



*Dedicated to  
Satisfying our Community's  
Water Needs*

**AGENDA  
MESA WATER DISTRICT  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Monday, July 8, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.  
Panian Conference Room**

Committee Members: Shawn Dewane, President  
Marice H. DePasquale, Vice President  
Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., General Manager  
Denise Garcia, Chief Administrative Officer

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Items Not on the Agenda:** Members of the public are invited to address the Board regarding items which are not appearing on the posted agenda. Each speaker shall be limited to three minutes. The Executive Committee will set aside 30 minutes for public comments for items not appearing on the posted agenda.

**Items on the Agenda:** Members of the public shall be permitted to comment on agenda items before action is taken, or after the Executive Committee has discussed the item. Each speaker shall be limited to three minutes. The Executive Committee will set aside 60 minutes for public comments for items appearing on the posted agenda.

**PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

*Items recommended for approval at this meeting may be agendized for approval at a future Board meeting.*

1. City/Districts Liaison Committee Meeting Topics

**ACTION ITEMS:**

2. California Special Districts Association Board of Directors Election

**REPORTS:**

3. Future Agenda Topics
4. Report of the General Manager
5. Directors' Reports and Comments



*In compliance with California law and the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services in order to participate in the meeting, or if you need the agenda provided in an alternative format, please call the District Secretary at (949) 631-1205. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) to make reasonable arrangements to accommodate your requests.*

*Members of the public desiring to make verbal comments using a translator to present their comments into English shall be provided reasonable time accommodations that are consistent with California law.*

*Agenda materials that are public records, which have been distributed to a majority of the Mesa Water Board of Directors (Board), will be available for public inspection at the District Boardroom, 1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA and on Mesa Water's website at **www.MesaWater.org**. If materials are distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior or during the meeting, the materials will be available at the time of the meeting.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**



*Dedicated to  
Satisfying our Community's  
Water Needs*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Committee  
FROM: Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., General Manager  
DATE: July 8, 2024  
SUBJECT: City/Districts Liaison Committee Meeting Topics

---

### RECOMMENDATION

Provide guidance to staff for the third quarter City/Districts Liaison Committee meeting agenda topics.

### STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal #4: Increase favorable opinion of Mesa Water.  
Goal #7: Actively participate in regional and statewide water issues.

### DISCUSSION

The next City/Districts Liaison Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 26, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. and is being hosted by Mesa Water District. Staff is requesting guidance from the Executive Committee on agenda topics.

For the Committee's review, the agenda topics are as follows:

- Mesa Water 2024 Video Contest
- Local groundwater Supply Improvement Project
- Reservoir 2 Project & Community Outreach

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

### ATTACHMENTS

None.



*Dedicated to  
Satisfying our Community's  
Water Needs*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors  
FROM: Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., General Manager  
DATE: July 8, 2024  
SUBJECT: California Special Districts Association Board of Directors Election

---

### RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the Board of Directors approve support of Vista Irrigation District Director Jo MacKenzie for the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors Seat A – Southern Network, authorize President Shawn Dewane to be the District's voting delegate, and direct staff to cast the electronic ballot.

### STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal #1: Provide an abundant, local, reliable and safe water supply.  
Goal #2: Perpetually renew and improve our infrastructure.  
Goal #3: Be financially responsible and transparent.  
Goal #4: Increase favorable opinion of Mesa Water.  
Goal #5: Attract, develop and retain skilled employees.  
Goal #6: Provide excellent customer service.  
Goal #7: Actively participate in regional and statewide water issues.

### PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

None.

### DISCUSSION

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA) is the governing body responsible for all policy decisions related to CSDA's member services, legislative advocacy, education and resources. The Board of Directors is crucial to the operation of the association and to the representation of the common interests of all California's special districts before the legislature and the State Administration. Serving on the Board requires one's interest in the issues confronting special districts statewide.

The leadership of CSDA is elected from its six geographical networks. Each of the six networks has three seats on the Board with staggered 3-year terms. Mesa Water District is located in the Southern Network. This year, Seat A in the Southern Network is open for election. Director Jo MacKenzie from the Vista Irrigation District is the incumbent.

