from Stanford University and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

He is a board member of the Salvation Army of Austin and a member of All Saints Presbyterian Church.

Originally from Canadian, Texas, Peyton now lives in Austin with his wife, Johanna, and three children, Ainsley, G. Bailey VI, and Caroline.

Peyton's term will expire February 1, 2027.



## L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Board Member

Governor Greg Abbott appointed L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., as a Board member of the Texas Water Development Board in December 2022 for a term beginning January 1, 2023.

Stepney previously served as the deputy executive director of the Texas

Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). She began working for TCEQ in 1992, first in the Air Permitting Division for eight years, then as section manager for the Wastewater Permitting Section before being promoted to director of the Water Quality Division in 2003. She also served as deputy director of the Office of Water upon its creation in 2009. The Office of Water encompasses TCEQ's water availability, water districts, groundwater, river compacts, water quality permitting and planning, and public drinking water functions. During her time at TCEQ, Stepney worked closely with the Texas Water Development Board on several water programs.

Additionally, Stepney has participated in the group from Texas that meets with Mexico and the International Boundary and Water Commission to negotiate water deliveries under the Rio Grande 1944 Treaty. She is a board member for the Mickey Leland Environmental Internship Program and a graduate of the University of Texas Governor's Center Executive Management Program and the University of Texas Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution Fellows Program.

Stepney received a bachelor of science in aerospace engineering and a master of science in civil engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

Stepney's term will expire February 1, 2023.