



ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT ELECTS OFFICERS AND WELCOMES FAMILIAR FACES TO ITS BOARD

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif. (December 27, 2016) — The Orange County Water District (OCWD; the District) Board of Directors elected its 2017 executive officers on December 21. Officers include President Denis R. Bilodeau, P.E., First Vice President Philip L. Anthony, and Second Vice President Shawn Dewane. The board also welcomed back Santa Ana’s newly appointed member to the board, Vicente Sarmiento, who previously served on the OCWD Board from 2013 to 2015, Jordan Brandman, reappointed by the city of Anaheim, and re-elected board members Cathy Green and Roger C. Yoh, P.E. The 10-member board of directors is responsible for protecting the Orange County Groundwater Basin which requires extensive planning and investments to address short and long-term water supply challenges and environmental issues in north and central Orange County.

Newly elected President, Denis Bilodeau represents division 2, which includes the cities of Orange, Villa Park and parts of Tustin. President Bilodeau previously served as OCWD Board President from 2002 to 2004 and has served on the board for 16 years since 2000. Most recently, President Bilodeau served as the District’s first vice president in 2016. As a long-time resident of Orange, he served as a councilmember of the city of Orange from 2006 to 2014. During his time in public service, he has also served on multiple committees and commissions throughout Orange County, including the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Orange County Waste Management Commission, Orange County Sanitation District, Orange County Water Task Force, and the Los Angeles and San Gabriel River Watershed Taskforce. In addition, President Bilodeau and fellow engineers from OCWD and the Orange County Sanitation District were honored with the Saïd Khoury Award for Engineering Construction Excellence in 2009 for their contributions to designing and building the Groundwater Replenishment System.

“I am honored to serve again as president of the board,” said Denis Bilodeau, “Voting for the District to move forward with building the Groundwater Replenishment System has been one of my

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proudest moments, and now, to be president again as we plan the final expansion of this innovative project, it gives me great satisfaction to see how our board continues to make meaningful decisions that have groundbreaking impacts for the region and other communities around the globe.”

Philip Anthony, first vice president, has been a member of the board of directors since 1981 and is the board’s longest standing member. Director Anthony served as president from 1993 through 1995 and again from 2005 to 2007. He represents division 4, which includes Los Alamitos, Seal Beach and portions of six additional Orange County cities, including Huntington Beach, where he resides. Second Vice President, Shawn Dewane, was elected to the board in 2010 to represent division 7, which includes Costa Mesa and parts of Fountain Valley, Irvine, Newport Beach and Tustin. He was board president from 2013 through 2014. Director Dewane is the current chair of CalDesal, an organization that advocates for clean, safe reliable drinking water for California through environmentally responsible water desalination and salinity management.

The OCWD Board of Directors is comprised of 10 directors. Seven directors are elected from divisions composed of cities located throughout north and central Orange County and three members are appointed to represent the cities of Anaheim, Fullerton and Santa Ana. Vicente Sarmiento, an attorney, was recently reappointed by the city of Santa Ana to the OCWD Board of Directors and previously served as board member from January 2013 to February 2015. In 2007, Director Sarmiento was appointed to the Santa Ana City Council and was recently re-elected to serve his third term on the council in November 2016. Director Sarmiento also chairs Santa Ana’s Development and Transportation, and Legislation Committee and is a member of the Finance, Economic Development & Technology Committee.

Jordan Brandman, a district director to the Majority Leader of the California State Assembly, was also recently reappointed to the OCWD Board to represent the city of Anaheim. Director Brandman was first appointed to OCWD in 2015 and served as a councilmember in Anaheim from 2012 to 2016. Previously, Director Brandman also served as a trustee of the Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD), one of the largest school districts in the state of California, and as chairman of the Anaheim Public Utilities Board (APU).

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In addition to the newly elected officers and reappointed members, four incumbent board members who won their reelection bids in November were also sworn in at the December 21 meeting. These board members include President Bilodeau, First Vice President Anthony, Past President Cathy Green of division 6, and Roger Yoh of division 3.

Past President Cathy Green has served on the board since 2010 and represents portions of Fountain Valley and Huntington Beach. Prior to Director Green's service on OCWD's Board, she was elected to two consecutive terms on the Huntington Beach City Council where she served two terms as mayor. Director Green has been involved as a council liaison and committee member on many city boards, commissions and committees. Director Yoh was first elected to the board in 2004 and is a registered professional engineer, a project management professional and is currently employed with the California Department of Transportation. He represents the cities of Buena Park, La Palma, Placentia, Yorba Linda and parts of Cypress.

The remaining 2017 board members are Dina L. Nguyen, Esq., division 1, a resident of Garden Grove; Stephen R. Sheldon, division 5, a resident of Newport Beach; and Jan M. Flory, Esq., division 10, a resident of Fullerton. Biographies and photographs of the OCWD Board of Directors are available at <http://www.ocwd.com/about/service-area-board-of-directors/>

ABOUT OCWD

OCWD manages the vast Orange County Groundwater Basin which provides 75% of the water demands of 2.4 million people in north and central Orange County. The District is committed to enhancing Orange County's groundwater quality and reliability in an environmentally friendly and economical manner. The following cities utilize the groundwater basin: Anaheim, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, Santa Ana, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, Westminster and Yorba Linda. For more information about the Orange County Water District, call (714) 378-3200 or visit www.ocwd.com.

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