

## Los Angeles Aqueduct Celebrates Centennial



Hundreds of onlookers, including LA Mayor Eric Garcetti and many Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP) officials and staff, gather in Sylmar on Nov. 5 along the Los Angeles Aqueduct Cascades to watch water pour down as it did for the first time in 1913. LADWP and the City of Los Angeles are marking the aqueduct's centennial during several public events this year. See story on page 9.

*Photo courtesy of LADWP.*

## Rendon Confirmed for Fall Conference Keynote

*Desalination, Administration's Draft Action Plan on Water in Focus Dec. 4*

Assembly Member Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood), chair of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee and a point person on discussions regarding the 2014 water bond, will provide keynote remarks on the closing day of ACWA's 2013 Fall Conference & Exhibition in Los Angeles.

Rendon will share his thoughts on the upcoming legislative session and potential action on the water bond during remarks at ACWA's Hans Doe Past Presidents' Breakfast in Partnership with ACWA/JPIA on Friday, Dec. 6.

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## State Board of Food and Agriculture Examines Groundwater Challenges in Day-Long Meeting

The California State Board of Food and Agriculture on Nov. 5 examined California's groundwater challenges during a day-long meeting, listening to experts who warned that many of California's aquifers are critically overdrawn — especially in the Central Valley — due to a need for more water created by drought conditions and restrictions on surface water.

Potential remedies discussed ranged from empowering local water agencies to work collaboratively to develop local and regional groundwater solutions to protecting the Sierra Nevada snowpack through forest thinning

to increase surface water. Several experts warned that climate change and diminishing snowpack in the Sierra Nevada could worsen groundwater overdraft due to increased unreliability of surface water supplies.

"It certainly appears that we have reached the tipping point for groundwater," said Board President Craig McNamara. "My question would be: what should be our next steps?"

Several board members suggested that an immediate, short-term solution would be easing the process for water transfers to help

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Connect with us:



Pablo Arroyave, Mid-Pacific deputy regional director for the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and Danielle Blacet, ACWA special projects manager, discuss the Statewide Water Action Plan and other issues during a Region 2 and 4 program at the California Farm Bureau on Oct. 24. Discussions and briefings about the SWAP are continuing in November.

## ACWA's Statewide Water Action Plan Gains Momentum; Resolutions of Support Roll In

Briefings on ACWA's Statewide Water Action Plan (SWAP) continued around the state in November as support for the plan continues to gain momentum among members.

ACWA Executive Director Timothy Quinn and several other association staff members have been crisscrossing the state to brief members on the plan, adopted unanimously by the ACWA Board of Directors on Sept. 27. Members have heard presentations on the SWAP at a Region 10 program on Oct. 17 in Irvine, a combined Regions 2 and 4 forum on Oct. 24 in Sacramento, a Region 9 briefing on Oct. 30 in the Riverside area, a combined Regions 6 and 7 forum on Nov. 4 in Fresno and a Region 8 briefing in the greater Los Angeles area on Nov. 5. A combined Regions 1 and 5 program is scheduled on Nov. 15 in Oakland.

The SWAP was developed by a broad cross-section of member water interests

convened by ACWA over several months. It outlines 15 actions to improve water supply reliability, protect water rights, protect the integrity of the state's water system and promote better stewardship. It also includes guiding principles for implementation of the plan to help ensure actions benefit the entire state, respect water rights and contract terms, and reflect a new regulatory approach that can better meet the needs of California water users and ecosystems. The plan was sent to Gov. Jerry Brown and his administration in October.

To read the plan and download a sample resolution in support, visit [www.acwa.com/spotlight/SWAP](http://www.acwa.com/spotlight/SWAP).

In addition to the region forums that are continuing in November, ACWA is hosting a town hall meeting on the SWAP on Dec. 4 at 2 p.m. during the 2013 ACWA Fall Conference & Exhibition in Los Angeles. ■■■

## ACWA Member Agencies Approve Resolutions Supporting SWAP

To demonstrate the broadest support possible for the Statewide Water Action Plan, ACWA is encouraging its member agencies to adopt resolutions in support of the plan. ACWA thanks the following supporters for approving resolutions or sending letters of support as of Nov. 13:

- Browns Valley Irrigation District
- Calaveras County Water District
- Carmichael Water District
- City of Corona
- City of Roseville
- City of Sacramento
- Cucamonga Valley Water District
- Desert Water Agency
- East Bay Municipal Utility District
- Eastern Municipal Water District
- El Dorado Irrigation District
- Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
- Helix Water District
- Kings River Conservation District
- Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
- Placer County Water Agency
- Porterville Irrigation District
- Regional Water Authority
- Sacramento Suburban Water District
- San Juan Water District
- Tulare Irrigation District
- Valley Center Water District

ACWA CONFERENCE Continued from page 1

## Ocean Desal on Tap at Opening Breakfast on Wednesday

In other conference news, the opening breakfast on Wednesday, Dec. 4, will shine a spotlight on ocean desalination, an emerging water supply option that continues to stir controversy and political tension in some parts of the state. An expert panel will discuss navigating the maze of regulations and environmental policies and maneuvering through the local political landscape to keep projects moving.

The program, titled “Ocean Water Desalination: The Saga Continues,” will feature Shawn Dewane, chair of CalDesal and president of the Orange County Water District Board of Directors; Bill Kocher, recently retired water director for the City of Santa Cruz; and Ken Weinberg, director of water resources for the San Diego County Water Authority. Richard Nagel, general manager of West Basin Municipal Water District, will moderate the panel.

## Administration’s Draft Action Plan in Focus at Dec. 4 Luncheon

Later that day, the luncheon program on Dec. 4 will examine the draft California Water Action Plan released for public input by the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Food and Agriculture on Oct. 31.

The draft plan, designed to provide a roadmap for directing state efforts and resources on pressing water issues, identifies 10 key actions over the next five years to improve water supply reliability, restore ecosystems and help water systems and the environment become more resilient.

Natural Resources Secretary John Laird, Cal/EPA Secretary Matt Rodriquez and Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross will provide an overview of the draft plan and what’s

ahead as the state continues to pursue long-term solutions through the Bay Delta Conservation Plan and other processes.

## “Chlorine Revolution” Author to Keynote Dec. 5 Luncheon



Michael J. McGuire, author of a new book on the public water system’s conquest over

waterborne diseases in the United States, will deliver the keynote address at the luncheon program on Thursday, Dec. 5.

