



Dedicated to
Satisfying our Community's
Water Needs

AGENDA
MESA WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, July 8, 2026
1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
4:30 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPECIAL DISTRICTS LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION RECOGNITION

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 Board 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 Board has discussed the item. Each speaker shall be limited to three minutes. The Board will set aside 60 minutes for public comments for items appearing on the posted agenda.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED, REMOVED OR REORDERED ON THE AGENDA

At the discretion of the Board, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed as an Action Item, may be deliberated and may be subject to action by the Board.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

Approve all matters under the Consent Calendar by one motion unless a Board member, staff or a member of the public requests a separate action.

1. Approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting of June 10, 2026.
2. Board Schedule:
 - Conferences, Seminars and Meetings
 - Board Calendar
 - Upcoming Community Outreach Events
3. Approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Attendance at Conferences, Seminars, Meetings and Events.
4. Approve support of Altadena Library District Director Nikki Winslow for the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors Seat C – Southern Network, authorize President Marice H. DePasquale to be the District's voting delegate, and direct staff to cast the electronic ballot.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

NONE

ACTION ITEMS:

5. COMPUTERIZED MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT SERVICES:

Recommendation: Approve a contract with LA Consulting, Inc. for \$37,200 and a 10% contingency of \$3,720 for a total authorized amount not to exceed \$40,920 to provide Computerized Maintenance Management System support services including training, program planning, performance analysis and ongoing system optimization, and authorize execution of the contract.

6. DISTRICT OFFICERS:

Recommendation: Approve Mesa Water District's Officers off-cycle, effective July 1, 2026 – December 13, 2028:

- a. **Confirm Denise Khalifa as District Secretary;**
- b. **Confirm Andie Jacobsen as Assistant District Secretary;**
- c. **Appoint Calvin Hsu as District Treasurer;**
- d. **Confirm Kurt Lind as Assistant District Treasurer;**
- e. **Confirm the delegation of the same authority to the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer, as the District Secretary and District Treasurer, respectively, as previously authorized and approved by the Board of Directors and as authorized by the California Water Code; and**
- f. **Authorize the continuance of the monthly stipends for the offices of District Secretary and District Treasurer in the amount of \$440 and a prorated stipend of \$220 per meeting for the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer.**

REPORTS:

7. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

8. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

INFORMATION ITEMS:

9. ZERO USAGE ACCOUNTS

10. DIRECTORS' REPORTS (AB 1234) PER CA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 53232.3 (D)



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.

**ADJOURN TO A REGULAR BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY,
JULY 22, 2026 AT 4:30 P.M.**



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**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MESA WATER DISTRICT
Wednesday, June 10, 2026
1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
4:30 p.m. Regular Board Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by President DePasquale.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Bockmiller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Directors Present

Marice H. DePasquale, President *(departed the meeting at 5:03 p.m.)*
Shawn Dewane, Vice President
Fred R. Bockmiller, P.E., Director
Jim Atkinson, Director
James R. Fisler, Director

Directors Absent

None

Staff Present

Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., General Manager
Denise Khalifa, Chief Administrative Officer/District Secretary
Calvin Hsu, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
Juan Hernandez, Water Operations Manager
Stacy Taylor, Water Policy Manager
Nadia Boutros, Civil Engineer
Danielle Rodriguez, Public Affairs Specialist
Dawn Jordan-Romero, Public Affairs Specialist
Rob Anslow, General Legal Counsel

Others Present

Andrew Barnes, Member of the Public
John Page, Member of the Public

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President DePasquale asked for public comments on items not on the agenda.

There were no comments from the public and President DePasquale proceeded with the meeting.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED, REMOVED OR REORDERED ON THE AGENDA

President DePasquale recommended reordering the agenda to take Item 5 before Item 4. There were no objections.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. Approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting of May 13, 2026.
2. Approve attendance considerations (additions, changes, deletions).
3. Board Schedule:
 - Conferences, Seminars and Meetings
 - Board Calendar
 - Upcoming Community Outreach Events

President DePasquale asked for comments from the public. There were no public comments.

MOTION

Motion by Vice President Dewane, second by Director Bockmiller, to approve Items 1 – 3 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5 – 0.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

None.

ACTION ITEMS:

ITEM 5 – PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET:

General Manager Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic and introduced Chief Financial Officer Hsu who proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- Strategic Plan Goals
- Mesa Water Financial Ratings
- Committed to Transparency
- District of Distinction
- FY 2027 Budget Assumptions:
 - Increased Water Costs
- FY 2027 Proposed Budget:
 - Operating Revenue
 - Funds
 - Debt Service Coverage Ratio
 - Debt Service Payments
 - Cash on Hand
 - Days Cash Ratio
 - Water Production (AF)
- FY 2027 Budget – Water Supply Needs (Historical and Projected)
- Conservation Impact on Billing Rate
- Operating Expenses by Department as a Percentage
- Capital
- Capital Replacement & Refurbishment (R&R)
- FY 2027 Budget Summary
- FY 2027 Budget Recommendation

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

President DePasquale asked for comments from the public. Member of the Public Andrew Barnes inquired regarding whether energy costs were built into the budget.

President DePasquale thanked Mr. Barnes for his question.

Mr. Hsu responded to questions from the Board and they thanked him for the presentation.

MOTION

Motion by Vice President Dewane, second by President DePasquale, to approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget, with modifications. Motion passed 5 – 0.

4. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ASSEMBLY BILL 2561 – LOCAL PUBLIC EMPLOYEES; VACANT POSITIONS:

President DePasquale announced the Public Hearing was now opened for the purpose of receiving comments regarding Assembly Bill (AB) 2561 – Local Public Employees; Vacant Positions.

District Secretary Khalifa stated AB 2561 requires public agencies to conduct a noticed public hearing at least once each fiscal year prior to the adoption of the budget.

To comply with AB 2561, Ms. Khalifa provided Mesa Water's Calendar Year 2025 Vacant Positions Report to the Board, highlighting the status of the District's vacant positions, recruitment and retention efforts.

President DePasquale opened the floor for discussion by the Board. Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

District Secretary Khalifa reported that the Mesa Water District Employees Association was invited to make a presentation or provide comments at today's meeting and they declined.

President DePasquale opened the floor for comments from the public. There were no comments and she declared the public comments section of the hearing closed.

President DePasquale opened the floor for additional discussion by the Board. There were no comments.

President DePasquale declared the Public Hearing closed.

MOTION

Motion by Director Atkinson, second by Director Fidler, to file Mesa Water District's 2025 Vacant Positions Report as presented in the June 10, 2026 Public Hearing. Motion passed 5 – 0.

5. PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET:

Item taken earlier in the agenda.

6. SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION SUPPORT SERVICES:

President DePasquale asked for comments from the public. There were no comments.

MOTION

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Vice President Dewane, to approve a contract amendment with Prime Systems Industrial Automation, Inc. for \$75,000 to provide Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Support Services from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, and authorize execution of the contract. Motion passed 5 – 0.

