



# Board Members



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

L'Oreal Stepney was named Chairwoman of the Texas Water Development Board by Governor Greg Abbott on January 8, 2025. She is the first engineer to serve as Chair since the Board became a full-time three-member board.

Governor Abbott appointed her to the 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.



**Brady Franks  
Board Member**

W. Brady Franks of Austin was appointed to the Texas Water Development Board by Governor Greg Abbott on September 25, 2025. Prior to his appointment, he served as the State Budget Director in the Office of the Governor.

Previously, Franks worked as the Co-founder and Chief Executive of MF Advisors, Director of Government Relations at The University of Texas at Austin, and in various positions in the Texas House of Representatives for a decade, including Senior Budget and Policy Advisor to the Speaker of the House and Budget Analyst for the House Committee on Appropriations.

Franks received a bachelor of arts in government, a master of science in community and regional planning, and a master of public affairs from The University of Texas at Austin.



**Ashley Morgan  
Board Member**

Ashley Morgan of Georgetown joined the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) on October 6, 2025. Prior to her service at the TWDB, Morgan served as an attorney at Erben & Yarbrough, an Austin-based legal

and governmental affairs firm, the Office of the Governor, the Office of the Attorney General, the Railroad Commission of Texas, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Morgan is a member of the State Bar of Texas and the UT System Chancellor's Council Executive Committee, a docent with the Docents of the Governor's Mansion, and an active member of the Stephen F. Austin Alumni Association.

An East Texas native, Morgan graduated with a bachelor of arts in communications and political science from Stephen F. Austin State University in 1998 and obtained a Juris Doctor degree from The University of Texas at Austin School of Law in 2007.