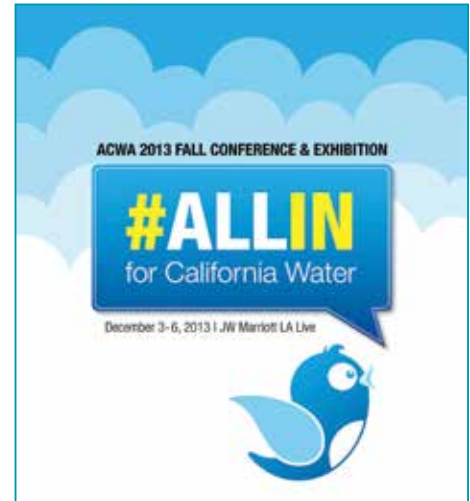
McGuire’s remarks, titled “Two Guys and a Bucket of Bleach,” will trace the nation’s efforts to achieve clean water and the unique partnership between a physician and an engineer at the turn of the 20th century that led to the first large-scale drinking water disinfection system in the United States.

## Assembly Member Dahle, State Water Officials on Programs

First-term Assembly Member Brian Dahle (R-Bieber) will join a panel discussion Thursday, Dec. 5, on forest and watershed management issues. The program, “Heating Up: Fuels Management in California’s Headwaters,” will examine issues raised by this year’s Rim Fire, the role of fuels management in securing the state’s water supply and ideas for more effectively managing the state’s forest land.

Joining Dahle on the panel will be Roger Bales, director of the Sierra Nevada Research Institute at UC Merced, and Bernie Gyant, deputy regional forester for resources with the U.S. Forest Service’s Pacific Southwest Region. Bob Dean, chair of ACWA Region 3 and a member of the Calaveras County Water District Board of Directors, will moderate.

Meanwhile, three state leaders – Department of Water Resources Director Mark Cowin, State Water Resources



Control Board Chair Felicia Marcus and Department of Fish and Wildlife Director Chuck Bonham – will address delegates as part of a town hall meeting Wednesday, Dec. 4, on ACWA’s State-wide Water Action Plan. They will be joined by Thad Bettner, general manager of Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, and Jeff Kightlinger, general manager of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, for a discussion of the plan adopted unanimously by ACWA’s Board of Directors on Sept. 27.

## Action-Packed Agenda in Store

The above presentations are among more than 90 programs, keynote addresses, forums and educational seminars on tap Dec. 3-6 at an exciting new venue for ACWA, JW Marriott Hotel at L.A. Live.

The conference also will feature a full slate of exhibitors in the conference Exhibition Hall. Several networking activities and social events also are planned.

Online registration for the 2013 Fall Conference & Exhibition has now closed, but registration will be available on site.

For more details on the conference, please visit [www.acwa.com](http://www.acwa.com). ■■■

## Finalists Selected for ACWA's Huell Howser Best in Blue Award; 2013 Recipient to be Announced Dec. 4 at Conference Opening Breakfast

ACWA judges have whittled down the pool of applicants for the 2013 Huell Howser Best in Blue Award to six finalists — a difficult endeavor given the high quality of the applicant pool. The winner will be announced at ACWA's Fall Conference & Exhibition in Los Angeles during breakfast on Wednesday, Dec. 4.

ACWA's Best in Blue Award was launched in 2012 to honor the excellent communications programs developed and executed by member agencies. Earlier this year, ACWA's Board of Directors voted to rename the award the Huell Howser Best in Blue Award to honor the well-known host of the "California's Water" television series underwritten by ACWA. "California's Water" explored the multitude of issues surrounding all things water in our state, making them relevant and accessible to thousands of viewers over the years. Howser died in January of this year.

Here are the six finalists and a

brief summary of their excellent communications programs:

- **Eastern Municipal Water District** for its Metal Theft Awareness Program, which educated employees and customers about the hazards and costs of metal theft;
- The **City of San Diego** for its Water Purification Demonstration Project, which elevated public awareness about a project that purifies recycled water to augment water supplies in a local reservoir;
- **Zone 7 Water Agency** for its Water Jug Pyramid Display, a 144 one-gallon jug pyramid that depicted the average water use of a single family home in the service area. The display was the focal point of an ongoing messaging campaign about water use;
- **Santa Clara Valley Water District** for its The People Behind Your Water campaign. The campaign sought to educate the public about the complex-



ity of water agency duties and services as well as the people who provide those services;

- **Ventura Water** for its Water: Take 1 campaign, an online short film contest and outreach campaign that sought to communicate the value of water and the importance of conserving water; and
- **Irvine Ranch Water District** for its Always Water Smart media campaign. The campaign sought to educate customers about proper outdoor water irrigation and water-efficient landscape.

Congratulations to all the finalists. ACWA looks forward to announcing the winner in Los Angeles. ■■■

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Thank you, sponsors! Because of your generosity, ACWA's membership wins by being able to attend high-quality, educational and timely events at reasonable prices. The information ACWA members take home from these events is specific to their needs, which ultimately enables high-quality water to be delivered to California's cities, farms and businesses. And this is good for all Californians!

For more information on how your organization can be a sponsor contact Lori Doucette at [LoriD@acwa.com](mailto:LoriD@acwa.com).

## ACWA to Present 8th Annual Emissary Award to Marion Ashley



Marion Ashley, a longtime water leader known for promoting collaborative solutions, has been named the 2013 recipient of

ACWA's Emissary Award.

The award recognizes individuals for remarkable contributions to California water through volunteer service to ACWA. It will be presented at the luncheon program on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at the ACWA 2013 Fall Conference & Exhibition in Los Angeles.

Ashley, a member of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and chair

of ACWA's Local Government Committee, has spent the past two decades raising awareness of state and local water issues and advocating for solutions. He has pursued numerous water initiatives while serving on the Eastern Municipal Water District Board of Directors from 1992 to 2002 and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors from 2001 to 2002.

Throughout his tenure with Eastern MWD and as a county supervisor, Ashley has played an active role in ACWA, supporting and advancing the association's goals through participation in the Water Management Committee and the Local Government Committee. He

also served as the first chair of ACWA's Region 9.

He created the Riverside County Water Task Force to address water issues stemming from rapid development in the early 2000s. He also has been a driving force on regional water management efforts, serving as a director of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, a member of the One Water One Watershed innovative Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Santa Ana watershed, past chair of the Salton Sea Authority and director and current vice chair of the Southern California Water Committee. ■■■

## Elections for ACWA Officers Set for Dec. 4 at General Session

Elections for ACWA president and vice president for the 2014-'15 term are set for Dec. 4 at ACWA's 2013 Fall Conference & Exhibition in Los Angeles.

The ACWA Nominating Committee, headed by chair Paul Kelley, announced a slate that recommends current Vice President John Coleman for ACWA president and current Region 10 Vice Chair Peer Swan for ACWA vice president.

