

H₂Oobserver



American Water Works Association Recognizes Pat Lehman with Prestigious George Warren Fuller Award



Patrick J. Lehman, P.E., executive director of the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority), was a recent recipient of the prestigious George Warren Fuller award. This award recognizes individuals for "distinguished service in the water supply field, and in commemoration of the sound professional skill...the brilliant

diplomatic talent...and the constructive leadership in this association which characterized the life of George Warren Fuller."

As past president of AWWA, Fuller was instrumental in the development of the science of public health and advancement of professional organizations, such as AWWA.

"Pat Lehman is a man the section could always depend on," said Ray Miller, AWWA treasurer. "He is a quiet worker who stays in the background and gets things accomplished."

As director of the Authority since November of 1997, Lehman has served in many leadership positions with the Florida Section of the AWWA, including section chair and treasurer. He currently chairs the Florida Section's Utility Council. Lehman also serves on the national AWWA Technical and Educational Council.

"It's a great honor to receive this award," said Lehman. "But I'm just one of many who has dedicated time and effort to the advancement of the water industry."

Work Continues on Expansion Plans

Building a regional reservoir, expanding the treatment capacity of the Peace River Facility and constructing additional aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) wells are all part of a regional expansion project to ensure that our member governments have enough water to meet their water supply needs. Updates on these projects follow.

Regional Reservoir

The project team has been meeting with the senior design staff and senior geotechnical consultant of MWH Americas Inc. to determine what effects various weather conditions and other site factors may have on the design of the planned reservoir. In addition, environmental assessments have been completed and are ready for review by regulators.

Facility Expansion

Work continues by Boyle Engineering Corporation on preparing the Water Quality Master Plan update, which includes an assessment and recommendations for maintaining high water quality. A workshop held in December discussed upcoming regulations and the direction of various aspects of the project.

ASR Wells

Various modeling parameters are being developed by CH2M Hill Inc. which will determine if the planned wellfield expansion can be reconfigured to make it easier to secure, maintain and operate. The project team is also looking into a "stacked" well concept where new, shallower wells could be located beside each of the existing wells rather than drilling a new wellfield. If this concept proves successful, it has the potential to save several million dollars in construction costs for wells, roads, electrical needs and piping.



Employee Spotlight — Jerry Tindall



If you've ever wondered how the Peace River Facility keeps operating on a regular basis, you can look to Gerald "Jerry" Tindall. As the facility's superintendent, Jerry oversees the operations and maintenance of the facility so members are ensured of a continuous supply of water.

Florida where he began working for General Development Utilities, the original owners of the facility. The Authority acquired the Peace River Facility in 1990.

Over time, Jerry earned his A license and became the facility's superintendent. Through continuing education opportunities, he is able to keep abreast of new trends and technologies in water supply operations. In his spare time, Jerry enjoys bowling and star-gazing Florida's skies through his telescope.

After retiring from the Navy in 1977, Jerry decided he'd had enough of New Albany, Indiana's winters, and he headed to

Water Planning Alliance to Benefit from Additional Expertise

At their October 2003 meeting, the Alliance Board suggested having more stakeholders contribute scientific and technical expertise to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the following have been asked to participate:

- Central Florida Regional Planning Council
- Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Institute of Phosphate Research
- Florida Power and Light
- Heartland Water Alliance
- Myakka Conservancy
- Sarasota Bay National Estuary Program
- Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
- Southwest Florida Water Management District

- Tampa Bay Estuary Program
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

The TAC is in the process of identifying potential supply projects and developing criteria by which to evaluate them. The lists will be presented to the Alliance Board in March. Following this meeting, public workshops will be held to give the public the opportunity to review the lists of evaluation criteria and supply projects and provide their input.

Project milestones include:

- Short list of projects to be presented to the Alliance Board in July 2004
- Short list of project configurations to be presented to Alliance Board in October 2004
- Phase II report to be presented to Alliance Board in December 2004

Did you know?

Meeting agendas and minutes are available at www.regionalwater.org

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