7. CUSTOMER INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT SERVICES:

President DePasquale asked for comments from the public. There were no comments.

MOTION

Motion by Vice President Dewane, second by Director Fisler, to approve a contract amendment with Plante Moran for \$63,044 to provide additional support services to complete the implementation of the SpryPoint Customer Information System, and authorize execution of the contract. Motion passed 5 – 0.

REPORTS:

8. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER:

GM Shoenberger reported out that:

Consistent with direction previously provided from the Board of Directors in Closed Session on May 27, 2026, the General Manager has signed an Exclusive Authorization Agreement for Voit Real Estate Services to represent Mesa Water District as its sole broker, granting Voit the exclusive right to facilitate and coordinate its efforts to locate new facilities for purchase. This Exclusive Authorization shall remain effective through December 31, 2026, and shall automatically renew on a monthly basis but can be terminated by either party with 30-day's written notice.

9. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

INFORMATION ITEMS:

10. 2025 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

11. DIRECTORS' REPORTS (AB 1234) PER CA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 53232.3 (D)

Vice President Dewane adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m. to a Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

Approved:

Marice H. DePasquale, President

Denise Khalifa, District Secretary

Recording Secretary: Sharon D. Brimer

2026 CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND MEETINGS:

August 19 - 20, 2026	
11th Annual CA Water Data Summit	
Los Angeles, CA	
August 19 - 21, 2026	
Urban Water Institute Annual Conference	<i>Atkinson, DePasquale</i>
San Diego, CA	
August 24 - 26, 2026	
WaterReuse California Annual Conference	
San Francisco, CA	
August 24 - 27, 2026	
CSDA Annual Conference	
Palm Desert, CA	
September 25, 2026	
OC Water Summit	
Costa Mesa, CA	
September 26 - 30, 2026	
Water Environment Federation's Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTÉC)	
Chicago, IL	
October 14 - 15, 2026	
Membrane Technology USA 2026	<i>DePasquale, Dewane</i>
Miami, FL	
October 21, 2026	
CALAFCO Annual Conference	
Sacramento, CA	
November 18 - 19, 2026	
SWMOA Annual Symposium	
Pico Rivera, CA	
December 1 - 3, 2026	
ACWA JPIA Fall Conference	
San Diego, CA	
December 9 - 11, 2026	
Colorado River Water Users Association Conference	
Las Vegas, NV	

July 2026

July 2026							August 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	1	2	3	4	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
12	13	14	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	8
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 28	29	30	Jul 1 Payday 8:30am Jt. MWDOC/MWD 12:00pm Executive 5:30pm OCWD Board	2 12:00pm OCWD Communications/Legislative Committee (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL)	3 District Holiday	4
5	6 8:30am MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee Meeting (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL)	7 7:30am ISDOC Executive Committee Meeting (Virtual) 6:00pm Costa Mesa City Council Meeting (In Person)	8 8:15am LAFCO Meeting (400 W Civic Center) 8:30am MWDOC Admin 12:00pm OCWD Water 4:30pm Board Meeting	9 Pay Period Ends 12:00pm OCWD Admin & Finance Committee (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL)	10 7:30am WACO Meeting (Virtual)	11
12	13 5:00pm IRWD Board Meeting (In Person and Virtual) 5:00pm OCWD GWRS Steering Committee	14	15 Payday 8:30am MWDOC Board Meeting (IN PERSON) 5:30pm OCWD Board Meeting (IN PERSON)	16 8:00am R/S from 6/9: OCBC Infrastructure Committee Meeting 8:30am MWDOC Executive Committee	17	18
19	20	21 7:30am WACO Planning Committee Meeting (VIRTUAL) 6:00pm Costa Mesa City Council Meeting (In Person)	22 8:30am Jt. MWDOC/OCWD Planning Meeting (In Person) 4:30pm Board Meeting (Boardroom)	23 Pay Period Ends	24 8:00am City/Districts Liaison Committee Meeting (Mesa Water District Education Center) - Colleen	25
26	27 5:00pm IRWD Board Meeting (In Person and Virtual)	28	29 Payday	30 11:30am ISDOC Quarterly Meeting (MWDOC/OCWD Boardroom)	31	Aug 1

August 2026

August 2026							September 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
30	31												

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
2	3 8:30am MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee Meeting	4 7:30am ISDOC Executive Committee Meeting 6:00pm Costa Mesa City Council Meeting (In	5 8:30am Jt. MWDOC/MWD 12:00pm Executive 5:30pm OCWD Board	6 Pay Period Ends 12:00pm OCWD Communications/Legislative Committee	7 7:30am WACO Meeting (Virtual) 11:30am Newport Beach Chamber State of the	8
9	10 5:00pm IRWD Board Meeting (In Person and Virtual)	11	12 8:15am LAFCO Meeting 8:30am MWDOC Admin 12:00pm OCWD Water 4:30pm Board Meeting	13 12:00pm OCWD Admin & Finance Committee (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL)	14	15
16	17	18 7:30am WACO Planning Committee Meeting 6:00pm Costa Mesa City Council Meeting (In	19 Urban Water Institute Annual Conference (San Diego, CA) 8:30am MWDOC Board 8:30am MWDOC 5:30pm OCWD Board	20 Pay Period Ends	21	22
23	24 5:00pm IRWD Board Meeting (In Person	25 CSDA Annual Conference (Palm Desert, CA) WaterReuse California Annual Conference (San Francisco, CA)	26 Payday 4:30pm Board Meeting	27	28	29
30 4:00pm Costa Mesa Historical Society 6:00pm Costa Mesa Historical Society	31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5

September 2026

September 2026							October 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 30	31	Sep 1 7:30am ISDOC Executive Committee Meeting (Virtual) 6:00pm Costa Mesa City Council Meeting (In	2 8:30am Jt. MWDOC/MWD 12:00pm Executive Committee Meeting 5:30pm OCWD Board	3 Pay Period Ends 12:00pm OCWD Communications/Legislative Committee (IN PERSON &	4 7:30am WACO Meeting (Virtual)	5
6	7 District Holiday 8:30am R/S to 9/8 - MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee Meeting	8 8:30am R/S from 9/7 - MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee Meeting (IN PERSON &	9 Payday 8:15am LAFCO Meeting 8:30am MWDOC Admin 12:00pm OCWD Water 4:30pm Board Meeting	10 12:00pm OCWD Admin & Finance Committee (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL)	11	12
13	14 5:00pm IRWD Board Meeting (In Person and Virtual)	15 7:30am WACO Planning Committee Meeting (VIRTUAL) 6:00pm Costa Mesa City Council Meeting (In	16 8:30am MWDOC Board Meeting (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL) 5:30pm OCWD Board Meeting (IN PERSON	17 Pay Period Ends 8:30am MWDOC Executive Committee (IN PERSON & VIRTUAL)	18	19
20	21	22	23 Payday 8:30am Jt. MWDOC/OCWD 4:30pm Board Meeting (Boardroom)	24	25 7:30am 18th Annual OC Water Summit (686 Anton Blvd, Costa Mesa, CA 92626)	26 Water Environment Federatic
27	28 5:00pm IRWD Board Meeting (In Person and Virtual)	29	30	Oct 1	2	3
Water Environment Federation's Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC) 99th (Chicago, IL)						



UPCOMING COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

Event	Date & Time	Location
Concerts in the Park	Tuesdays July 14, 21 & 28, 2026 6:00 p.m.	Fairview Park 2525 Placentia Avenue Costa Mesa, CA 92626



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Denise Khalifa, Assistant General Manager
DATE: July 8, 2026
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2027 Attendance at Conferences, Seminars, Meetings and Events

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Fiscal Year 2027 attendance at Conferences, Seminars, Meetings and Events.