The vote will take place during the general session immediately following the luncheon program. The session is expected to begin at 1:15 p.m.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted prior to the vote. Nominations and seconds must be supported by a resolution from the board of directors of the agency offering and seconding the nomination.

In the event there are nominations from the floor, paper ballots will be distributed to each member agency's designated voting representative (see Voting Procedures, at right). Completed ballots will be returned to a ballot box at the general session and tallied immediately after voting closes. Election results

will be determined by a majority of the members present and voting and will be announced before the general session concludes.

### About the Nominees



John Coleman

John Coleman has served on the East Bay Municipal Utility District Board of Directors since 1990. He was president of the EBMUD board from 1996 to 2000 and served as vice president in 2009 and 2010.



Peer Swan

He was elected vice president of ACWA in December 2011 after serving a two-year term as chair of the Federal Affairs Committee. He is a past president of the board of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies and currently chairs the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority and the Freepoint Regional Water Authority.

Peer Swan has served on the Irvine Ranch Water District Board of Directors since 1979. After serving a term as vice president of the IRWD board, he was elected president in 1981 and served in that capacity until December 1995 and again in 2006.

He has represented Region 10 on the ACWA Board for several terms and also has been active in the California Association of Sanitation Agencies. He is a member of the Water Advisory Committee of Orange County, president of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, and a member of the steering committee of the Southern California Water Dialog Committee.

### Voting Procedures

In order to vote in the election, each member agency must designate a voting representative. That representative must sign in and pick up a proxy card between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. before the general session begins on Dec. 4. Proxy cards may be picked up at the ACWA Election Desk outside the luncheon location. ■■■

## ACWA President Randy Record Ends Term With Aerial View of Water



From the pilot's seat of his Cessna 210, Randy Record has logged many hours in the air during his two years as ACWA President, flying himself to countless meetings in

Sacramento and around California as part of his leadership role.

In those moments, with a bird's-eye view of California's expansive yet fragile water system, Record has been constantly reminded of the big challenges and plentiful opportunities ahead as the state continues to strive for a reliable water supply that works for everyone.

"You can't help but look at the Delta from the air and think there has to be a way to manage this for everybody. There has to be," Record says.

Record has had his pilot's license for about four years, but his life is firmly rooted in the earth. Hailing from San Jacinto, Record comes from a family that has worked in agriculture for generations. After graduating from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 1976, he carried on the family business of growing alfalfa, feed crops, carrots, potatoes, onions and bell peppers in San Jacinto. Although he's a self-described "farmer first and foremost and always will be," Record later planted a small citrus grove in Hemet and then acquired a vineyard in Paso Robles, which his wife, Anne, a grade-school teacher, and their two daughters help operate.

Looking back on it, Record never thought he would get involved in water,

let alone lead an organization like ACWA that works on statewide issues. But you can't farm in California and not be aware of irrigation and water. Record, like most farmers, quickly became knowledgeable about groundwater, imported water and recycled water.

Record eventually was asked to run for a seat on the Eastern Municipal Water District's board. He was elected in 2001 and still serves on the district's board today. He became Eastern's representative on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board in 2003. Four years later, he was appointed to chair ACWA's Federal Affairs Committee, and went on to be elected the association's president in December 2011.

"It was a challenge in the beginning, not really being comfortable speaking in front of people. But I like to think I've overcome that and the people I've met have been unbelievable, and the opportunity to work on water policy has been great," Record says.

"The ACWA Board is pretty amazing because it's a reflection of the whole state. There are some varied interests but the respectful, intelligent, serious discussion is really something that the association should be proud of. We need to make sure that continues."

One of ACWA's biggest accomplishments during his tenure as president, Record says, was the association's Reorganization and Revitalization Plan, which streamlined operations to improve service for members and boost efficiency.

"I was really glad that we did it. It was a big issue and staff did a wonderful job, and so it was great to be a part of that," Record says.

Record says he also was pleasantly surprised how quickly the Statewide

Water Action Plan came together during the second half of 2013.

"Ever since the Delta Reform Act of 2009 there have been discussions about pockets of the state saying, 'I can't support that — I never will.' So you hoped that at some point the stakeholders would find common ground for statewide solutions, and SWAP was a perfect venue for that to happen," Record says.

As ACWA President, Record also spent a good deal of time supporting the association's continued efforts on the 2014 water bond. Record says ACWA came up with what he thinks is a very good compromise in its proposal for an \$8.3 billion bond that avoids earmarks and provides additional funding for local resources development.

Although much work remains to be done — whether it be the bond or in the Delta — Record says he plans to stay busy in ACWA and California's water community.

"There are always going to be plenty of challenges in water and the last 12 years I have met many people who I respect very much, and hopefully I will be able to continue to be involved."

He also will continue to fly, of course. Record says he can't imagine doing what he did as ACWA president without having the convenience of flying his own plane. He traveled to every corner of the state for numerous region meetings, forums and water events.

"Bottom line, the people have made this job really fun. I wanted to learn more about the state, and water and agriculture everywhere, and the great people I've met and worked with — and flying made it possible," Record says. ■■■

## Consensus-Building, Love of Outdoors Inspire ACWA VP John Coleman



**A**CWA Vice President John Coleman traces his love of the outdoors and his philosophy on leadership — in some degree — to his days as a Boy Scout.

Coleman, who is nominated to be ACWA president for the 2014-'16 term, rose through the scouting ranks to Eagle Scout, then spent many years as a scout master and Eagle Advisor. The scouting experience filled him not only with a sense of stewardship for the outdoors, but it also molded his beliefs on strong leadership and community.

“A leader does not count wins and losses; a leader builds consensus among those who disagree to find solutions and solve problems,” Coleman says.

Coleman has relied heavily on consensus-building and problem-solving skills during his decades of community service. He expects to continue using those skills moving forward if he is elected ACWA president in December.

Among the things he says he likes best about ACWA is the diversity of its members and its focus on an issue so vital to the well-being of the state — water.

“You’re working around bright people who have differences of opinion,” Coleman says of ACWA.

“People are really committed finding a long-term solution to our water crisis... so our grandchildren have less of an issue and we can grow our economy,” he adds.

Coleman says he will bring a unique perspective as ACWA president.

“I bring a unique perspective of understanding urban as well as rural issues,” says Coleman. “We need to send

a message to the urban environments that what happens in the Delta and the mountains happens to them.”

Coleman has served on the board of directors of East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) since 1990. He has been re-elected five times to represent Ward 2 in Contra Costa County and has served at times as president and other times as vice president of the EBMUD Board. At ACWA, Coleman serves as vice president of the Board of Directors and chair of the California Water Finance Task Force. He is immediate past chair of ACWA’s Federal Affairs Committee.

