

Director AB 1234 Report  
May 13, 2024

Director name: Gary Martin

Meetings attended:

- 1) 4/18/24 DCA Board of Directors meeting in Sacramento, CA
- 2) 4/21/24 Check presentation to SCVWA from Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo in Santa Clarita
- 3) 5/5/24 – 5/9/24 Attended ACWA and ACWA JPIA Spring Conferences in Sacramento, CA
- 4) 5/10/24 Attended DCA Board briefing via Zoom

Date of meetings: as noted above.

Location: as noted above.

SCV Water Board Meeting to be presented at: May 13, 2024

#### April 18

I attended the Regular Meeting of the DCA Board of Directors in Sacramento, CA. The points of interest are as follows:

- The DCA Board went into closed session following the call to order and roll call to discuss the item list in the agenda. No reportable action was taken.
- The open regular meeting began at the conclusion of the closed session.
- Under “Discussion Items,” the board received the April monthly report; a Senior Leadership Spotlight presentation on the DCA Quality Manager, Ty Roberston; a presentation on the Bethany alignment from the DCA Design Manager; considered and adopted a resolution considering an Environmental Impact Report for the Delta Conveyance Project.
- Under Reports and Announcements, the board received the General Counsel’s report; the Treasurer’s report; the DCP Communications report; and the DWR Environmental Manager’s report.

#### April 21

I attended a presentation of a check for \$1,000,000 to the SCVWA from Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo for Arundo removal from Santa Clara River. The presentation was held in the river bed near Bouquet Canyon Road in the SCV.

#### May 6, 2024

I attended the ACWA JPIA Spring 2024 Membership Summit in Sacramento, CA. Meetings attended on May 6 included the Employee Benefits Program Committee Meeting, and the ACWA JPIA Board of Directors Meeting. Points of interest from the Board meeting are as follows:

- The consent calendar / minutes from November 27 board meeting was approved.
- The Board voted to appoint Andy Morris to fill 1 of 2 vacant positions on the California Water Insurance Fund (CWIF) Board of Directors. One vacancy remains unfilled and will be filled by appointment later this year.
- The Board voted to ratify the Executive Committee’s acceptance of the Bear Valley Water District as a new member of ACWA JPIA.
- The Board reviewed and approved the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.
- The Board reviewed and approved the proposed operating budget for FY 24/25.

- The Board received pooled program updates for the Liability Program, the Property Program, the Worker's Compensation Program, and Employee Benefits Program.
- Under Awards and Grants, it was announced that applications are being taken for E. G. "Jerry" Gladbach Leadership Development Grant until mid-June. One award will be made to a Northern California applicant and one to a Southern California applicant. Each award will cover *Leadership Essentials for the Water Industry* program fees and travel costs.
- The Board also received the CEO and President's Update.

#### May 7, 2024

I attended the ACWA Groundwater Committee meeting. The points of interest are as follows:

Committee Chair John Woodling opened the meeting and provided introductions and welcome.

- The DWR team of 5 speakers provided an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act program.
- GSP status was provided: 71 plans approved, 13 plans incomplete, 6 plans inadequate.
- A report on guidance documents available for depletion of interconnected surface waters was ACWA
- An update on available technical assistance programs on a variety of topics was provided.
- Groundwater pumping in 2023 was reported to be 50% of previous years.
- Managed recharge was 4.1 million acre-feet (MAF) in 2023, and there was an +8.7 MAF change in storage in 2023.
- Ground subsidence fell by 50% in 2023.
- A 10-year celebration of SGMA is being planned for October of this year.
- Reports were received on activities at Westlands Water District and on what enforcements actions are being taken by the State Board on "inadequate basins."
- The Water Quality subcommittee reported that there will be a July 30 program at OCWD relating to their PFAS treatment program.

I also attended the Water Management and Finance Committee meetings as a non-member.

#### May 8, 2024

I Attended the Welcome Keynote on the main stage event. ACWA President Kathy Green provided an introduction and ACWA Executive Director Dave Eggerton provided ACWA highlights. The keynote speaker was Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency. During Secretary Crowfoot's address, we had a surprise appearance of California Governor Gavin Newsom, who spoke a length on the importance of water in California and his priorities going forward. Points of interest are as follows:

- Secretary Crowfoot provided a brief history of his time in his position supporting the Governor's water resiliency priorities. He stated that we must maintain our backbone infrastructure. He supports "voluntary agreements." He thanked the water agencies for implementation of SGMA.
- Governor Newsom emphasized his water priorities, including strong support for the Delta Conveyance Project.

