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News Release

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SARA BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPOINTS NEW BOARD CHAIRMAN

(SAN ANTONIO) – The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) Board of Directors elected Michael W. Lackey, P.E. as board chairman replacing Sally Buchanan (Bexar County At-large), who passed away on July 30th after battling illness for five years. Lackey, who represents Bexar County District 3, will serve as chairman through November 2017.

"I'm humbled by the support and confidence given to me by the board," said Lackey. "However, this is a bittersweet moment. Sally was a dear friend. She had a passion for the acequias and area history, which made her such a great advocate for the River. I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as SARA's Chairman, and I will do my best to build upon Sally's strong legacy."

Lackey is Principal of Lackey de Carvajal Cx (LCCx), which is an Energy Efficiency Engineering firm. As a LEED Accredited Professional, Lackey verifies that complex building systems perform as intended to achieve energy and water efficiency, reduce CO2 emissions and improve indoor environmental quality. Lackey is also a SARA-appointed Board Member of the San Antonio River Foundation where he recently served as chairman of the foundation's board of directors. Prior to election to SARA, Lackey was a member of the San Antonio Water System Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2009.

"Mike has been an active board member since he was first elected in 2009," said Suzanne Scott, SARA's General Manager. "Having served on the Executive Committee and as Chairman of the Operations Committee, Mike has a thorough understanding of the agency and he is deeply committed to SARA's vision of inspiring actions for healthy creeks and rivers."

SARA's Board of Directors also approved new board committee assignments, including the Executive Committee which is now comprised of Vice Chairman, Gaylon Oehlke (Karnes County), Secretary, Hector Morales (Bexar County At-Large) and Treasurer, Darrell Brownlow (Wilson County). Lourdes Galvan (Bexar County District 2) and James Fuller, M.D. (Goliad County) serve as at-large members on the Executive Committee.

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SARA is governed by a twelve-member Board of Directors. The board consists of two at-large members from each of Wilson, Karnes and Goliad counties, and six members from Bexar County including two at-large members and one member for each of four SARA Districts in Bexar County. All board terms are for a period of six years, and there are no term limits. All positions are elected except in the case of vacancy prior to term end, in which case the Governor of the State of Texas appoints a replacement to complete the term. Elections for SARA Board members are staggered and held every two years (November of odd years).

The board vacancy in the Bexar County At-Large position resulting from Buchanan's death will be filled by gubernatorial appointment until the next SARA general election, which will be held in November 2017.

For more information about SARA's Board of Directors, including bios and committee assignments, please visit: www.sara-tx.org.

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The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) was created by the 45th Texas Legislature on May 5, 1937 and reorganized in 1961 to plan, manage and implement water-related programs and projects within the San Antonio River Watershed. The State of Texas empowered SARA to preserve, protect and manage the resources and the ecology of the San Antonio River and its tributaries. To learn more about the SARA, visit our website at www.sara-tx.org.