Coleman’s civic duties in the water world reach beyond ACWA and EBMUD. He is chair of the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA); board member of the Contra Costa Council; chair of the Freeport Regional Water Authority (FRWA); board member of DEWRA, the joint powers authority for recycled water service provided by Dublin-San Ramon Services district and EBMUD; and a member of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Advisory Committee.

Coleman’s day job is executive director of the Bay Planning Coalition, which represents maritime and shoreline interests in Northern California. Recently, he moderated a daylong forum on the water-energy nexus that was sponsored by the Bay Planning Coalition.

At ACWA, Coleman sees stabilizing the budget as the association’s biggest internal issue. Long-term stability “will help both staff and members,” he says.

As for other critical statewide issues in 2014, Coleman views passage of a water bond as top priority.

“We need to deliver a water bond that will pass,” says Coleman, who says bolstering the state’s water infrastructure is vital to California’s economy.

“It’s all about the economy; you

can’t take water and energy out of the equation,” he says.

Coleman cites the Freeport Regional Water Authority as an example during his tenure at EBMUD of his ability to work with others to forge mutually-beneficial compromises.

“For years and years we had rights to the American River,” says Coleman. “I ran on those rights...but when we realized we weren’t going to have success...I negotiated a deal with the city and county of Sacramento. Today we have the Freeport project.

“I was so headstrong on the American River, but realized we weren’t going to get there and made a 180-degree turn,” he adds.

For ACWA to reach its goals this year on a water bond and other water issues, Coleman says the association must bring in “pragmatic environmental support.” He defines pragmatic environmentalists as “those who are willing to listen, think and talk about the situation.”

“People realize the economy is fragile and we can’t take things for granted,” Coleman adds.

Coleman graduated in 1981 from UC Berkeley with a Bachelor of Science in natural resources. He holds a certificate in management from the University of the Pacific School of Business and Public Administration.

For fun, he enjoys camping, backpacking, skiing, reading and the arts. He recently returned from a three-week trip to Europe where he visited France, Italy, Spain and Monaco. He toured two wastewater treatment facilities in Cannes.

He and his wife, Lonna, a vice president at Bank of the West, have two adult children. The couple lives in Walnut Creek where they grow grapes on their property.

“How I relax is by getting my hands dirty,” Coleman says. ■■■



(Left to right) Participants wearing hard hats tour the Groundwater Replenishment System and sample the recycled water that comes out of the tap. They later take in the sights at the wetlands behind Prado Dam and plant native vegetation for a demonstration garden. Earlier they kick off the tour in the Orange County Water District's board room. *Photos by Andre Casasola, OCWD.*

## Orange County's Groundwater Adventure Tour Becoming a Big Hit

Orange County Water District hosted one of its biggest public outreach efforts of the year on Oct. 24 when three busloads of people were treated to a tour of its state-of-the-art groundwater management sites.

Participants enjoyed a guided tour of the agency's world-renowned Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS), visited an inflatable dam on the Santa Ana River and nearby recharge basins, and stopped at the largest constructed wetlands on the West Coast. Together these facilities help the water district carry out its primary mission of managing the vast groundwater basin beneath north and central Orange County.

The tour began in the morning at OCWD's headquarters in Fountain Valley, where Mehul Patel, the Groundwater Replenishment System's program manager,

gave an overview of the facility. Then Patel and other OCWD staff walked the group next door and gave a walking tour of GWRS, which is in the process of being expanded to accommodate treating 100 million gallons of water a day sent from the sanitation district next door. After a three-step process at GWRS that involves microfiltration, reverse osmosis and ultraviolet light, the water is pumped to recharge basins so it percolates back into the groundwater.

Later the tour took a bus to the recharge basins and walked along a stretch of the Santa Ana River in Anaheim that OCWD operates. The tour-goers saw one of two inflatable dams the water district installed to help divert water as needed into a complicated system of channels and pipes that goes into the groundwater facilities. Then the tour

headed for lunch at a local hotel, where OCWD's Greg Woodside, executive director of planning and natural resources, talked more about the groundwater basin that OCWD manages. Nineteen water agencies pump water from the basin.

Last the tour headed to the Prado Wetlands behind Prado Dam in Riverside County. Although GWRS provides a portion of the water that's used by OCWD for groundwater replenishment, the majority of water used for replenishment still comes from the Santa Ana River. A significant portion of the river's water is sent through the constructed wetland to improve water quality. Flora and fauna are thriving in the 2,000-acre habitat. As they rode in the buses, the tour saw many ducks, birds and lots of cattails, plants and trees. ■■■

## Conference Schedule for Exhibitor Technical Presentations

### Wednesday, Dec. 4 / (10 – 11:30 a.m.)

**Zenner USA** – AMI (Advance Metering Infrastructure): a better way to manage your utility assets

### Wednesday, Dec. 4 / (2 – 3:15 p.m.)

**Aquilogic, Inc.** – Dealing with Emerging Groundwater Contaminants

### Wednesday, Dec. 4 / (3 – 5 p.m.)

**Design Build Institute of America, Western Pacific Region** – How Design-Build Helped Cucamonga Valley WD Get Treatment Back Online

### Thursday, Dec. 5 / (9:30 – 11 a.m.)

**NLine Energy + SolarCity** – Maximizing the Value of Your Renewable Project with Energy Storage

**Pure Technologies** – Condition Assessment of Large Diameter Pressurized Water and Wastewater Transmissions

### Thursday, Dec. 5 / (2 – 3:15 p.m.)

**California Department of Water Resources** – Tools for improving Drought Prediction

**J.P. Morgan** – The Evolution of Payment Acceptance Technology: Improving the Payment Experience



## Los Angeles Aqueduct Remains Vital to City 100 Years Later

William Mulholland's famous words — "there it is, take it!" — rang out once more when Eastern Sierra water tumbled down the Los Angeles Aqueduct Cascades in Sylmar to commemorate a moment in time on Nov. 5, 1913, that transformed Southern California forever.

The re-enactment Nov. 5 of the first water flowing from the aqueduct into Los Angeles capped off a ceremony full of pomp and circumstance that featured actors in period attire reprising the roles of Mulholland, the chief engineer instrumental in the aqueduct's design and construction, former mayor Fred Eaton and other dignitaries from the era.

Present-day LA Mayor Eric Garcetti joined other elected officials, LA Department of Water and Power (LADWP) top managers, and family members of those historic figures at the occasion marking the aqueduct's centennial. The event was broadcast live across the region.