CSDA is conducting its Board election via an electronic ballot. The candidates for Seat A – Southern Network are as follows:

- Jo MacKenzie, Vista Irrigation District
- Jason Dafforn, Valley Sanitary District
- Ross Leja, Jurupa Area Recreation & Park District

Electronic ballots were emailed June 10, 2024 and all cast ballots must be received by CSDA no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 26, 2024.



## FINANCIAL IMPACT

In Fiscal Year 2025, \$9,275 is budgeted for the CSDA membership in the District Memberships budget account.

## ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: CSDA Electronic Ballot
- Attachment B: Candidate Information Sheets and Statements
- Attachment C: Vista Irrigation District Correspondence
- Attachment D: Valley Sanitary District Correspondence





**California Special  
Districts Association**  
*Districts Stronger Together*

## 2024 CSDA BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

The following information **MUST** accompany your nomination form and Resolution/minute order:

**Name:** JO MacKENZIE

**District/Company:** Vista Irrigation District, *CSDA District of Distinction, Platinum Level*

**Title:** Director, Certificate in Special District Governance

**Elected/Appointed/Staff:** Elected

**Length of Service with District:** 32 years

**1. Do you have current involvement with CSDA (such as committees, events, workshops, conferences, Governance Academy, etc.):**

- ✚ CSDA Board of Directors, President 2011, Vice President 2010, Treasurer 2008-2009
- ✚ CSDA Finance Corporation Board of Directors, 2007-present; President 2012, 2013, 2015- present
- ✚ Special District Leadership Foundation Board of Director, Treasurer, currently Vice President
- ✚ Fiscal and Audit Committees, rewrote 'Treasurer Job Description'; Membership Committee 2011-present; Chair 2020-2021, 2022 and 2024
- ✚ Legislative Committee 2004-present; Chair, 2006-2010 and 2012
- ✚ CSDA San Diego Chapter, Board of Directors, 1993-present; President 1998-2000; presently serve on the Chapter Executive Board
- ✚ Attend all Annual Conferences and Legislative Days

**2. Have you ever been associated with any other state-wide associations (CSAC, ACWA, League, etc.):**

- ✚ ACWA: Past Board Director; Local Government, Chair 2014-2015 and Membership Committee
- ✚ ACWA Region 10 Board of Directors, Vice Chair, Alternate Chair, Director 1997-2010
- ✚ The California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO), Board Member and Legislative Committee member, 2017-2023

**3. List local government involvement (such as LAFCO, Association of Governments, etc.):**

- ✚ San Diego LAFCO, 1994-present: Commission Chair 2018 & 2019; Alternate 5 years; Special District Advisory Committee 14 years, Chair 2005-2009
- ✚ City of San Marcos Planning and Traffic Commissions
- ✚ Personally initiated the City of San Marcos Budget Review Committee in 1980, Chair 1996-2006
- ✚ Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County, Association Director, 2016 to present

**4. List civic organization involvement and recognitions**

- ✚ Special District Official of the Year by PublicCEO
- ✚ CSDA Legislative Advocate of the Year, 2011
- ✚ Graduate of CSDA's Special District Leadership Academy
- ✚ San Marcos Chamber of Commerce, Lifetime Ambassador
- ✚ Graduate of Leadership 2000, Cal State San Marcos
- ✚ Vista Community Development Associates, Treasurer
- ✚ Soroptimist International





## **RE-ELECT JO MACKENZIE**

### **PROVEN EXPERIENCE LEADING SPECIAL DISTRICTS**

- **DEDICATED**
- **FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE**
- **COMMITTED TO SPECIAL DISTRICTS**

It has been a privilege and honor to serve on the CSDA Board of Directors (Board) representing the Southern Network. Serving on the Board requires a commitment of time; I am in Sacramento at least twice a month for CSDA meetings. I have served as President, Vice President and Treasurer, and served as a Chair and/or member of the various committees. In 2010 and 2011, respectively, I was recognized as CSDA's Legislative Advocate of the Year and by PublicCEO as Special District Official of the Year.

