

MELGREN RETIRES AFTER DECADE OF LEADERSHIP FOR REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY, ROGERS ASSUMES DIRECTOR ROLE

March 30, 2022, Springfield, MO / Joplin, MO / Southwest Missouri region

After over a decade of leadership, Gail Melgren, executive director for Tri-State Water Coalition and its sister organization the Southwest Missouri Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission, has announced her retirement.



“Gail has done an outstanding job serving our members and our mission. She’s brought us a long way over the past ten years and positioned both organizations for future success. We thank her for her dedication and wish her every future happiness,” said Matt Barnhart, president of the board of directors for Tri-State Water Coalition and director of operations for Missouri American Water’s southwest region.

Melgren previously worked for the U.S. Senate, Missouri State University, the Mayor’s Commission for Children, and as an independent strategic planning consultant.

“Our members are communities and utilities from across southwest Missouri working together to ensure adequate and affordable long-term water supply. Gail has effectively shepherded the long process of identifying and acquiring future water supply for the region, and the development of infrastructure to deliver that water to member communities,” said Barnhart.

Melgren’s community work has included the Discovery Center, the League of Women Voters, City of Springfield, the YMCA, Springfield Public Schools, Phelps Center for the Gifted, Therapeutic Riding of the Ozarks, and Springfield Botanical Garden.

“I’m grateful to have worked with such good people on a cause that will benefit our region for years to come,” said Melgren.

A strategic planning and executive search process began last summer. Melgren’s retirement is effective April 1st. Replacing her will be Roddy Rogers. Rogers has worked at City Utilities as manager of parts or all of Springfield’s drinking water system and as manager of water resources projects.



Rogers is a registered professional engineer. He is a Leadership Springfield alumnus and was selected as one of 300 Alumni of Influence from the Missouri University of Science and Technology. He has been inducted as a Diplomate in the American Academy of Water Resource Engineers and was a governor appointee to the Missouri Dam and Reservoir Safety Council. Rogers has participated in several water projects in third world countries and been recognized by the American Society of Civil Engineers for service to the global community.

“I’m humbled by the opportunity to lead these organizations. I look forward to the challenges ahead and congratulate Gail on her retirement,” said Rogers.

Tri-State Water Coalition & SWMO Joint Municipal Water Utility Commission

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