Diverting water from the Owens River to the north, the 233-mile-long aqueduct allowed the semi-arid city of Los Angeles to grow from 300,000 people in the

early 1900s to 3.8 million people today. Powered by gravity, the aqueduct later was expanded another 100 miles to reach into the Mono Basin, and a second aqueduct opened in 1970. The conveyance system still provides LA with 30 -40% of its water.

"I think it's safe to say that William Mulholland's great legacy lives on," said James McDaniel, senior assistant general manager of the LADWP Water System.

Christine Mulholland, William's great-granddaughter, was on hand. She said the challenge ahead, with future water supplies uncertain and more people, is to educate the next generation on where water comes from, and the cost of treating, transporting and delivering it.

Garcetti called upon the current generation to make history of its own, much like the aqueduct's builders did 100 years ago. The difference today, he said, is that the next frontier is conservation. LA uses the same amount of water it did 30 years ago despite having a million more people, he noted.



(left-right) Christine Mulholland, great-granddaughter of William Mulholland; actor Rich Skidmore as "William Mulholland," and two other actors playing historical figures — Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. and Ellen Beach Yaw, who sang the national anthem in 1913 — look on at the LA Aqueduct centennial celebration Nov. 5. Photo courtesy of LADWP

Officials said the LA Aqueduct will continue to be a cornerstone of the city's water supply.

"In the span of a century we have not only changed the course of water, but also of history," Garcetti said. ■■■

## ACWA, Water Organizations Air Concerns on Draft Federal Rule Expanding Clean Water Act's Jurisdiction Over Water Bodies in the West

In early November ACWA expressed concerns about a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rulemaking process that potentially could expand the list of water bodies under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act.

A draft scientific report on connectivity of streams and wetlands, expected to be the basis for the new rule, appears to conclude that "all water is connected to downstream waters," ACWA and the Family Farm Alliance, Texas Water Conservation Association and the Western Coalition of Arid States wrote in a letter sent Nov. 6 to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. The finding would have "significant" policy implications for how waters are defined in the West and in the nation, the letter says.

The rule, which hasn't yet been made public, has been drafted and is under review at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval.

According to the EPA's website, "the proposed rule is limited to clarifying current uncertainty concerning the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act that has arisen as an outgrowth of recent Supreme Court decisions; it does not propose changes to existing regulatory exemptions and exclusions, including those that apply to the agricultural sector that ensure the continuing production of food, fiber and fuel to the benefit of all Americans."

In the letter, the associations wrote to the EPA that the "outcome has been predetermined" because the rule was sent

to OMB before the Scientific Advisory Board has completed its review of the scientific report.

ACWA and the other associations also request that EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers follow through on a formal rulemaking process and share the proposed rule with the Scientific Advisory Board. The letter also notes that Clean Water Act exemptions provided by a 2007 regulatory guidance letter from the Corps should be preserved, and "EPA should also reaffirm that the operation, maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation of man-made ditches, canals and spreading basins is not subject to [CWA Section] 404 jurisdiction." ■■■

## Superior Court Questions Conservation Rates, Recycled Water Charges

By Michael G. Colantuono, Colantuono & Levin, PC

An Orange County Superior Court judge ruled in August that water rates adopted by the City of San Juan Capistrano in 2010 violated state law. The case, *Capistrano Taxpayers Assn. v. City of San Juan Capistrano*, questions conservation rates and cost recovery for recycled water, and is raising concerns among some water providers.

The case involves a Proposition 218 challenge to a water rate structure adopted by the City of San Juan Capistrano before a 2011 decision by the Second District Court of Appeal in Los Angeles County invalidating conservation rates imposed by the Palmdale Water District.

The trial court ruling has been stayed pending an appeal filed by the City of San Juan Capistrano. If the Fourth District Court of Appeal in Orange County issues a published decision in the case, that decision will affect other agencies and may provide much-needed guidance on these questions. Such a ruling is not likely until late 2014 or 2015.

The case originally questioned four aspects of the City of San Juan Capistrano's water rates:

1. Whether inclined-block conservation rates, which charge higher unit prices to those who use more than budgeted amounts of water, comply with Proposition 218's requirement that fees not exceed the proportional cost of serving each parcel;
2. Whether the unrecovered costs associated with operating the city's recycled water utility could be treated as costs for supplying all customers, given that recycled water use frees up potable supplies for other uses and avoids the need to purchase expensive imported water;
3. Whether the city could continue to collect the capital-cost-recovery por-

tion of its rates even though its rate study estimated those costs based on a hypothetical bond the city did not issue; and

4. Whether the city should be compelled to cease operation of its Groundwater Recovery Plant because the petitioners believed it would be cheaper to buy imported water than to operate the plant as required by bond covenants in the debt issued to fund construction of the plant.

The plaintiffs abandoned the fourth issue, and the trial court ruled for the city on the third. It ruled for the plaintiffs on the first two points, however. The court concluded that the city's rate-making record did not provide adequate linkage between the city's water rates and its operation costs. This ruling is specific to San Juan Capistrano, as was the *Palmdale* decision, and is not a legal conclusion that conservation rates necessarily violate Proposition 218.

The court found as a matter of law that recycled water costs could not be charged to any customer who does not take recycled water due to Prop. 218's requirement that services be "immediately available" to those who pay for them.

The City of San Juan Capistrano disagrees with both rulings. On conservation rates, the city believes the court did not fully understand the city's rate-making record. On recycled water, the city believes the court misunderstood both the record and the law. In its view, Prop. 218 does not require expensive imports to the exclusion of cheaper water supplies that rely on conservation and other local supply development.

The city appealed the ruling on Sept. 6, 2013. The appeal will take 12 to 18 months, and there is a possibility the California Supreme Court also could review of the case. If so, another two

years might be required to resolve the dispute.

The City of San Juan Capistrano maintains that conservation rates are an important tool that should be available to local government water providers to manage water demand and meet the state's mandate of achieving a 20% reduction in per capital urban water use by 2020.

Many water suppliers view recycled water as an essential tool for communities to make better use of local water resources to reduce demand for imports, especially imports through the legal and environmentally complex Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Accordingly, San Juan Capistrano has appealed to defend its current rates and its discretion — and that of all local government water providers — to continue to use these proven tools to manage water demand.

Water retailers that wish to use these tools should take care to establish a good record when making rates, using a written rate report or staff report in easily understand language as well as the spreadsheets that rate-making consultants use to do their work. Numbers alone are much harder for both courts and the public to understand.