I attended the Attorney Program – An Uncertain Certainty: Navigating the Uncharted Water of SGMA, Financing Implementation, and State Intervention. Points of interest are as follows:

- This program discussed SGMA GSP pathways, SGMA-related litigation, Adjudicated basins, and State intervention based on Tulare Lake Subbasin probationary hearing.

- Funding for GSP preparation was through DWR grants and is basically over. DWR is now providing various forms of technical assistance.
- At present there is no funding for implementation over the 20-year horizon.
- GSAs are self-funded.
- There is a possible water bond in the works.
- Funding mechanisms and options include property-related taxes, assessments, regulatory fees, special taxes, domestic well mitigation fees.
- There is proposed legislation this year to possibly address this issue.

I attended the Solution Spotlight Program – “Farming the Ocean for Fresh Water.” This session focused on a pilot program called “Ocean Well Water Farm,” which involves a deep water modular pod system. Speakers for this brief program were Dave Pedersen of Las Virgenes MWD and Tim Quinn, former ACWA Executive Director. The program was very interesting and provided some new innovative strategies for ocean water desalination.

I attended the Delta Conveyance Update program. This program was moderated by Stephen Pang, ACWA. Speakers were Carrie Buckman of DWR, Thad Bettner, Sacramento River Settlement Contractors, and Bob Tincher, Deputy GM, San Bernardino Valley MWD. This panel discussed the current status of Delta Conveyance and where that project goes from here.

I attended the Region 8 meeting where we heard reports from all of ACWA committees and the program Region 8 is planning for this year.

#### May 9

I attended a program on the new governance and ethics laws. The program focused on the Levine Act (Government Code Section 84308 as amended in 2022 to apply to elected officials (FPPC regulations adopted in 2023)). This provision places restrictions on donations made to public officials who will be considering projects coming before their respective boards for action. When donations exceed \$250 12 months before or after an item comes before a board, the donation recipient must recuse from voting.

I attended the Policy Forum on Bay Delta Water Issues. The panel was moderated by Jennifer Pierre, General Manager, State Water Contractors Group. Panelists were Randy Fiorini, Pat Hume, and Adan Ortega. This session focused mostly of the Delta Conveyance project and other efforts to solve the long-running delta issues. Pat Hume, a delta area elected official strongly opposed Delta Conveyance, while other speakers expressed support. This session was interesting but to me, boiled down to a nicer way of DC opponents saying “see you in court.”

I attended the Keynote and Awards session where the keynote speaker was Tani Cantil-Sakauye, CEO of PPIC and former Chief Justice of California. Her presentation was very interesting. The highlight of this session was the announcement of SCV Water’s Laura Gallegos as the 2024 Fellowship Recipient. Laura went to the podium to receive her award and made an excellent acceptance speech! Congratulations Laura!!

May 10

On May 10, I attended the DCA Board briefing via zoom. At this briefing 3 board members (less than a quorum) are briefed on issues coming before the board at the next meeting. I found this meeting useful in preparation for the May 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

DIRECTOR AB 1234 REPORT

Director Name: Ken Petersen

Meeting Attended: 2024 Spring ACWA Conference & Expo

Date of Meeting: May 7-9, 2024 (did not attend May 9 session)

Board Meeting to Be Presented At: 05/13/2024.

Points Of Interest: Attended the ACWA Spring Conference & Expo at the Sacramento Safe Credit Union Convention Center on May7 and May 8. Due to family commitment, I could not attend the final sessions on Thursday, May9.

After checking in a conference registration on May 7, 2024, I attended the Ground Water Committee session. Among the presentations was a DWR update on Sustainable Groundwater Management which included the most recent release of the State’s groundwater management report. The second presentation was an overview of Westland’s Water District recharge projects. The third presentation was the SGMA probationary hearing process related to experience of a central California groundwater basin. At the end of the session there were updates from water quality and SGMA implementation subcommittees along with a few legislative updates.

The next meeting I attended was the Water Management committee meeting. The agenda included a reclamation update; SAFER, Human Right to Safer Water Campaign, needs and cost assessment update; an update on water reuse; and a discussion on headwaters related to Yuba County.

In the afternoon of May 7, I attended the Local Government Committee meeting. The session included an overview of the committee’s work plan and introduction of the committee members in attendance.

The last session I attended on May 7 was the Legal Affairs Committee meeting. At the session PFAS Settlements were discussed along with more possibilities of collaboration. Pending legislation was discussed in the remaining time in open session. A closed session occurred at the end with the subject being groundwater recharge projects.

On May 8 I attended the Welcome Keynote: California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot. Mr. Crowfoot provided a positive outlook for the future if the State continues to focus on groundwater, off stream storage and the Bay Delta conveyance project. Just to make a clear Governor Newson came on stage and reaffirmed the direction he is working on for the remainder of his term in office.

