ITEM NO. 12.3

## Director AB 1234 Report November 17, 2020

Director name: Gary Martin

Meeting attended: Annual Performance Evaluation Discussion with General Manager Stone

Date of meeting: November 9, 2020

Location: Virtual

SCV Water Board meeting to be presented at: November 17, 2020

On November 9, I attended a meeting via Zoom with General Manager Matt Stone, Vice President Gladbach, Vice President Gutzeit, Director Cooper and Mitchel Rosenberg to discuss Mr. Stone's 2020 performance evaluation final report. The meeting went well and was very productive.

ITEM NO. 12.3

# **DIRECTOR AB 1234 REPORT**

Director Name: Jerry Gladbach

Meeting Attended: ACWA Region 5 "Regional Issues affecting our

Communities"

Date of Meeting: Nov. 10, 2020

Date of Meeting to be Presented: Nov. 17, 2020

Points of Interest::

Vandenburg Village Community Services District serves the residential area of the Air Force base with a population of 7400. It is responsible for the water and sewer needs.

The source of water is groundwater, and it pipes the wastewater to Lompoc for treatment. They are responsible for a GSA in the Santa Inez basin and use a helicopter with special equipment to fly over the land at 200 feet on a grid, and it can penetrate up to 1500 feet and determine the level of groundwater and the geology.

Los Vaqueros Reservoir is part of the Contra Costa Water District, It receives its water from the Rock Slough, Old River, Middle River, and a connection with EBMUD's aqueduct. It was originally built with a capacity of 100,000 af and then enlarged to 160,000 af. Now they are planning an expansion to 272,000 af. This later expansion will be with partners and is in the permitting and design phase and is expected to be complete by 2029.

San Jerardo Cooperative is a disadvantaged community of 350 residents in the Salinas Valley. They were severely impacted by contaminates in their water and went to the County for help after some time the County helped but with it the cost to residents is extremely high, being 20% of the income of many households.

There was a presentation on product liability and it was pointed out that the manufacturers should definitely be held responsible for all damages, but timing is critical

Self-Help Enterprises is an organization that covers the San Joaquin Valley and

It was a very informative program

offers help from A to Z for the disadvantaged communities in the Valley. They work with the local community to determine their problems and then work with the County, Governmental Agencies, and the State to get financial assistance. They were key in getting East Porterville safe drinking water, with help from the State, They built 15 miles of pipelines, 755 household connections and destroyed over 500 contaminated wells. ACWA has been very involved in getting bills passed that will help the disadvantaged communities



# ACWA Region 5 Continuing the Discussion: Regional Issues Affecting Our Communities November 10, 2020 • 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

#### PROGRAM AGENDA

10:00 a.m.

Welcome Remarks

Frank Mellon, Chair, ACWA Region 5

10:05 a.m.

Vandenberg Village Community Services District Virtual Tour

Katherine A. Stewart, Director, Vandenberg Village Community Services District

10:20 a.m.

Los Vaqueros Reservoir Facilities Virtual Tour

Ernesto A. Avila, Director, Contra Costa Water District

10:35 a.m.

Safe Drinking Water Issues Affecting Disadvantaged Communities

Moderator

Ernesto A. Avila, Director, Contra Costa Water District

**Panelists** 

Horacio Amezquita, General Manager at San Jerardo Cooperative

Ken Sansone, Partner, SL Environmental Law Group

Paul Boyer, Program Director, Community Development, Self-Help Enterprises Cindy Tuck, Deputy Executive Director, Association of California Water Agencies

11:25 a.m.