The more plainly water providers explain the policy decisions and financial and other constraints reflected in their rates, the easier it will be to defend those rates in court, if need be; and to explain them to policymakers, customers and the general public. Litigation is becoming more common due to the uncertain requirements of Propositions 218 and 26. Accordingly, it is wise to retain a rate-making consultant if you do not have the expertise on staff and to encourage legal counsel and rate-makers to work as a team to develop a strong written record for your agency's rates. ■■■

## Court of Appeal Provides Guidance on Rate-Making Under Prop. 218

By Michael G. Colantuono, Colantuono & Levin, PC

A recent California appellate court opinion gives water agencies helpful guidance on several important Proposition 218 issues, including rate-making, notifying customers and calculating fees.

The plaintiffs in *Griffith v. Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency*, 2013 WL 5622250 (6th DCA No. H038087) challenged the water agency's groundwater augmentation charges, claiming they violated Proposition 218 requirements.

In its opinion, the Sixth District Court of Appeal in San Jose gave what could be the first published appellate guidance on many issues related to Proposition 218's provisions regarding water, sewer, trash and other property-related fees. Among the significant aspects of the decision:

A groundwater augmentation charge is a fee for "water service." The court relied on the definition of "water" in the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act of 1997, narrowly construing this court's earlier decision in *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn. v. City of Salinas*, which refused to apply the act's definitions to a stormwater charge dispute. Along with the Supreme Court's 2010 decision in *Greene v. Marina Flood Control & Water Conservation District*, this case firmly establishes that the act is good authority for construing Prop. 218. The significance of the meaning of "water" is that Prop. 218 requires a majority protest proceeding for all property-related fees and also an election on fees for services other than water, sewer and trash services. Because successful majority protests are rare, this opinion is significant for all who

rely on groundwater since it means augmentation changes would remain politically viable.

The court confirmed that notice of a majority protest hearing need not be given to tenants even though the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency had billed some tenants. Again, citing the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act of 1997, the court found Prop. 218's requirement that this notice be given to "record owners" applies only to property owners listed on the assessment roll. Of course, the act allows notice to be given to customers via billing inserts and other means and requires notice to property owners only if the rate-making agency intends to collect it via the property tax roll or to impose liens on properties for delinquent fees. Thus, the case confirms local government's discretion to choose whether to notify customers, property owners or both.

The decision provides helpful guidance for the calculation of a property-related fee and how its proceeds may be spent. Payment of debt on facilities used to provide service and on facilities no longer in service is permissible, as is payment of general administrative and overhead costs, and use of fee proceeds to plan for future services. The court accepted the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency's evidence that all groundwater users benefit from its services, not just those in the coastal area where supplemental water supplies are piped. The court affirmed the agency's reliance on the American Water Works

Association's M-1 Manual to work from the cost of service toward a rate even though an assessment analysis must work from special benefit rather than from cost.

This is the first published authority on Prop. 218's requirement that fees be proportionate to the cost of serving each parcel. The court affirmed the common practice of grouping customers into classes with comparable service costs and setting rates class by class rather than parcel by parcel, finding the agency's "method of grouping similar users together for the same augmentation rate and charging the users according to usage is a reasonable way to apportion the cost of service." The court ruled that neither Proposition 218 nor the recent *Palmdale* water rate case required otherwise, and cited a recent California Supreme Court ruling under Proposition 13 that allows class-by-class rate-making.

The Sixth District Court of Appeal found the fact that all groundwater users benefit from and pay for the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency's service does not mean the service is of general benefit such that the service cannot be funded by property-related fees.

The plaintiffs have told the press they will seek a rehearing in the appellate court and a review in the California Supreme Court. However, if the case becomes final, it provides useful authority on these fundamental issues related to rate-making under Proposition 218. ■■■



**Michael G. Colantuono** is a local government lawyer with offices in Los Angeles and Nevada County. He is an expert in the law of public revenues, has written a number of amicus briefs for ACWA and other local government associations on these issues. He is counsel to the City of San Juan Capistrano and the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency in the cases described above. The views expressed here are his own and not those of these clients or his other clients.

## Helix Water District Celebrates 100th Anniversary as a Public Agency

State and local dignitaries, Helix Water District board members, senior managers, retirees and other guests celebrated the district's 100th anniversary of becoming a public agency, at the district's board meeting Nov. 6 in La Mesa.

Board Chair Chuck Muse welcomed everyone to the celebration, and General Manager Carlos Lugo made a presentation detailing the district's history, which dates back to the late 1800s.

The district received a certificate of congressional recognition signed by U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter, a California Assembly resolution, and a County of San

Diego Board of Supervisors proclamation initiated by Vice-Chairwoman Dianne Jacob.

Located in San Diego's East County, the agency transitioned from a private entity — the San Diego Flume Company — through a public to a special district called the La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Spring Valley Irrigation District in 1913. Four decades later, in 1956, the agency merged with the El Cajon Valley Irrigation District and La Mesa Islands and became the Helix Irrigation District. In 1973, the agency's name was changed to Helix Water District. ■■■



California Assembly members Brian Jones (second from left) and Shirley Weber (center in blue) and Senator Joel Anderson's representative, Jesse Gipe (second from right), presented a resolution of commendation to Helix board members, from left, Joel Scalzitti, Kathleen Coates Hedberg, Chuck Muse, DeAna Verbeke and John Linden.

*GROUNDWATER Continued from page 1*

growers get through the current critical dry period. Some members said they hoped Gov. Jerry Brown's Administration would step in and work with the Department of Water Resources to ease that process.

"I continually think we have to link this to surface water," said Board Member Bryce Lundberg.

Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross started the meeting by saying the Brown Administration is "reaching across cabinets" to plan for California's critical water needs.

"We want to make sure we are on the path to achieving these long-range goals," said Ross.

"We need to make sure that we are ready for drought, that we are planning for drought," said Ross.

Jay Famiglietti, of the UC Center for Hydraulic Monitoring at the University of California, Irvine, outlined how new satellite monitoring systems measure changes in the depth of aquifers. He showed graphs of how aquifers — particularly in the Central Valley — have dipped dramatically in recent years.

"We're all focused on the surface water, and while no one is looking, we are pumping out the groundwater," said

Famiglietti.

"California faces a water crisis of epic proportions," added Famiglietti. "How we respond today will define how we survive tomorrow."

Ruth Langridge, a water expert at UC Santa Cruz, presented several cases where local water agencies have worked collaboratively to address groundwater overdraft and other issues. She cited projects such as the Sonoma County Water Agency, formed by the county and some cities, which adopted a groundwater management plan.

"We found that local agencies are really trying in some instances," said Langridge. Langridge and other speakers stressed that more public outreach needs to be done on the groundwater overdraft issue to increase public awareness of the problem.

She also said the state may want to look at ways of incentivizing local agencies to establish enforceable standards for groundwater withdrawals.

Board member Ben Drake agreed with that approach.