The next session I attended was “Water Industry Trend – Liquid Intelligence: Lessons Learned from a Decade of Water Data Collaboration”. The panel was moderated by the General Manager of Moulton Niguel WD. The first panelist was Erik Ekdahl SWRCB Deputy Director Water Rights providing an update on their organizing all California water rights records. Next was Patrick Atwater Crescenta Valley WD discussing his work with the California Data Collaboration. The last panelist was Chris Tull of California Data Collaborative which is a nonprofit coalition of water supply agencies building community and technology to enable data informed decision making for sustainable water future. The Collaborative was formed by Atwater

and Tull eight years ago and so far, there are twenty plus members. Moulton Niguel WD is a member of the Collaborative,

In the afternoon of May 8, I attended the Water Talk on the Main Stage – Fluid Intelligence: Shaping the Water and Data and AI. The presenter was Amber Ivey, Principal of Ivey Collective. Amber Ivey has a variety of experiences dealing with data research and practical applications. She shared her insights on data and artificial intelligence in the water community. She addressed sustainable staffing based on data research and management. Data sharing is important as it can enhance marketing proposals.

The next session I attended was the “Attorney Program – The Looming Crisis in Rate Setting”. The panel was made up of attorneys representing water agencies and Kris Anderson ACWA. The speakers discuss Prop 218 and Prop 26 challenges along with new proposed legislation that are related to water rates and rate setting. The biggest takeaway is that a Cost-of-Service Study by an Engineer and public notification are still the most important tasks in rate setting.

The last afternoon session I attended was the Region 8 Membership Meeting. Updates were provided by various committee chairman. An update on the ACWA Foundation was provided. An Region update was also provided.

Conference agenda is attached.



## TUES 5/7/24

7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

### ACWA ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

West Lobby, Convention Center

7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

### ACWA EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

West Lobby, Convention Center

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM

### AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

### GROUNDWATER COMMITTEE

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

### ENERGY COMMITTEE

Ballroom A7-8, Convention Center

### WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

12:15 PM - 1:30 PM

### COMMITTEE LUNCH BREAK

Regency Ballroom DEF, Hyatt Regency

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

### OUTREACH TASK FORCE

Carmel AB, Hyatt Regency

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ballroom A2-3, Convention Center

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Ballroom A7-8, Convention Center

### WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM

### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Ballroom A2-3, Convention Center

### FEDERAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

### LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Ballroom A7-8, Convention Center

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Carmel AB, Hyatt Regency

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

### WELCOME RECEPTION

Exhibit Hall AB, Convention Center

Sponsored by Kleinfelder

## WED 5/8/24

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

### ACWA ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

West Lobby, Convention Center

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

### ACWA EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

West Lobby, Convention Center

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

### CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Exhibit Hall AB, Convention Center

7:30 AM - 6:00 PM

### CONNECT IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

Exhibit Hall AB, Convention Center

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

### WELCOME KEYNOTE / MAIN STAGE

Ballroom A1, Convention Center

Keynote: California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

### ATTORNEY PROGRAM

Meeting Rooms 1-2, Convention Center

An Uncertain Certainty: Navigating the Uncharted Water of SGMA, Financing Implementation, and State Intervention

### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

#### PROGRAM

Ballroom A7-8, Convention Center

Diving Into Dialogue: Is Podcasting the Right Tool for Your Agency?

### FINANCE PROGRAM

Meeting Rooms 3-4, Convention Center

Fiscal Sustainability in Times of Uncertainty

### REGION ISSUE FORUM

Ballroom A2-3, Convention Center

Understanding the Bay Delta Plan's Impacts on Region 4

### POLICY FORUM

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

Are California's Water Managers Ready for the Future

### WATER INDUSTRY TREND

Ballroom A4-6, Convention Center

Liquid Intelligence: Lessons Learned from a Decade of Water Data Collaboration

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

### NETWORKING LUNCH

Exhibit Hall AB, Convention Center

ACWA Hans Doe Past Presidents' Networking Luncheon in Partnership with ACWA JPIA

1:30 PM - 2:15 PM

### WATER TALK / MAIN STAGE

Ballroom A1, Convention Center

Data and Artificial Intelligence presented by Amber Ivey, Principal, Ivey Collective LLC

1:30 PM - 2:00 PM

### SOLUTION SPOTLIGHTS

Ballroom A7-8, Convention Center

#1: Flow Investments, Floodplains and Fish Survival

Meeting Room 1-2, Convention Center

#2: Digital Defenses for Liquid Assets:

Water Cybersecurity Essentials

Meeting Rooms 3-4, Convention Center

#3: Building Community Trust Through Transparency & Inclusion presented by ACWA Foundation