The Executive Committee reviewed this item at its July 1, 2026 meeting and recommends Board approval.

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.
- Goal #8: Practice continual business improvement.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

None.

BACKGROUND

Annually, Mesa Water District's (Mesa Water®) Board of Directors (Board) reviews and approves a proposed list of attendance considerations based on Director attendance in previous fiscal years. The list is in accordance with Ordinance No. 36, adopted October 23, 2024.

DISCUSSION

Staff has streamlined the proposed list of eligible conferences, seminars, meetings and events to establish broader categories that provide flexibility to accommodate evolving operational needs, priorities and opportunities while maintaining the intent of the attendance considerations list as illustrative rather than exhaustive.

This change provides flexibility for Directors to participate in the wide range of functions associated with the performance of their official duties while allowing the District to effectively respond to evolving priorities, industry developments, regulatory changes and stakeholder engagement opportunities. Directors may also attend other meetings, events or functions that are reasonably related to the District's business, governance, operations, strategic priorities or the performance of their official duties.



1. Mesa Water Functions:

Directors may attend District-sponsored meetings, workshops, trainings, employee events, customer and stakeholder meetings, public outreach and educational activities, meetings with the General Manager and staff, ceremonies, recognition events and other official functions related to the governance, operations and business of the District.

2. External Meetings and Events:

Directors may attend external conferences, meetings, workshops, seminars, symposiums, summits, trainings, educational programs, networking events, ceremonies and other official functions sponsored by or involving:

- Federal, state, regional, county and local governmental agencies; public agencies; special districts; joint powers authorities; regulatory agencies; and legislative bodies.
- Water, wastewater, environmental, conservation, groundwater, desalination, recycled water, water quality, water efficiency, infrastructure, engineering, technology, utility and natural resource organizations.
- Professional, technical, trade, industry and business associations.
- Educational institutions, universities, research organizations and leadership development programs.
- Civic, charitable, nonprofit, philanthropic, community, neighborhood, homeowner, advocacy and stakeholder organizations.
- Chambers of commerce, economic development organizations and workforce development organizations.
- Organizations or events relating to public administration, governance, public policy, finance, insurance, risk management, legal matters, communications, sustainability, emergency preparedness or other subjects that support the District's mission, strategic objectives or effective governance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The costs associated with Director attendance at the events listed above have been budgeted for Fiscal Year 2027.

ATTACHMENTS

None.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Denise Khalifa, Assistant General Manager
DATE: July 8, 2026
SUBJECT: California Special Districts Association Board of Directors Election

RECOMMENDATION

Approve support of Altadena Library District Director Nikki Winslow for the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors Seat C – Southern Network, authorize President Marice H. DePasquale to be the District's voting delegate, and direct staff to cast the electronic ballot.

The Executive Committee reviewed this item at its July 1, 2026 meeting and recommends Board approval.

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 public awareness 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.
- Goal #8: Practice continual business improvement.

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, professional development and other resources for members. The CSDA Board of Directors (CSDA Board) 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 CSDA 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 CSDA Board with staggered 3-year terms. Mesa Water District is located in the Southern Network. This year, Seat C in the Southern Network is open for election. Director Nikki Winslow from the Altadena Library District is the incumbent.



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

- Nikki Winslow, Director, Altadena Library District (incumbent)
- Jason Dafforn, General Manager, Valley Sanitary District
- John Horst, General Manager, Trabuco Canyon Water District
- Melinda Sedmak, Trustee, Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery District

Electronic ballots were emailed June 9, 2026 and all cast ballots must be received by CSDA no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 24, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

In Fiscal Year 2027, \$10,323 is budgeted for the CSDA membership in the District Memberships budget account.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: CSDA Call for Nominations

Attachment B: CSDA Electronic Ballot

Attachment C: Candidate Information Sheets and Statements

Attachment D: Altadena Library District Correspondence

Attachment E: Trabuco Canyon Water District Correspondence

Attachment F: Valley Sanitary District Correspondence



**California Special
Districts Association**

Districts Stronger Together

DATE: February 9, 2026

TO: CSDA Voting Member Presidents and General Managers

FROM: CSDA Elections and Bylaws Committee

SUBJECT: **CSDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
SEAT C**

The Elections and Bylaws Committee is looking for Independent Special District Board Members or their General Managers who are interested in leading the direction of the California Special Districts Association for the 2027 - 2029 term.

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. Candidates must be affiliated with an independent special district that is a CSDA Regular Member in good standing and located within the geographic network that they seek to represent.
(See attached CSDA Network Map)

The CSDA Board of Directors is the governing body responsible for all policy decisions related to CSDA's member services, legislative advocacy, professional development, and other resources for members. 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.

Commitment and Expectations:

- Attend all Board meetings, usually 4-5 meetings annually, at the CSDA office in Sacramento.
- Participate on at least one committee, meets 3-5 times a year at the CSDA office in Sacramento.
(CSDA reimburses Directors for their related expenses for Board and committee meetings as outlined in Board policy).
- Attend, at minimum, the following CSDA annual events: Special Districts Legislative Days - held in the spring, and the CSDA Annual Conference - held in the fall.
*(CSDA does **not** reimburse expenses for the two conferences even if a Board or committee meeting is held in conjunction with the event)*
- Complete all four modules of CSDA's Special District Leadership Academy within 2 years of being elected.
*(CSDA does **not** reimburse expenses for the Academy classes even if a Board or committee meeting is held in conjunction with the event).*

Nomination Procedures: Any Regular Member district in good standing is eligible to nominate one person, a board member or managerial employee (as defined by that district's Board of Directors), for election to the CSDA Board of Directors. **A copy of the member district's resolution or minute action and Candidate Information Sheet must accompany the nomination. The deadline for receiving nominations is April 10, 2026. Nominations and supporting documentation may be mailed or emailed.**

Mail: 1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: 916.442.7889
E-mail: amberp@csda.net

Once received, nominees will receive a candidate's letter. The letter will serve as confirmation that CSDA has received the nomination and will also include campaign guidelines.

CSDA will begin electronic voting on June 9, 2026. All votes must be received through the system no later than 5:00 p.m. July 24, 2026. The successful candidates will be notified no later than July 31, 2026. All selected Board Members will be introduced at the CSDA Annual Conference in Palm Desert, CA in August 2026.