"I think it's the local agencies that will do a better job," said Drake. "What can be written so they control their own destinies?"

Eric Oppenheimer, of the State Water

Resources Control Board, talked about the Groundwater Work Plan that his department has developed which contains guidelines on groundwater management. Oppenheimer said local agencies vary throughout the state in how they manage the underground resource.

"We see a lot of areas in the state where there is effective management at the local and regional level...and then there are places where there's not," said Oppenheimer.

Jerry Reaugh, of the Paso Robles Agricultural Alliance for Groundwater Solutions, talked about how his group, which formed in April of this year, has submitted a petition with the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to form a local water district, in part to develop guidelines to monitor local groundwater. Reaugh said the Paso Robles area, which is home to a \$1.3 billion wine industry, is at the eye of a "perfect storm" concerning groundwater overdraft because the basin is in decline, the growing industry is a success and the state is facing drought.

Board president McNamara said at the close of the meeting that the Board — when considering next year's priorities — will look at addressing the groundwater issue. ■■■

## Western MWD Takes Home 2013 Award for Technology Performance, Achievements

Municipal Information Systems Association of California (MISAC) awarded Western MWD with the 2013 Award for Excellence in Information at the MISAC conference in Monterey last month.

The Excellence in Information Technology Practices program recognizes

cities and special districts throughout California that exceed industry practices. The program is revised annually to keep up with changing standards in areas such as procurement, security, and application development.

Some of Western's recent technology achievements include go-live of the first phase of the district's work management system; implementation of dynamic links between billing, geographic information systems, and work management systems; and significant progress on server virtualization, which saved hardware and energy costs, and improved disaster recovery capability. Western also won the Excellence award in 2010-'11.

Central Basin MWD, Dublin San Ramon Services District, Eastern MWD, Elsinore Valley MWD and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California are among the other ACWA member agencies that have taken this award home over the years. ■■■



Randy Shekels, a member of Western's IT team, accepts the MISAC Award for Excellence at the MISAC conference.

## Dublin San Ramon Installing \$3 Million Automated Meter Reading System

This fall Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) began installing a new automated data collection system for the water meters in its service area. The \$3 million project is replacing the district's old drive-by meter reading technology, which uses old radio transmitters that were installed several years ago.

"We're doing this so we can collect water use data more efficiently as our customer base grows. Instead of driving by 20,000 meters to collect data for billing, our field staff will focus more time on water system maintenance and investigating and resolving problems," said Vicki Goldman, the district's customer services supervisor.

The new Sensus Flex-Net Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system enables real-time leak detection and reporting, stores data online, enables the district to identify water usage trends, and provides consumption data on-demand, and requires only three base antennas. The system also is greener because it will help the district's vehicle fleet use less fuel.

DSRSD upgraded to a drive-by meter reading and data collection system in 2008. Before then, staff had to physically visit every meter. ■■■

## Castaic Lake Awarded for Transparency Efforts



The Castaic Lake Water Agency has been awarded a District Transparency Certificate of Excellence by the Special District Leadership Foundation in recognition of its work toward transparency and good governance.

In order to receive the award, a special district must demonstrate the completion of eight essential governance transparency requirements, including conducting ethics training for all board members, properly conducting open and public meetings and filing financial transactions and compensation reports to the State Controller in a timely manner. To qualify, the agency also fulfilled 15 website requirements and demonstrated public outreach and engagement.

"This award is a testament to the agency's commitment to open and transparent government," said Dan Masnada, Castaic Lake Water Agency's general manager. "Agency staff should be commended for its contributions that empower the public with information and facilitate engagement and oversight."



## Bay Area Biosolids to Energy Coalition Taps Paul Kelley for New Role



The Bay Area Biosolids to Energy Coalition (BAB2E) has named ACWA's Immediate Past President, **Paul Kelley**, its first-ever executive director.

Formed in 2006, the coalition of 19 public agencies in the San Francisco Bay Area is working to diversify management options for biosolids, which are an end product of wastewater treatment processing. The coalition is exploring how biosolids can be repurposed into fuel and electricity.

Kelley formerly was a Sonoma County supervisor and director of the Sonoma County Water Agency. He was ACWA's president in 2010-'11 and remains active in the association. He recently started his own consulting business. During his career, Kelley led renewable energy initiatives for solar, landfill gas to energy, and Carbon Free Water by 2015.

"I am very excited about this opportunity. It combines my passion for water/wastewater and energy with providing leadership for a coalition as they move from concept to reality. One of my primary responsibilities will be to help

the coalition identify policy changes that will help them accomplish their goal, and find funding to offset the costs of being on the cutting edge of technology," Kelley said.

The Bay Area generates more than 158,000 dry metric tons of biosolids each year, which is enough to fill AT&T Park in San Francisco to a depth of 51 feet, according to BAB2E.

"Paul was the natural choice to help take the BAB2E project to the next level," said Gary Darling, general manager of Delta Diablo Sanitation District, the coalition's lead agency. ■■■

## Public Agency Members

### Castaic Lake Water Agency

A foursome of Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA) leaders was recently recognized by a local newspaper in a listing of the 51 most influential people in the Santa Clarita Valley.



General Manager **Dan Masnada** was ranked No. 2 in the *The Signal* newspaper's "51" publication for his efforts to drought-proof the

Santa Clarita Valley and secure water for future needs, and promoting a permanent water use efficiency ethic. He has been the agency's general manager since 2002.



CLWA Board President **Tom Campbell** and Vice President **Bill Cooper** share the No. 28 spot, and board member **R.J. Kelly** also made the list at No. 49.



"It's a tremendous honor and we all appreciate it, and I think all four of us look around and think, 'This is great, but it doesn't happen with all these amazing people who contribute to the agency's success.' It's a testament to the strong team we have here, working



together, from board members to employees, to meet the Valley's water needs," said Masnada.

Campbell, a registered civil engineer, is a project manager at Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. He has served as Board president since January 2011. Cooper, who also worked for Metropolitan, has served on CLWA Board since 1993. The newspaper recognized Campbell and Cooper for the water agency's recent acquisition of Valencia Water Co. Kelly is a tax professional and retired Marine. ■■■

## Pebble Beach CSD Completes Water System Improvements

Pebble Beach Community Services District recently finished construction on an 800,000-gallon water tank on Huckleberry Hill, completing the last major project in the district's 20-year improvement plan for the community's water system and fire protection.

The storage tank on Sunset Lane,

adjacent to the existing Cal-Am tank, ensures that there is enough water for firefighting on residential properties, and at a nearby school and community hospital.