Ballroom A2-3, Convention Center

#4: Farming the Ocean for Fresh Water

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

### ATTORNEY PROGRAM

Meeting Rooms 1-2, Convention Center

The Looming Crisis in Rate Setting

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

#### PROGRAM

Ballroom A2-3, Convention Center

Leadership Crisis: Real Talk, Tough Questions

### POLICY FORUM

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

The Home Stretch of Making Conservation a Way of Life

### WATER INDUSTRY TREND

Ballroom A4-6, Convention Center

Using Consolidation to Achieve the Human

Right to Water

### WATER INDUSTRY TREND

Meeting Rooms 3-4, Convention Center

Delta Focus: Conveyance Project Updates

3:45 PM - 5:00 PM

### ACWA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**REGION 1** Carmel AB, Hyatt Regency

**REGION 2** Golden State, Hyatt Regency

**REGION 3** Regency C, Hyatt Regency

**REGION 4** Meeting Rm 1-2, Convention Center

**REGION 5** Meeting Rm 3-4, Convention Center

**REGION 6/7** Ballroom A2-3, Convention Center

**REGION 8** Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

**REGION 9** Ballroom A7-8, Convention Center

**REGION 10** Ballroom A4-6, Convention Center

# WEDNESDAY RECEPTIONS

Qualifies for continuing education credit Badge required Recorded Program

Conference attendees are welcome to attend receptions.

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

## IN LIVING COLOR HOSTED RECEPTION

Exhibit Hall AB, Convention Center

Sponsored by Jacobs

All conference attendees eligible to win prize drawings.

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

## ACWA FOUNDATION HOSTED RECEPTION

Regency Ballroom EF, Hyatt Regency

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

## CALDESAL HOSTED MIXER

15th Flr. Capital View, Hyatt Regency

6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

## FLOW HOSTED MIXER

Upper Pool Deck, Hyatt Regency

Hosted by Fellowship Latinos of Water (FLOW)

# THUR 5/9/24

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

## WELLNESS WALK/RUN

Start outside of convention center west entrance  
The Water Circuit Sponsored by Woodard & Curran

7:00 AM - 11:00 AM

## ACWA EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

West Lobby, Convention Center

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## ACWA ATTENDEE REGISTRATION

West Lobby, Convention Center

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

## CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Exhibit Hall AB, Convention Center

7:30 AM - 11:00 AM

## CONNECT IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

Exhibit Hall AB, Convention Center

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM

## GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

### IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

ACWA Lounge, Exhibit Hall AB, Convention Center

Mobile app users eligible to win the GRAND PRIZE

drawn at 9 AM!

9:15 AM - 10:15 AM

## ATTORNEY PROGRAM

Meeting Room 1-2, Convention Center

The More You Know: A Public Service Announcement  
on California's New Governance and Ethics Laws

## FINANCE PROGRAM

Meeting Room 3-4, Convention Center

How to Conduct a Rate Study While Avoiding Common  
Pitfalls and Maintaining Best Practices

## REGION ISSUE FORUM

Ballroom A2-3, Convention Center

How to Play Nice in the Sandbox: Lessons in Sharing  
from Region 1

## WATER INDUSTRY TREND

Ballroom A4-6, Convention Center

Harmony in Hydrology: The Need for Water Managers to  
Embrace Nature-Based Solutions

## POLICY FORUM

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

Reviewing the Weather Whiplash of 2023

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

## FEDERAL WATER INDUSTRY TREND

Ballroom A2-3, Convention Center

Does Money Grow on Trees? Find the Billions in  
Your Backyard?

## FINANCE PROGRAM

Meeting Room 3-4, Convention Center

The Water Infrastructure Financing Landscape

## POLICY FORUM

Ballroom A9-11, Convention Center

A Delta County Supervisor, A Water District Board Chair,  
and a Farmer - A Conversation about How Climate  
Change is Affecting the Bay-Delta Water Issues

## WATER INDUSTRY TREND

Ballroom A4-6, Convention Center

Is Ag Doing Its Part?

## WATER INDUSTRY TREND

Meeting Room 1-2, Convention Center

Powering Through: The Role of Distributed Energy  
Resources in Crisis Response

11:45 AM - 1:15 PM

## KEYNOTE & AWARDS / MAIN STAGE

Ballroom A1, Convention Center

Keynote: Tani Cantil-Sakauye, President & CEO,  
Public Policy Institute of California

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

## CLOSING NETWORKING LUNCH

Grand Nave Ballroom, Sheraton Grand

All programs are subject to  
change without notice.

Get complete  
program information  
on the **ACWA APP**.

SCAN TO DOWNLOAD



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