During my tenure on the CSDA Board, I have formed working relationships throughout the Network and State that have given me an insight regarding the needs of special districts. Based on these insights and input from other CSDA directors, CSDA has worked to provide webinars at no cost to its members, begun offering the leadership academy three times a year and on-line, and the SDLF Board eliminated budget limits for scholarships. I serve on the CSDA and SDLF Boards, and I am proud of the collaboration that allows all special districts to take advantage of CSDA's programs.

During my term, I have been committed to continue building on the present foundation of CSDA's educational programs, state and federal legislative advocacy, and public outreach. CSDA is now the "voice of Special Districts", "the third leg of local government", and the 'go-to' association for legislative issues.

My proven leadership and public service experience, commitment to fiscal responsibility, and comprehensive LAFCO and special district knowledge make me the most qualified candidate to represent the Southern Network.

I have a true passion for and proven experience in leading Special Districts. I would be honored to continue serving on the CSDA Board as your Southern Network Director.

I am asking for your **Vote**.

ELECTRONIC VOTING ENDS JULY 26 AT 5:00 P.M.

**50+ CSDA EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ARE LISTED ON  
CSDA'S HOME PAGE**





**California Special  
Districts Association**  
*Districts Stronger Together*

## 2024 CSDA BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

The following information **MUST** accompany your nomination form and Resolution/minute order:

**Name:** Jason Dafforn

**District/Company:** Valley Sanitary District

**Title:** General Manager

**Elected/Appointed/Staff:** Staff

**Length of Service with District:** 1 year

- 1. Do you have current involvement with CSDA (such as committees, events, workshops, conferences, Governance Academy, etc.):**

Attend CSDA Conference and Leadership Academy

- 2. Have you ever been associated with any other state-wide associations (CSAC, ACWA, League, etc.):**

ACWA, CASA

- 3. List local government involvement (such as LAFCo, Association of Governments, etc.):**

N/A

- 4. List civic organization involvement:**

Desert Recreation Foundation Board of Directors

**\*\*Candidate Statement – Although it is not required, each candidate is requested to submit a candidate statement of no more than 300 words in length. Any statements received in the CSDA office after the nomination deadlines will not be included with the ballot.**

My name is Jason Dafforn. I am a Licensed Civil Engineer in the State of California with over 30 years of experience in the water and wastewater industry. I have 17 years of experience as a utility manager working for California local governments, including over eight years working for a special district.

California's special districts play a crucial role in the daily lives of millions, providing essential services ranging from water and sanitation to fire protection, healthcare, and many others. The California Special District Association (CSDA) provides resources, training, state and federal advocacy, and professional development to help special districts across the State flourish.

Today, special districts are confronted with unprecedented challenges. As a special district manager, I have gained a comprehensive understanding of these challenges, which positions me to provide valuable guidance and develop effective resolutions. My fresh ideas and unique perspective will enable the Board of Directors to proactively address current issues and future challenges, keeping CSDA ahead of the curve.

Together, we hold the power to shape the future and provide exceptional resources for special districts in California. By ensuring they remain at the forefront of delivering essential services and improving the quality of life for all residents, we can make a significant impact.

Let us build a stronger, more resilient future for California's special districts and the communities they serve.



### 2024 CSDA BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

The following information **MUST** accompany your nomination form and Resolution/minute order:

Name: ROSS A. LEJA

District/Company: JURUPA AREA RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

Title: DIRECTOR DIVISION 5

Elected/Appointed/Staff: ELECTED

Length of Service with District: 6 YEARS

1. Do you have current involvement with CSDA (such as committees, events, workshops, conferences, Governance Academy, etc.):

NO

2. Have you ever been associated with any other state-wide associations (CSAC, ACWA, League, etc.):

NO

3. List local government involvement (such as LAFCo, Association of Governments, etc.):

NONE

4. List civic organization involvement:

JURUPA CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

JURUPA DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

**\*\*Candidate Statement – Although it is not required, each candidate is requested to submit a candidate statement of no more than 300 words in length. Any statements received in the CSDA office after the nomination deadlines will not be included with the ballot.**

I am running for the open board position to bring representation for the Inland Empire to CSDA and grow CSDA in the Inland Empire. San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, together known as the Inland Empire, is one of the fastest growing regions of California and home to over 80 special districts. However, the Inland Empire currently has no representation on the Southern District Board.