Since 1994, the district has replaced 17 miles of pipe to improve fire flow rate, installed more than 200 fire hydrants and

backup generators, and upgraded three pump stations. All 10 capital projects were initiated in response to the 1987 Pebble Beach Morse Fire that burned 31 homes.

"Completing the plan is a great accomplishment for the community," said PBCSD General Manager Mike Niccum.

### DECEMBER

**3 – 6** ACWA's 2013 Fall Conference & Exhibition is **Dec. 3 – 6** at the JW Marriott L.A. Live, Los Angeles. Conference information is available online at <http://www.acwa.com/events/acwa-2013-fall-conference-exhibition>. For more information contact ACWA's Member Services and Events Department at [events@acwa.com](mailto:events@acwa.com) or 916.441.4545.

### 2014

### JANUARY

**23 – 24** The California Irrigation Institute will hold its 2014 annual conference, "Building a Water and Energy Efficient California," **Jan. 23-24** at the Sacramento Arden West Hilton in Sacramento. Visit [www.caii.org](http://www.caii.org) for more information.

### FEBRUARY

**3 – 6** ACWA's 2014 Washington D.C. Conference is **Feb. 25 – 27** at the Liaison Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C. For more information contact ACWA's Member Services and Events Department at [events@acwa.com](mailto:events@acwa.com) or 916.441.4545.

### MARCH

**14** ACWA Region 3 / Mountain Counties Water Resources Association will hold a joint meeting Friday, **March 14**, at the El Dorado Irrigation District, Placerville. For more information visit <http://mountaincountieswater.com/meeting-schedule/upcoming-meetings/>.

### MAY

**6 – 9** ACWA's 2014 Spring Conference & Exhibition is **May 6 – 9** at the Portola and Marriott Hotels, Monterey. For more information contact ACWA's Member Services and Events Department at [events@acwa.com](mailto:events@acwa.com) or 916.441.4545.

### DECEMBER

**2 – 5** ACWA's 2014 Fall Conference & Exhibition is **Dec. 2 – 5** at the Manchester Grand Hyatt, San Diego. For more information contact ACWA's Member Services and Events Department at [events@acwa.com](mailto:events@acwa.com) or 916.441.4545.

## Positions Open

### Engineer/Operations Manager

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[JGingras@cachuma-board.org](mailto:JGingras@cachuma-board.org)

Closing date: 11/22/2013

DO NOT FAX APPLICATION

### General Manager

#### Idyllwild Water District

The Idyllwild Water District is seeking applications for a General Manager. The current General Manager is retiring in the near future. The Idyllwild Water District is located in the San Jacinto Mountains at an elevation of 5,500 feet with four seasons. The District provides water and sewer services and is presently in the process of qualifying for grant funds to construct a proposed tertiary treatment plant for recycled water to be used for irrigation. The District operates many of its wells on a 45 kW solar system. The District has pre-1914 Strawberry Creek Water rights. The District operates 26 wells and 5 water treatment plants.

POSITION – The General Manager reports to a five-member elected Board and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the District. This position has overall responsibility for policy development, water resource planning, distribution, fiscal management, employee relations, engineering, administration and operation of all District functions, programs, and activities. The incumbent is responsible for accomplishing District goals, objectives, implementing the policies of the Board of Directors, and representing the Board's policies with employees, community organizations and the general public.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS – A track record demonstrating the ability to lead and succeed as general manager. Understanding water supply and groundwater issues, also with experience in wastewater treatment operations. Any combination of education and experience which would likely provide the necessary knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A Bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration or closely related field from an accredited college or university is desirable. Experience working with projects such as installing pipeline, constructing new water tanks or drilling and

*Continued on page 16*

maintaining new and existing wells is necessary. At least three years of experience should have been in a supervisory capacity. Shall possess at least a Grade II State of CA Water Treatment Operator Certification. Experience and the ability to locate and apply for grant funds. Any experience working in a Special District, knowledge of cost estimating and contract administration; public personnel administration and employer-employee relations.

SALARY – Depends of qualifications. The salary range is competitive with similar size water districts with excellent benefits package, including 401A retirement plan and a 457 deferred compensation plan. Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter of interest, salary history, and professional references via email to terry@idyllwildwater.com. This position is open until filled. No phone calls please. EOE

### General Manager

#### Joshua Basin Water District

Salary depending on experience and qualifications.

Joshua Basin Water District (JBWD) is seeking a highly qualified and experienced individual for the position of General Manager. JBWD, a special district in the community of Joshua Tree, serves approximately 4,500 connections within a geographic area of about 100 square miles. JBWD is governed by a five-member Board of Directors and has about 20 employees.

The ideal candidate: has a strong history of public sector management including experience in financial management and budgeting, operational analysis, staff development and team building, and program planning; has a proven record of leading and planning long- and short-range efforts that involve multiple agencies and complex programs to achieve goals. A substantial track record demonstrating the ability to lead and succeed as general Manager, Assistant Manager or equivalent high-level administrative position.

Understands complex water supply and groundwater issues, with a focus on specific district functions and experience in wastewater treatment operations.

Has a history of working with governing boards to establish clear channels of communication, build trust, define roles and develop positive, open relations. Demonstrated ability to develop solid

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Board/Management relations. A history of setting up systems and procedures that ensure accountability while providing the flexibility to meet the water management requirements of the community.

Has the ability to recruit, hire and develop the best staff and the ability to know when and how to terminate an employee who is not meeting the District's requirements. Has vision – creates an exciting vision for employees; can work with various parts of the community to develop an agency vision that is a consensus of very diverse interests. Successful experience in management of consultants and contractors. An understanding of the importance of developing working partnerships with businesses and community groups. A person who gets out from behind the desk and works at bringing people together to get things done.

Understanding of environmental and permitting issues. A good manager of time and resources. A willingness to delegate, where appropriate. Able to communicate clearly both orally and in writing. Willing to work long hours. A bachelors degree in public administration, engineering, business administration or similar is required.

Submit resumes to: Joshua Basin Water District, PO Box 725, Joshua Tree CA 92252; or email to jbwbd.gm.search@gmail.com. Job description available at the District website: www.jbwbd.com. No phone calls please. EOE Open until filled.

### Operations Supervisor

#### Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board

Perform a variety of technical work on the South Coast Conduit related to the planning, design, construction, operation and rehabilitation of the Cachuma Project

structures and facilities used for water storage, supply and transmission. Minimum four years increasingly responsible experience in water or wastewater facility including two years supervisory experience. Bi-weekly salary \$3,152.95- \$3,781.66, plus excellent benefits package. Job description & application available at www.cachuma-board.org. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of application. Mail or email completed application to Janet Gingras, Administrative Manager. If mailed, please mark envelope "Confidential".

JGingras@cachuma-board.org  
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