

WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

MEDAL OF HONOR FOR HEROISM AWARD

... to recognize an individual (or group of individuals) from the State of Texas who has demonstrated exceptional courage and bravery in the performance of a single act of heroic behavior involving the water environment industry.

Robert (Bobby) Ray Bradford (Brad) Beeching

On Thursday Oct. 30, 2014, the Trinity River Authority's Denton Creek Regional Wastewater System's Chief Mechanic, Bobby Ray, received a phone call from Pat Wagnon, Mechanic II that the facilities security guard, standing in the guard shack located by the front gate of the facility, was acting irregular and appeared to be wiping up blood with a towel.

Bobby and Senior Mechanic, Brad Beeching immediately responded. Upon arriving, they viewed a tremendous amount of blood on the floor of the building as well as a towel that was soaked completely through. They had the guard sit down in his chair; Brad ran for First Aid supplies and personal protective equipment while Bobby called 911 within a minute of arriving, Bobby questioned the guard and assessed the area to ensure it was safe.

Once Brad returned they began assessing the guard. "There was a tremendous amount of blood on the floor of the shack" said Bobby. Brad noticed the blood on the guards pants was soaked beyond his knee so he rolled his pants leg up above the knee but could not see a wound.

When they looked at the guard's ankle they

noticed blood squirting out of a laceration that was approximately 1.5-inches long and a half-inch wide.

"Blood would gush from the wound with every heartbeat; we knew it was a serious bleed," said Brad, he then rolled up gauze and paper towels and placed them over the wound, using the palm of his hand he applied pressure to the wound but the responders were reluctant to elevate his leg because it was so swollen that blood immediately began oozing from the skin on the other side of his leg; they didn't want to assert undue pressure to the skin that could cause another laceration.

Paramedics arrived 15 minutes after the DCRWS team initially responded and immediately called for Care Flight. The paramedics all thanked Bobby and Brad and told them that they "should be proud, they saved a man's life today." The paramedics estimated that he lost over a liter of blood before Bobby and Brad responded. If not for the heroic and quick reactions of both Bobby and Brad, as well as the rest of the DCRWS staff, working as a well-trained and organized team, there is a very good chance that the guard would not have survived.