Expiring Terms

(See enclosed map for Network breakdown)

Northern Network	Seat C – Fred Ryness, Director, Burney Water District*
Sierra Network	Seat C – Pete Kampa, General Manager, Groveland Community Services District*
Bay Area Network	Seat C – Antonio Martinez, Director, Contra Costa Water District*
Central Network	Seat C – Curtis Jorritsma, General Manager, Hilmar County Water District*
Coastal Network	Seat C – Vince Ferrante, Director, Moss Landing Harbor District*
Southern Network	Seat C – Nikki Winslow, District Director, Altadena Library District*

(* = Incumbent is running for re-election)

CSDA will be using a web-based online voting system allowing your district to cast your vote easily and securely. *Electronic Ballots will be emailed to the main contact in your district June 9, 2026. All votes must be received through the system no later than 5:00 p.m. July 24, 2026.*

*Districts can opt to cast a paper ballot instead; but you must contact Amber Phelen by e-mail amberp@csda.net **by April 24, 2026** in order to ensure that you will receive a paper ballot on time.*

CSDA will mail paper ballots on June 9, 2026 per district request only.

If you have any questions, please contact Amber Phelen at amberp@csda.net.



California Special Districts Association

DISTRICT NETWORKS



2026 Board of Directors by Networks

Northern Network

Greg Orsini, *McKinleyville Community Service District*
 Fred Ryness, *Burney Water District*
 Kevin Phillips, *Paradise Irrigation District*

Sierra Network

Steve Palmer, *Donner Summit Public Utilities District*
 Pete Kampa, *Groveland Community Services District*
 Noelle Mattock, *El Dorado Hills Community Services District*

Bay Area Network

Kathryn Slater-Carter, *San Mateo County Harbor District*
 Ryan Clausnitzer, *Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District*
 Antonio Martinez, *Contra Costa Water District*

Central Network

Curtis Jorritsma, *Hilmar County Water District*
 Patrick Ostly, *North of River Sanitary District*
 Lorenzo Rios, *Clovis Veterans Memorial District*

Coastal Network

Scott Duffield, *Heritage Ranch Community Services District*
 Vincent Ferrante, *Moss Landing Harbor District*
 Elaine Magner, *Pleasant Valley Recreation & Park District*

Southern Network

Don Bartz, *Phelon Pinon Hills Community Services District*
 Jo MacKenzie, *Vista Irrigation District*
 Nikki Winslow, *Altadena Library District*

Last Updated December 2025

CSDA Board of Directors Election Ballot - Term 2027 - 2029; Seat C - Southern Network

Please vote for your choice

Choose **one** of the following candidates:

- Nikki Winslow, District Director, Altadena Library District (Incumbent)
- Jason Dafforn, General Manager, Valley Sanitary District
- John Horst, Director, Trabuco Canyon Water District
- Melinda Sedmak, Trustee, Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery District

Nikki Winslow, District Director, Altadena Library District (Incumbent)

[Please click here for the candidate information sheet.](#)

[Please click here for the candidate statement.](#)

Jason Dafforn, General Manager, Valley Sanitary District

[Please click here for the candidate information sheet.](#)

[Please click here for the candidate statement.](#)

John Horst, Director, Trabuco Canyon Water District

[Please click here for the candidate information sheet.](#)

[Please click here for the candidate statement.](#)

Melinda Sedmak, Trustee, Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery District

[Please click here for the candidate information sheet.](#)

[Please click here for the candidate statement.](#)



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

2027-2029 TERM - CSDA BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

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

Name: Nikki Winslow

District/Company: Altadena Library District

Title: District Director

Elected/Appointed/Staff: Staff

Length of Service with District: 6 years

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

General Managers Summit 2020-2025; San Gabriel Chapter Formation Committee 2024; San Gabriel Chapter Board Vice-Chair 2025;

Legislative Day 2025; Annual Conference 2025; CSDA Board Southern Network Seat C Nov 2025-present

2. **What other state-wide associations have you been involved with? (such as CSAC, ACWA, League, etc.):**

California Library Association; CALPELRA; American Library Association;

Public Library Association

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

Altadena Town Council, LAFCo

4. **List your involvement in civic and/or non-profit organization:**

Rotary Club of Altadena; Altadena Chamber of Commerce;

Altadena Heritage; Eaton Fire Collaborative

****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.**

2027-2029 CSDA Board Appointment – Seat C Southern Network

Candidate Statement – Nikki Winslow

I am honored to put myself forward as a candidate for the CSDA Board for the 2027-2029 term. Since my appointment to the seat in January 2026, I've familiarized myself further with CSDA Board operations and the incredible individuals who volunteer their time to advocate for the work that special districts accomplish. Being part of this team is inspiring, and I look forward to serving and representing my region on the Board for the 2027-2029 term. I believe deeply in the mission of special districts and the staff and leadership upholding this work. They provide libraries, parks, water, fire protection, vector control – and so many other vital services. Special districts are essential in strengthening California's communities, often serving as a critical connection and filling in gaps for services that would otherwise be unavailable. It is my goal to continue to advocate for policies that support sustainability, innovation, and equity for all districts across our state, and represent the interests of the Southern Seat C region on the Board.

For 6 years I have served as District Director of the Altadena Library District. In this role, I have been proud to guide our community through a period of both tremendous growth and significant challenges. Among my achievements, I successfully led the passage of a ballot measure that secured long-term, sustainable funding for our libraries, a feat accomplished in the first year of the 2020 pandemic. I oversaw the planning of our two major renovations and the reopening of our branch on the westside of Altadena in August 2025. In February of this year, our Main library closed and long-awaited renovation work will finally begin on this property. These projects ensure that our library spaces are welcoming, modern, and adaptable to community needs. And throughout 2025 I helped guide the District and our residents through the devastation of the Eaton Fire, leading recovery and rebuilding efforts while ensuring our library remained a place of connection and resilience during a time of crisis and uncertainty.

Prior to my work in Altadena, I served as Assistant Director of Glendale Library, Arts & Culture and, before that, spent nearly 15 years with the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, where I gained deep experience in operations, branch management, and community partnership building. My educational background includes a Bachelor's in Political Science from UNLV, a Master's in Library and Information Science from the University of North Texas, and a Master's in Public Administration from Claremont Lincoln University. This academic foundation, paired with over

two decades of professional leadership, has shaped my approach to governance—one grounded in strategic leadership, ethical decision-making, and a commitment to inclusive community engagement.

Throughout my career, I have worked with diverse populations and developed programming that directly meets the needs of my community. I have helped launch ESL and citizenship training programs for new Americans, championed the expansion of digital resources, and created equitable access to services for patrons of all ages and backgrounds. In Altadena, I have also been intentional about mentoring and empowering the next generation of library leaders. I am very passionate about professional development, and look forward to advocating for uplifting aspiring leaders in our special districts.