Concluding Remarks

John L. Varela, Vice Chair, ACWA Region 5

ACWA Region 5 Board 2020-'21

Chair

Frank Mellon, East Bay Municipal Utility District

Vice Chair

John L. Varela, Valley Water

Board Members

Ernesto A. Avila, Contra Costa Water District
Mary Bannister, Pajaro Valley Water Management
Jack Burgett, North Coast County Water District
Bill Rosen, Goleta Water District

Katherine A. Stewart, Vandenberg Village Community Services District

## ITEM NO. 12.3

## Director AB 1234 Report November 17, 2020

Director name: Gary Martin

Meeting attended: Southern California Water Coalition Annual Event and Awards Presentation

Date of meeting: November 12, 2020

Location: Virtual

SCV Water Board meeting to be presented at: November 17, 2020

On November 12, I attended the 2020 Southern California Water Coalition (SCWC) Annual Event and Awards Presentation via Zoom. The program, which is a normally a formal dinner program where attendees can network with water leaders from all over Southern California, but was instead a "virtual" event. The program was introduced by the SCWC Executive Director, Charlie Wilson, who then introduced program co-chair San Bernardino County Supervisor Janice Rutherford for additional welcome remarks. The following are the program highlights and points of interest:

- 1. Political experts from both sides of the isle, Jim Brulte (Republican) and Gary South (Democrat) gave their thoughts and comments on the recent elections and what to look for in the likely new administration.
- 2. Kathy Cole introduced Dave Pedersen as the winner of the first SCWC Kathy Cole Award to the individual who exemplifies the perseverance and collaborative spirit that Kathy is known for. Pedersen, the general manager of the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and the administering agent for the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority, brings over 25 years of public service experience. By focusing on water management, flood control, and other public service infrastructure, he serves as the chief executive responsible for providing water and sanitation services to approximately 100,000 people.
- 3. Felicia Marcus announced the 2020 SCWC Harriet M. Wieder Award to Jeff Kightlinger, the retiring General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District. The Wieder Award is made to a standout leader who has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to advancing California's water supply issues. Following the lengthy Marcus comments in recognition of Mr. Kightlinger's achievements at MWD, U. S. Senator Dianne Feinstein made her own congratulatory remarks.
- 4. Following the awards to Mr. Pedersen and Mr. Kightlinger, the keynote address was the provided by Brenda Burman, the Commissioner of the United States Bureau of Reclamation. As the likely outgoing Commissioner, Ms. Burman's remarks focused on the efforts and achievements of the Bureau in water issues in the west during her time as Commissioner, and historically. Ms. Burman highlighted the 118-year history of collaboration with California water leaders to help provide reliable water supply in an economically and environmentally sound manner. She also recognized all in the water industry for their work in this the year of COVID-19. Ms. Burman also made congratulatory remarks to Jeff Kightlinger on the occasion of his retirement, as well as remarks recognizing veteran's service and sacrifice for our country.

I found the program to be interesting, informative and inspiring. I appreciate the opportunity to attend and look forward to future events when we can again meet in person with our fellow water leaders of California.

#### Director AB 1234 Report November 17, 2020

Director name: Gary Martin

Meeting attended: The 2020 VIA Bash Date of meeting: November 14, 2020

Location: Virtual

SCV Water Board meeting to be presented at: November 17, 2020

On November 14, I attended the 2020 VIA Bash Annual Event and Awards Program via virtual platform. The program, which is a normally a formal dinner program where attendees can network with other Santa Clarita community leaders, but was instead a "virtual" event. The program was introduced by CEO and President Kathy Norris. Chairwoman Hillary Broadwater also made remarks and thanked the event sponsors. The following are the program highlights and points of interest:

- 1. A live / virtual presentation was made by Master Mixologist Charles Tappan, Jr., on how to prepare his famous "Old Fashion."
- 2. A video was provided of the recipient of the Rising Star Award, Liberty Building Maintenance of Santa Clarita.
- 3. Live / virtual entertainment was provided by a musical group.
- 4. A video was provided of award winner Santa Clarita Grocery, Bradley Gross, Founder and Executive Director, and Jill Ziser-Carr, Director of Community Outreach.
- 5. The Business of the Year Award went to Nola Aronson and Advanced Audiology. Nola accepted the award and was very appreciative.
- 6. The Hope and Inspiration Award went to Creative Graphics Services.
- 7. The event closed with thank you remarks from VIA and another live / virtual musical number by the entertainment group.

The program was well done and I appreciate being able to attend, although I much prefer the in-person format and look forward to again being able to celebrate these awards with my fellow Santa Clarita residents and community leaders.