I currently serve on the Board of Directors for the Jurupa Area Recreation and Parks District (JARPD). Our district serves the city of Jurupa Valley and a portion of the city of Eastvale. I have been in this position for six years. During this time we have grown our district by fourteen facilities. I have made it a mission to develop relationships with the other special districts in our area to help JARPD better serve its residents. I look forward to expanding this mission to the other special districts in the Inland Empire if I am elected to the Board representing the Southern District

I am an eight year Air Force Veteran, husband, father and grandfather. My wife of 49 years and I have made our home in Jurupa Valley for over three decades. I have served on the City of Jurupa Valley Traffic Safety Committee, acting as its first chair for three years. I also served on the Jurupa Unified School District Citizen Oversight Committee for a \$144 million bond measure as both Vice Chair and Chair. A cause close to my heart is my work with the Jurupa Children's Christmas Party, an organization that has distributed presents to underprivileged in Jurupa Valley for over 40 years.

I have always considered service to my country and community a privilege and would like to continue by serving on the board of the California Special Districts Association.

On behalf of the Vista Irrigation District (VID), I am requesting your agency's support and vote for Jo MacKenzie for the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Board of Directors for the Southern Network, Seat A. We are fortunate to have such a qualified candidate in Director MacKenzie. She has the unanimous support of VID's Board, as noted in the attached letter from VID's Board President Richard Vásquez.

Having known Director MacKenzie for more than 20 years and working with her at VID, I can attest to her very active involvement in special districts and her acquired comprehensive knowledge in statewide and local special districts issues. Attached you will find a candidate's statement summarizing Director MacKenzie's qualifications. As you will see, she possesses the knowledge and experience necessary to be an outstanding, engaged and highly effective CSDA Board member.

I urge your Board of Directors to vote for Jo MacKenzie to continue her service as Seat A Director for the Southern Network on the CSDA Board; electronic ballots will be emailed to your district's contact person on June 10, 2024 and must be received by CSDA by 5:00 PM on July 26, 2024. Please do not hesitate to contact me if have any questions or need additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Brett Hodgkiss  
General Manager  
[bhodgkiss@vidwater.org](mailto:bhodgkiss@vidwater.org)





1391 Engineer Street • Vista, California 92081-8840  
Phone (760) 597-3100 • Fax: (760) 598-8757  
[www.vidwater.org](http://www.vidwater.org)

**Board of Directors**

Richard L. Vásquez, *President, Division 2*  
Marty Miller, *Division 1*  
Peter Kuchinsky II., *Division 3*  
Patrick H. Sanchez, *Division 4*  
Jo MacKenzie, *Division 5*

**Administrative Staff**

Brett L. Hodgkiss  
*General Manager*  
Ramae A. Ogilvie  
*Board Secretary*  
Elizabeth A. Mitchell  
*General Counsel*

June 5, 2024

**Re: Jo MacKenzie for CSDA Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat A**

Dear Board President:

On February 20, 2024, the Vista Irrigation District (VID) Board nominated Jo MacKenzie to the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Board of Directors for the Southern Network, Seat A. As President of the Board, I'm requesting that your Board cast its vote for Jo MacKenzie, CSDA Board of Directors. Electronic ballot voting begins on June 10, 2024.

Jo's enthusiasm, commitment, and comprehensive knowledge of special districts have brought a high level of experience to the CSDA Board of Directors. Jo believes it is important that CSDA continue to be the voice of all special districts and build on the present foundation of legislative advocacy, educational programs, and public outreach.

Currently serving on the CSDA Board of Directors (Past President, 2011), Jo serves on the CSDA Legislative Committee; she served as the Committee Chair from 2006-2010 and in 2012 and was named Legislative Advocate of the Year in 2010. Jo currently serves as President of the CSDA Finance Corporation, and Vice President of the Special District Leadership Foundation. She also serves on the CSDA Member Services Committee and is very active with the San Diego Chapter of CSDA, serving as its President 1998-2000.

Jo was elected to the VID Board of Directors in 1992 and has since served as President nine times. She is currently a Commissioner on the San Diego Local Agencies Formation Commission (LAFCO) and served as Chair in 2019-2020; Jo has continuously served in various capacities on LAFCO since 1994. She has also served on the California Association LAFCO Board of Directors. Jo is a past Board Director for the Association of California Water Agencies and currently serves on its Membership and Local Government committees.