I want to continue to serve on the CSDA Board and spotlight how special districts meet challenges where larger government agencies sometimes cannot— with adaptability and innovation built-in to their structure. Advocating for these institutions is critical in meeting the needs of our California communities and solving problems that sometimes seem impossible. I believe my experiences navigating ballot measures, leading through emergencies, and building strong community partnerships add value to the Board’s work. I especially believe my perspective as a library district leader—representing a sector that touches education, workforce development, equity, and civic engagement— is critical to the future of California’s social infrastructure.

My involvement with CSDA is not just within my District or on the Board, but also as leadership in my local CSDA Chapter. I currently serve as Vice-Chair of the Special District Association of San Gabriel Valley Chapter Board, and was one of its founding members. In January 2024, I was invited to participate in a meeting to explore the formation of a new CSDA chapter in the San Gabriel Valley. At the group’s follow-up meeting in May 2024, I volunteered to serve on the formation committee, which successfully launched the chapter in October 2024... I was honored to host one of our chapter meetings at the Altadena Main Library, featuring Supervisor Kathryn Barger as our invited speaker in September 2025. We recently hosted a chapter mixer to encourage our special district staff and elected officials to meet, network and learn about the vital work our districts provide to fulfill the diverse needs and priorities of residents across our region.

It would be a privilege to serve a full term alongside other committed leaders on the CSDA Board for the 2027-2029 term, advocating for the sustainability of our districts, supporting collaboration across sectors, and ensuring that all voices—large, small, urban, and rural—are represented in statewide conversations. I am ready to bring my passion, experience, and vision to this role, and I would be honored to earn your support.

Sincerely,

Nikki Winslow

District Director, Altadena Library District



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

2027-2029 TERM - 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: 2.75 years

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

Attend CSDA Conferences, Leadership Academy, GM Summit, CSDA Legislative Days

2. What other state-wide associations have you been involved with? (such as CSAC, ACWA, League, etc.):

ACWA, CASA, NACWA

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

Collaborate with Riverside LAFCO, Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG)

4. List your involvement in civic and/or non-profit organization:

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.**

Candidate Statement

My name is Jason Dafforn, and I am honored to be a candidate for the CSDA Board of Directors representing the Southern Network, including Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial counties.

I am a Licensed Civil Engineer with more than 30 years of experience in the water and wastewater industry, including 17 years as a utility manager for California local governments and more than 10 years serving special districts. I currently serve as General Manager of Valley Sanitary District in Indio, California.

Throughout my career, I have focused on strengthening essential public infrastructure, improving organizational performance, and leading teams to deliver practical, long-term solutions. I have a deep appreciation for the diversity of special districts and the critical services they provide, including water, wastewater, parks and recreation, fire protection, libraries, healthcare, and community services.

Additionally, I have actively represented special district interests through legislative advocacy, participating in multiple policy and legislative trips to Sacramento and Washington, D.C. over the past several years. These efforts have focused on engaging directly with state and federal policymakers to advance the needs and priorities of special districts across California.

I also serve on the Board of Directors of the Desert Recreation Foundation, a nonprofit organization supporting the Desert Recreation District, where we help expand access to quality recreational programs and facilities throughout the Coachella Valley. The Foundation was recently awarded the 2026 California Nonprofit of the Year for Senate District 18.

If elected, I will bring a strategic, pragmatic perspective to the CSDA Board of Directors and work collaboratively to ensure CSDA remains a strong, effective advocate and resource for its members. Together, we can continue to strengthen special districts and the communities they serve.

Thank you for your support.

Jason Dafforn, PE
General Manager, Valley Sanitary District



California Special
Districts Association
Districts Stranger Together

2027-2029 TERM - CSDA BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

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

Name: John Horst

District/Company: TCWD

Title: Director

Elected/Appointed/Staff: _____

Length of Service with District: 1 1/2 yrs

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

Not at this time. I am assigned as a board representative but have not been given permission to attend yet.

2. What other state-wide associations have you been involved with? (such as CSAC, ACWA, League, etc.):

ACWA

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

None at this time

4. List your involvement in civic and/or non-profit organization:

SCRA, TCWD

****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.**

Candidate Statement – John Horst

My name is John Horst, and I'm running as a candidate for the California Special Districts Association in the Southern Network.

I am proud to stand as a candidate committed to strengthening the vital role special districts play in serving our communities. Special districts are the backbone of local government—providing essential services like water, fire protection, sanitation, and infrastructure that directly impact our daily lives. Across California, these districts are trusted, community-driven, and accountable to the people they serve.

As a current Director of the Trabuco Canyon Water District, I have focused on protecting taxpayer dollars, improving transparency, and ensuring reliable, high-quality water services. I serve on the Finance and Audit Committee, helping maintain fiscal discipline, and I chair the Outreach Committee to improve communication, so residents stay informed and engaged.

My background in business and operations shapes how I approach public service. I've built my career solving problems, improving efficiency, reducing costs, and strengthening organizations from within. I understand how to manage budgets, support teams, and make decisions that lead to long-term stability and success.

I'm not a career politician—I bring entrepreneurial experience, a strong work ethic, and a commitment to results. I ask tough questions, seek practical solutions, and stay focused on what matters most: serving our community responsibly.

I respectfully ask for your vote.



2027-2029 TERM - CSDA BOARD CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

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

Name: Melinda Sedmak

District/Company: 29 Palms Public Cemetery District

Title: Trustee

Elected/Appointed/Staff: Appointed

Length of Service with District: 1 year

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

I am actively engaged with CSDA through participation in member discussions, governance resources, and ongoing professional development focused on special district operations and best practices. My current and planned involvement includes:

- Participation in CSDA member forums addressing small and rural district challenges, including records management and operational efficiency
- Continued use of CSDA governance resources and training materials to support board effectiveness
- Planned attendance at the Special District Leadership Academy, San Diego, May 11–14, 2026
- Commitment to complete all four modules, and 10 continuing education hours to earn the Certificate in Special District Governance

2. What other state-wide associations have you been involved with? (such as CSAC, ACWA, League, etc.):

- California Notary Public
- California Teachers Association (CTA)
- National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA)
- Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) - Southwest Regional Vice President of Nevada/California Region of Phi

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

I currently serve as a Trustee for the Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery District, where I participate in governance, policy oversight, and the responsible stewardship of public resources. My role includes supporting compliance with applicable laws, contributing to long-term planning, and ensuring operational sustainability within a small, rural district. I also actively engage in local government and community leadership efforts within San Bernardino County, with a focus on transparency, collaboration, and effective service delivery.

4. List your involvement in civic and/or non-profit organization:

My civic and community involvement reflects a commitment to public service, election integrity, and community outreach:

- Poll Worker Supervisor, Twentynine Palms, (3 years)
- Deputy Registrar, State of Arizona (6 years)
- Notary Public, California (3 years)
- Notary Public, Arizona (6 years)
- Precinct Captain for Political Committeemen, Arizona Legislative District 23 (4 years)
- “Hope Responder,” Hope Response, Inc. (Non-Profit-501c3) supporting outreach to immigrant communities & disaster response efforts across California/Arizona (10 years)
- Member, Business Network International (BNI), Hi-Desert, focused on professional collaboration & local business development (3 years)
- Volunteer, Inspiration’s Edge and Theatre 29, Twentynine Palms, supporting community events & engagement (2026)

Candidate Statement for Melinda Sedmak

Special districts serve as the foundation of local governance, providing essential services that directly impact the daily lives of the communities they serve. As a Trustee for the Twentynine Palms Public Cemetery District, I have developed a strong commitment to responsible governance, transparency, and the stewardship of public resources, particularly within a small, rural district that faces unique operational and financial challenges.

Cemetery districts represent a distinct and often underrepresented sector within special districts. These districts carry a profound public trust, preserving history, honoring families, and maintaining spaces of lasting community significance. At the same time, rural districts in the High Desert and Inland Empire regions frequently operate with limited resources and minimal representation at the statewide level. I am committed to ensuring that these voices are included in broader discussions affecting special districts across California.

My professional background as a managing paralegal in estate planning, trusts, and probate has provided me with a strong foundation in legal compliance, fiduciary responsibility, and long-term planning. Combined with my experience in civic leadership and election oversight, I bring a perspective grounded in accountability, structure, and public service.

I am actively engaged with CSDA resources and intend to attend the Special District Leadership Academy in San Diego in May 2026 to complete all four governance modules and work toward earning the Certificate in Special District Governance. I am prepared to commit the time and effort required to fulfill the responsibilities of serving on the CSDA Board of Directors, including participation in meetings, committees, and statewide initiatives.

I respectfully seek the opportunity to represent the Southern Network and to contribute a thoughtful, balanced perspective that supports all special districts, particularly those in rural and underserved regions.



Altadena Libraries

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Katie Clark
Boon Lim
Justin Mahramas
Ray Ruffin
Kameelah Wilkerson

MISSION

The Altadena Library District brings PEOPLE and IDEAS together.

VISION

An Altadena where all are learning, growing, and thriving together.

MAIN LIBRARY

600 E. Mariposa Street
Altadena, CA 91001

BOB LUCAS BRANCH

2659 Lincoln Avenue
Altadena, CA 91001

June 7, 2026

RE: Support for Nikki Winslow for the 2026-2028 CSDA Seat C Southern Network

To my fellow CSDA Southern Network members,

It is my pleasure to endorse election of Nikki Winslow to the CSDA Seat C Southern Network. Since becoming Director of the Altadena Library District in 2019, Nikki has demonstrated exceptional leadership, vision, and dedication to both our district and the broader special district community. She has represented the Southern Network with distinction on the CSDA Board, and our Board, staff, and community have the utmost confidence in her leadership. The Altadena Library District Board respectfully asks for your support and vote for Nikki Winslow before the July 24, 2026 election deadline so she may continue representing the interests of special districts throughout the Southern Network.

District Director Winslow's leadership has proven invaluable as our library district recovers from the devastating Eaton Fire. As both of our properties survived the fire, she led the safe and timely reopening of library services, collaborated with the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department to staff interim camps for children displaced from their schools, joined community leaders and non-profits in spearheading Altadena recovery through the Eaton Fire Collaborative, and worked to secure the district's financial stability during recovery, building strong relationships with local and state elected officials to ensure our future budgetary needs would be preserved and backfilled.

At the same time, Nikki has continued to lead the district's major capital improvement efforts. She successfully organized and led the 2020 bond measure campaign that secured funding for the renovation and reopening of the Bob Lucas Memorial Library and the current renovation of our Main Library. The ballot measure funds were also invaluable in securing the long-term financial future and stability of the Altadena Library District, ensuring it will be a presence in the community for many years to come, and ready to serve returning and new Altadena residents.

Nikki Winslow has led under immense pressure and understands when to pivot to meet the needs of her staff, the district, and the community we serve, and this steady, strong leadership continues to carry our District forward. I am continuously impressed by her ability to balance the challenges our district faces while also maintaining active membership in our local CSDA chapter and CSDA board activities, heading professional development programs across library systems, and being active in the Altadena community beyond library district needs and truly connecting with our community and partners. She is truly committed to special districts and the work they accomplish in providing essential services to our communities. We have full confidence in backing Nikki Winslow, and believe she would be an essential asset to the CSDA Board if elected to continue serving.

Best Regards,

Trustee Kameelah Waheed Wilkerson, Board President



VOTE! **Nikki Winslow**
 Altadena Library District Director
for CSDA Board of Directors – Southern Network

My name is Nikki Winslow, and I am honored to be a candidate for the CSDA Board of Directors, representing the Southern Network.

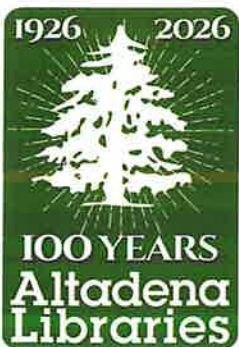
Since my appointment in November 2025, I've had the pleasure to serve with our other incredible board members who volunteer their time advocating for Special Districts. I believe deeply our Districts are essential to strengthening California communities, and my priority is to continue to advocate for policies that support sustainability, innovation, and equity for all Districts across our state.

As Director of the Altadena Library District for the past six years, I led efforts to secure sustainable funding, oversee major facility renovations, and expand access to modern, community-centered library services. I also helped guide the District and residents through the challenges of the Eaton Fire, supporting recovery efforts while ensuring the library remained a source of connection and resilience. With more than 20 years of leadership experience and advanced degrees in library science and public administration, I bring a governance approach rooted in strategic leadership, ethical decision-making, and inclusive community engagement.

Throughout my career, I've developed programs and services that expand opportunity, including ESL and citizenship training, digital resource initiatives, equitable access for diverse communities, and mentoring programs for the next generation of library leaders. As a member of the Board, I will continue to advocate for Special Districts as innovative, adaptable institutions that effectively address community needs. My experience leading ballot measures, navigating emergencies, building strong partnerships, and representing the unique perspective of library districts positions me to contribute meaningfully to the work being accomplished on the CSDA Board.

My involvement with CSDA includes leadership at the local level. As a founding member and current Vice-Chair of the Special District Association of San Gabriel Valley Chapter, I helped launch the chapter in 2024 after serving on its formation committee. I was honored to host a chapter meeting at the Altadena Main Library featuring L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger and continue to build meaningful connections among Special District staff and elected officials throughout the region.

It would be a privilege to serve a full term on the CSDA Board for 2026-2028, fostering collaboration and ensuring that the perspectives of Special Districts of all sizes and communities are represented. I will bring my experience, passion, and vision to this role, and I would be honored to earn your support.



Sincerely,

Nikki Winslow
 Altadena Library District Director



John Horst

for CSDA Board of Directors - Southern Network



Dear Fellow Special District Board Members and Community Leaders,

I am writing to respectfully ask for your support and vote for my candidacy to the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors.

Special districts are the backbone of local service in California that serve our communities through libraries, cemeteries, water systems, parks, fire protection, healthcare, or other essential public services.

Special districts—large and small--play a critical role in maintaining the quality of life for our residents. Yet too often, the voices of smaller districts can be overshadowed by larger agencies with greater staffing and resources. In my career, I have continuously stood up to the "big guy" and have found ways to make the small voice roar. I believe smaller districts deserve strong, effective representation that ensures they are heard and respected in statewide discussions and decision-making.

As a representative on the CSDA Board, I will advocate for:

- Strong representation for small and rural districts
- Fair access to funding, training, and legislative support
- Practical solutions that recognize the operational realities of smaller agencies
- Increased collaboration among districts serving diverse local needs
- Protection of local control and accountability

I want to work toward expanding access to State project funding for small districts based on the merit and community value of their projects — not simply on their size, staffing, or ability to navigate complex grant requirements.

I understand the challenges that small districts face — limited budgets, increasing regulatory demands, infrastructure needs, and the responsibility to do more with fewer resources. These challenges require leadership that listens, communicates, and works collaboratively on behalf of all districts, regardless of size.

Together, we can strengthen the future of special districts and continue delivering vital services to the communities that depend on us every day.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued service to the public.

John Horst
Director, Trabuco Canyon Water District



jhorst@tcwd.ca.gov





JASON DAFFORN

General Manager, Valley Sanitary District

Vote Jason Dafforn for CSDA Board of Directors – Southern Network

Dear CSDA Southern Network Members,

My name is Jason Dafforn, and I am excited to announce my candidacy for the CSDA Board of Directors representing the Southern Network.

Over the past several years, I have had the privilege of serving as General Manager of Valley Sanitary District in Indio, California, while also becoming deeply engaged in advocacy efforts on behalf of special districts both in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. Through this advocacy work, I have seen firsthand how important strong representation, collaboration, and relationship building are to the future of local agencies across California.

In addition to my role at Valley Sanitary District, I currently serve as President of the Special Districts Association of Riverside County (SDARC) the local affiliate of CSDA representing all types of special districts in Riverside County, I am also a member of the Desert Recreation Foundation Board of Directors, providing financial assistance to the largest recreation district in California. This commitment to local engagement has further strengthened the results of my public service and regional collaboration.



As a licensed Civil Engineer with more than 30 years of experience in the water and wastewater industry, including nearly two decades in executive leadership roles for local government agencies and special districts, I understand the operational, financial, regulatory, and workforce challenges districts are facing today. Rising costs, aging infrastructure, increasing mandates, and public expectations continue to place pressure on districts of every size and service type.

These challenges require leaders who are not only experienced in operations, but who are willing to actively advocate for special districts at the state and federal level.

Over the last few years, I have worked to build strong relationships with legislators, agency leaders, and policy makers in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. Those relationships have already produced meaningful results for Valley Sanitary District and our region. One example is the District's Recycled Water Project, which received approximately \$1.9 million in federal support through the advocacy and assistance of Senator Adam Schiff's office. That funding helps move forward a critical infrastructure project that will strengthen water sustainability and long-term resiliency for our community.

In addition to securing critical funding opportunities, I helped guide the District through a successful five-year wastewater rate adjustment process that included an extensive public outreach effort far beyond the minimum legal requirements, including community meetings, presentations, open houses, and direct engagement with residents



and stakeholders throughout our service area. Despite serving more than 90,000 residents, the Proposition 218 process concluded with only three written protests submitted, reflecting the importance of proactive communication, accountability, and building trust with the communities we serve.

I believe these types of relationships and advocacy efforts are essential for all special districts as we compete for limited funding opportunities, navigate increasing regulatory requirements, and work to deliver reliable services to the communities we serve.

My goal on the CSDA Board is simple: to be a strong and active voice for special districts throughout the Southern Network and across California. I want to help ensure districts have the representation, resources, advocacy, and support necessary to succeed in an increasingly complex environment.

I also believe Southern California districts deserve stronger representation within CSDA leadership. Our agencies face unique challenges tied to rapid growth, infrastructure demands, workforce recruitment, water reliability, affordability, and regional development. I would be proud to bring that perspective to the Board while also representing the broader interests of all special districts, regardless of size or service type.

Throughout my career, I have believed deeply in public service and the essential role special districts play in everyday life. Whether it is water, wastewater, fire protection, parks and recreation, healthcare, cemetery, irrigation, community services, or vector control districts, our agencies provide critical services that communities rely on every single day.

I am passionate about helping special districts remain strong, resilient, and supported for the future. I would be honored to earn your support and the opportunity to serve on the CSDA Board of Directors.

Thank you for your consideration.

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



*Dedicated to
Satisfying our Community's
Water Needs*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Kurt Lind, Business Manager
DATE: July 8, 2026
SUBJECT: Computerized Maintenance Management System Support Services

RECOMMENDATION

Approve a contract with LA Consulting, Inc. for \$37,200 and a 10% contingency of \$3,720 for a total authorized amount not to exceed \$40,920 to provide Computerized Maintenance Management System support services including training, program planning, performance analysis and ongoing system optimization, and authorize execution of the contract.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal #3: Be financially responsible and transparent.

Goal #6: Provide excellent customer service.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

At its March 25, 2026 meeting, the Board of Directors (Board) approved a contract with LA Consulting, Inc. (LAC) for \$20,440 and a 10% contingency of \$2,044 for a total authorized amount not to exceed \$22,484 to facilitate Mesa Water District's (Mesa Water®) Fiscal Year 2027 Work Plan Updates and perform Work Data Quality Control Services.

BACKGROUND

Mesa Water has utilized MaintStar's Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) as a core operational tool since 2008. Historically, system maintenance and annual program updates have been managed internally, with Mesa Water staff coordinating across departments to ensure the CMMS remained aligned with evolving operational needs.

As organizational demands have grown and staff workloads have increased, Mesa Water has determined that engaging a qualified external partner represents the most effective path forward. LAC brings deep institutional knowledge of the MaintStar platform, along with demonstrated expertise in public works maintenance management, making the firm uniquely well-suited to assume this responsibility.

By entrusting this work to LAC, Mesa Water staff will be better positioned to focus on core service delivery priorities, confident that annual CMMS updates and ongoing system support are being managed with the same rigor and professionalism the District expects.

DISCUSSION

LAC will provide comprehensive MaintStar CMMS support services to Mesa Water including training, program planning, performance analysis, and ongoing system optimization. The proposed engagement is structured into six primary tasks:



Task 1 — CMMS Training & Management Guidance

LAC will deliver targeted training to the Department Managers and key staff, covering both MaintStar system functionality and industry best practices. The focus will be on leveraging collected data to support informed, data-driven management decisions across planning, scheduling and performance measurement.

Task 2 — Annual Work Program & Activity Guideline Update

On an annual basis, LAC will collaborate with each District group to refresh its performance plan, accounting for changes in staffing, equipment, asset inventories and work history. Updates will encompass activity guidelines, resource requirements and all corresponding MaintStar system records.

Task 3 — Quarterly & Biweekly Performance Review Support

LAC will support Mesa Water's departments in analyzing maintenance and operational data to produce meaningful monthly and quarterly performance reports. Review sessions will address productivity, costs, workload trends and resource utilization, while also providing scheduling recommendations and guidance on building balanced monthly work programs within MaintStar.

Task 4 — Mobile Application Configuration & Training

LAC will configure and optimize MaintStar's mobile capabilities, delivering both classroom and field training. The goal is to enhance data accuracy, operational efficiency and real-time coordination between field crews and office personnel.

Task 5 — Preventive Maintenance Template Development

LAC will strengthen the District's preventive maintenance (PM) program by creating, refining and retiring PM templates and work order structures as needed. Staff will also receive guidance on independently maintaining and expanding these tools going forward.

Task 6 — Annual General CMMS Support

LAC will provide on-call consultation and general support throughout the year, assisting with scheduling procedures, system utilization, status report interpretation, process improvement and MaintStar troubleshooting as needs arise.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

In Fiscal Year 2027, \$50,000 is budgeted for CMMS support services; \$0 has been spent to date.

ATTACHMENTS

None.



*Dedicated to
Satisfying our Community's
Water Needs*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Denise Khalifa, Assistant General Manager
DATE: July 8, 2026
SUBJECT: District Officers

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Mesa Water District's Officers off-cycle, effective July 1, 2026 – December 13, 2028:

- a. Confirm Denise Khalifa as District Secretary;
- b. Confirm Andie Jacobsen as Assistant District Secretary;
- c. Appoint Calvin Hsu as District Treasurer;
- d. Confirm Kurt Lind as Assistant District Treasurer;
- e. Confirm the delegation of the same authority to the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer, as the District Secretary and District Treasurer respectively, as previously authorized and approved by the Board of Directors and as authorized by the California Water Code; and
- f. Authorize the continuance of the monthly stipends for the offices of District Secretary and District Treasurer in the amount of \$440 and a prorated stipend of \$220 per meeting for the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer.

The Executive Committee reviewed this item at its July 1, 2026 meeting and recommends Board approval.

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.
- Goal #8: Practice continual business improvement.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

At its December 8, 2016 meeting, the Board of Directors (Board) changed the review of the Appointment of District Officers to coincide with the Election of Board Officers which is conducted every two years per Resolution No. 1479 Protocols of the Board of Directors.

At its December 14, 2022 meeting, the Board confirmed the delegation of the same authority to the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer, as the District Secretary and District Treasurer respectively, as previously authorized and approved by the Board and as authorized by the California Water Code. The Board also awarded the monthly stipends for the District Secretary and District Treasurer in the amount of \$440 and prorated stipends of \$220 per meeting for the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer.



At its August 23, 2023 meeting, the Board appointed Kurt Lind as an additional Assistant District Treasurer, effective August 23, 2023; confirmed the delegation of the same authority to the Assistant District Treasurer as the District Treasurer, as previously confirmed by the Board of Directors; and authorized a prorated stipend of \$220 per meeting for the Assistant District Treasurer when acting in the role of District Treasurer, as previously authorized by the Board.

At its December 6, 2024 meeting, the Board confirmed Denise Khalifa as District Secretary; appointed Andie Jacobsen as Assistant District Secretary; confirmed Marwan Khalifa as District Treasurer; confirmed Tyler Jernigan and Kurt Lind as Assistant District Treasurers; confirmed the delegation of the same authority to the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer, as the District Secretary and District Treasurer respectively, as previously authorized and approved by the Board of Directors and as authorized by the California Water Code; and authorized the continuance of the monthly stipends for the offices of District Secretary and District Treasurer in the amount of \$500 and a prorated stipend of \$250 per meeting for the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer, effective January 1, 2025.

BACKGROUND

Since 2016, it has been the Board's practice to confirm biennially the District Officers' positions and authorize the continuance of the monthly stipends for the offices of District Secretary and District Treasurer, and the prorated stipends for the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer. These prorated stipends are awarded when the Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer are acting in the roles of the District Secretary or District Treasurer, respectively.

DISCUSSION

Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®), as a county water district, must appoint certain officers as set out in California Water Code Section 30540, and has general power to appoint assistant officers where the Board and staff shall so determine. The duties of such officers, and assistant officers, are set out in the County Water District Law and also include any duties, powers and compensation designated by the Board.

Due to recent personnel changes, staff recommends the Board consider taking action on the confirmation and appointment of District Officers on an earlier off-cycle basis. Specifically, Mesa Water has recently onboarded a new Chief Financial Officer who will assume the role of District Treasurer. The confirmation and appointment of Mesa Water's District Officers will be effective July 1, 2026 through December 13, 2028 when, at that time, the appointment of District Officers will once again coincide with the election of Board Officers on its routine two-year cycle.



FINANCIAL IMPACT

The stipends in the amount of \$5,280 per year each for the District Secretary and District Treasurer, totaling \$10,500, are included in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. The Assistant District Secretary and Assistant District Treasurer stipends are estimated at a combined \$5,280 in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget; funds will only be expended when warranted.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

REPORTS:

7. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

REPORTS:

8. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS



*Dedicated to
Satisfying our Community's
Water Needs*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Calvin Hsu, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
DATE: July 8, 2026
SUBJECT: Zero Usage Accounts

RECOMMENDATION

This item is provided for information.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal #3: Be financially responsible and transparent.
Goal #6: Provide excellent customer service.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION/DISCUSSION

At its July 15, 2014 meeting, the Engineering & Operations Committee requested this report be provided on an annual basis.

DISCUSSION

To complete this annual report, staff extracted from the billing system the following:

- Installation dates greater than one-year
- Meter reads equal to zero
- Consumption equal to zero
- Accounts that are active

As of July 8, 2026, there are 23 accounts that meet the above criteria. Collectively, the 23 accounts cover a period ranging from 2014 through 2026. During this time, the meters were regularly checked for proper functionality. As a standard Customer Services policy, these customers have been contacted to notify them of their zero consumption on the meter. Previous communication with zero usage account customers has determined that they are aware of the non-usage on the active meter and have typically elected to maintain the account as active. Staff will continue to provide annual updates to the Board of Directors regarding accounts having zero usage.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

**DIRECTORS' REPORTS (AB 1234) PER CA GOVERNMENT
CODE SECTION 53232.3(D)**

In accordance with CA Government Code Section 53232.3(d), the following report identifies the meetings for which Mesa Water Directors received expense reimbursement.

Jim Atkinson

Meetings Attended

Reimbursement Date:	Description, Date
6/25/26	ACWA Spring Conference, 5/4 – 5/7
6/25/26	Law of the Colorado River Annual SuperConference, 5/17 – 5/21

Fred R. Bockmiller, P.E.

Meetings Attended

Reimbursement Date:	Description, Date
N/A	

Marice H. DePasquale

Meetings Attended

Reimbursement Date:	Description, Date
N/A	

Shawn Dewane

Meetings Attended

Reimbursement Date:	Description, Date
6/11/26	Nevada Governor Joe Lombardo Event, 5/26

James R. Fisler

Meetings Attended

Reimbursement Date:	Description, Date
N/A	