Jo is active in her local community, having served on the City of San Marcos Planning Commission, Traffic/Safety Commission, Budget Review Committee and Affordable Housing Task Force. She has also been active in the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce for over 30 years, serving as a Board Member and a Life Member Ambassador.

Jo is extremely active and engaged in all aspects of California special districts and her wealth of experience makes her the obvious choice for Southern Network, Seat A. I urge your Board to vote for Jo MacKenzie to continue her service as Seat A Director for the Southern Network. Thank you for your support!

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard L. Vásquez".

Richard L. Vásquez  
President, Board of Directors



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

JUN 17 2024

RECEIVED

June 7, 2024

RE: Support Jason Dafforn for CSDA Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat A!

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors at Valley Sanitary District, located in the City of Indio, I am excited to announce that Jason Dafforn, our General Manager is running for a position on the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat A.

Mr. Dafforn brings a wealth of experience and knowledge through years working for Special Districts. His ability to foster collaboration amongst individuals working towards a common goal is second to none. As a Board, we are very fortunate and wish to share our General Manager's skills and abilities to serve Special Districts throughout the State and specifically for those here in the southernmost part of California.

Attached, you will find a candidate statement outlining his qualifications and vision for the future of our special districts.

You will receive an electronic ballot via email from CSDA on June 10, voting will remain open until July 26. Please follow the instructions in the email to cast your vote.

I kindly ask for your support in this election. Together, we can build a stronger future for California's special districts. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Please vote for Jason Dafforn, Southern Network, Seat A.**

Thank you,

Debra Canero  
Board President  
Valley Sanitary District  
hgould@valley-sanitary.org



# JASON DAFFORN

## for CSDA Board of Directors – Southern Network

**M**y name is Jason Dafforn and I am excited to announce my candidacy for the CSDA Board of Directors, representing the Southern Network, which includes Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Riverside and Imperial counties. I may be new to Valley Sanitary District in Indio, California, but I am not new to special districts.

As a Licensed Civil Engineer with over 30 years of experience in the water and wastewater industry, I bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to this position. My 17 years of experience as a utility manager for California local governments, including over eight years working for a special district, have given me a deep understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities that our special districts face.

I have dedicated my career to improving water and wastewater services, providing safe and reliable infrastructure for communities. My role as General Manager at Valley Sanitary District has equipped me with the skills to lead and innovate, always striving to find effective solutions to complex problems. I am passionate about the critical role that special districts play in our daily lives. For special districts including irrigation, water, wastewater, park and recreation, cemetery, fire, police protection, library, utility, harbor, healthcare and community services districts—to name a few—I am committed to supporting the essential services we all provide. I aim to bring a strategic and forward-thinking perspective to the Board of Directors, addressing current issues and future challenges to keep CSDA ahead of the curve.

Together, we can shape a stronger, more resilient future for California's special districts. By leveraging the resources and advocacy provided by CSDA, we can enhance the quality of life for all residents and keep our districts at the forefront of delivering essential services.

Thank you for your support!

Jason Dafforn, PE  
General Manager, Valley Sanitary District, Indio, California





*Dedicated to  
Satisfying our Community's  
Water Needs*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Committee  
FROM: Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., General Manager  
DATE: July 8, 2024  
SUBJECT: Future Agenda Topics

---

### RECOMMENDATION

Review future agenda topics.

### STRATEGIC PLAN

- Goal #1: Provide an abundant, local, reliable and safe water supply.
- Goal #2: Perpetually renew and improve our infrastructure.
- Goal #3: Be financially responsible and transparent.
- Goal #4: Increase favorable opinion of Mesa Water.
- Goal #5: Attract, develop and retain skilled employees.
- Goal #6: Provide excellent customer service.
- Goal #7: Actively participate in regional and statewide water issues.

### PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

None.

### DISCUSSION

Staff will provide a list of future agenda topics at the Executive Committee meeting.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

### ATTACHMENTS

None.

**REPORTS:**

4. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER



**REPORTS:**

5. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS