

Milestone Anniversary Celebrated At Spring Conference

The 2019 Spring Conference was held at the Marriott Hotel and newly renovated Convention Center in Monterey. Throughout the conference, the JPIA celebrated its 40th anniversary with the theme of strength • stability • partnership, celebrating 40 years. During the first day of the conference, there were two Program Committee meetings (Property and Workers’ Compensation), followed by the Executive Committee meeting.

During the Pre-Board Meeting Lunch, JPIA CEO Andy Sells gave a presentation on the JPIA’s history.

During the Board of Directors’ meeting that afternoon, there were two elections held. The first one was the Executive Committee election, which filled four positions; two of which were currently vacant.

After the final results of the Executive Committee election, there was an election to fill two positions on the California Water Insurance Fund board (an ACWA JPIA Captive Insurance Company). See the Election Results article on page 6 for more details.

The day concluded with a 40th anniversary reception celebration which was generously sponsored by Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.; Barber & Bauermeister; bswift; Cohen & Burge, LLP; Donahue Davies, LLP; Jacobson Markham, LLP; Law Offices of Robert Gokoo; Meyers Fozi & Dwork, LLP; Occu-Med; Rankin Stock Heaberlin Oneal; and VSP.

On Tuesday morning, the two sessions presented were specifically designed for board members.

The first session was “40 Years of Partnership, Good



Governance and Success.” Brent Ives of BHI Management Consulting provided an experienced perspective on what boards can do to continue the long and successful history of elected decision makers who work together to best serve the public and how they can support their professional staff in successfully carrying out their mission today and into the future.

The second session “Differences That Make a Difference,” was presented by Ann Gergen, Executive Director

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OFFICERS: President: E.G. "Jerry" Gladbach, Santa Clarita Valley WA; Vice President: Tom Cuquet, South Sutter WD; Chief Executive Officer: Walter "Andy" Sells

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Chair: E.G. "Jerry" Gladbach, Santa Clarita Valley WA; Vice Chair: Tom Cuquet, South Sutter WD; Fred Bockmiller, Mesa WD; David Drake, Rincon del Diablo MWD; Brent Hastey, Yuba CWA; Steven LaMar, ACWA Vice President; Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley WCD; J. Bruce Rupp, Humboldt Bay MWD; Kathy Tiegs, Cucamonga Valley WD

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Chair: E.G. "Jerry" Gladbach, Santa Clarita Valley WA; Vice Chair: Tom Cuquet, South Sutter WD; Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley WCD

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE: Chair Kevin Phillips, Paradise ID; Vice Chair: Carrie Corder, Cucamonga Valley WD; Marlene Kelleher, Vista ID; Suha Kilic, Pebble Beach CSD; Dennis Michum, Glenn-Colusa ID; Steve Ruetgers, Kern CWA; Jim Smith, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Chair: J. Bruce Rupp, Humboldt Bay

MWD; Vice Chair: Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley WCD; Bette Boatman, Contra Costa WD; Stephanie Dosier, Orange CWD; Karen Gish, Amador WA; Nancy Hussmann, South Tahoe PUD; James Linthicum, Three Valleys MWD; Sandy Olson, Walnut Valley WD; one vacancy

LIABILITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Chair: Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley WCD; Vice Chair: J. Bruce Rupp, Humboldt Bay MWD; Terri Daly, Yuba WA; Paul Dorey, Vista ID; Marc Limas, Alta ID; S.R. "Al" Lopez, Western MWD; Tammy Rudock, Mid-Peninsula Water District; Jace Schwarm, San Dieguito WD; one vacancy

PROPERTY PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Chair: Tom Cuquet, South Sutter WD; Vice Chair: Kathy Tiegs, Cucamonga Valley WD; Tom Coleman, Rowland WD; Mark Gilkey, Tulare Lake Basin WSD; Shawn Huckaby, Fair Oaks WD; Theresa Lee, Walnut Valley WD; Ed Muzik, Hi-Desert WD; Eugene West, Camrosa WD; one vacancy

WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Chair: David Drake, Rincon Del Diablo MWD; Vice Chair: Tom Cuquet, South Sutter WD; Scott Alcantara, San Juan Water District; Dennis Erdman, South Coast WD; Rick Gilmore, Byron-Bethany ID; Traci Hart, Soquel Creek WD; Robert Kunde, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD; Eva Plajzer, Rancho California WD; Scott Quady, Calleguas MWD

RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: Chair: Kathy Tiegs, Cucamonga Valley WD; Vice Chair: David Drake Rincon Del Diablo MWD; Fred Bockmiller, Mesa WD; Victor Fortenberry, Solano ID; Ron Kilburg, El Dorado ID; Bob Kuhn, San Gabriel Basin WQA; Gaby Olson, Valley Center MWD; Tanesha Welch, Madera ID; Dan York, Sacramento Suburban WD

Member Spot Light – Alameda County Water Agency And El Dorado Irrigation District

From the Bay Area to the Sierra Foothills, JPIA's expansion of membership into its suite of pooled programs continues! The JPIA is celebrating its newest members, Alameda County Water Agency and El Dorado Irrigation District into the pooled Property and Liability Programs.

Beginning in the Bay Area, in January 2019, Alameda CWA issued an extensive Request for Proposal (RFP) for its property and casualty products (i.e., general liability, property, and workers' compensation coverage). The JPIA replied to the RFP, earned an interview, and became the successful bidder. The District now participates in the JPIA's three pooled programs, along with dental and vision coverage from the Employee Benefits Program.

Since its 1914 inception, Alameda has grown in depth of service and influence in the San Francisco-East Bay area. The District was created to

protect and be responsible for the Niles Cone groundwater basin. Jumping forward to 2019, 230 full-time employees are employed to provide care and reliability to the water systems, maintain reasonable pricing, and be stewards of Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area which is used for recharging the aquifers of the Niles Cone, just to name a few of the District's core activi-

This "Smart Growth" initiative is indeed contributing to JPIA's continued success and growth.

ties. Alameda CWA serves 83,000 customers throughout the cities of Fremont, Newark, and Union City.

Now, traveling to the North Sierra Foothills where El Dorado Irrigation District is located, it was 1925 when El Dorado's story began. The El Dorado County residents voted to create the District to protect their water supply and maintain reasonable water rates. Jim Abercrombie, General Manger, recently stated "the District has transformed from a supplier of agricultural water, to a complex entity with five lines of business: water treatment and

delivery, wastewater collection and treatment, recycled water production and delivery, hydroelectric generation, and recreations services" (The Waterfront March-April 2019).

The District has 220 plus employees, over 1,500 miles of pipeline, and services more than 100,000 residents and multiple businesses.

El Dorado ID's expansion now includes the JPIA pooled Liability and Property Programs. It has been participating in the Workers' Compensation Program since 2007.

Alameda CWA and El Dorado ID fall into the top tier of the largest JPIA members. This "Smart Growth" initiative is indeed contributing to JPIA's continued success and growth.

Written by: Karen Thesing, Director of Insurance Services

Member Photos

The JPIA's Art Committee would like to thank all of the members who sent photos for use in various projects throughout the JPIA. The submitted photos can be seen in the hallways of the JPIA office building in Roseville and have also been cycled frequently on its lobby display monitor. With the New Year, the Art Committee will be selecting new photos to display, so members are asked to send any admirable photos (high resolution digital format) to Ethan Larson at el Larson@acwajpia.com and include a short description of the photos in order to understand their content. Some ideas for photos may include aerial photos, facilities, landscapes, disasters, and historic photos.

2019 Spring Conference In Monterey

1. Seth Cole, Senior Vice President, of Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. gave a report at the Property Program Committee meeting.
2. JPIA staff members Jennifer Nogosek (front left) and Robert Greenfield (2nd from right) with some of the reception sponsors: L/R Robert Davies, Donahue Davies, LLP; Bob Gokoo, Law Offices of Robert Gokoo; Linda Bauermeister, Barber & Bauermeister; Jeff Oneal, Rankin Stock Heaberlin Oneal; Neal Meyers, Meyers Fozi & Dwork, LLP; and Richard Jacobson, Jacobson Markham, LLP.
3. Workers' Compensation Committee meeting: Vice Chair, Tom Cuquet of South Sutter WD; Chair, David Drake of Rincon Del Diablo MWD; and JPIA CEO, Andy Sells.
4. Ann Gergen, Executive Director for AGRIP (Association of Governmental Risk Pools), conducted the session, "Differences That Make a Difference."
5. JPIA General Counsel, Robert Greenfield, conducting the Sexual Harassment Prevention class.
6. Brent Ives of BHI Management Consulting conducted the session, "40 Years of Partnership, Good Governance and Success."
7. Approximately 130 members attended the JPIA's Pre-Board meeting lunch.
8. Attendees at the Property Program and Workers' Compensation Program Committee meetings.
9. JPIA continued its anniversary celebration at its booth in the ACWA exhibit hall in the newly renovated Monterey Convention Center.
10. JPIA CEO, Andy Sells, addresses the attendees at the Tuesday morning seminars.
11. It is a full house for the Monday morning Program Committee meetings.
12. Karen Thesing, JPIA Director of Insurance Services, addresses the members at the Board of Directors' meeting.





Milestone Anniversary Celebrated At Spring Conference

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for AGRiP (Association of Governmental Risk Pools). In her session, Ann discussed governance and leadership differences that can make a difference in water district operations.

In the afternoon, it was a full house for the “Sexual Harassment Prevention for Board Members & Managers” session, which was presented by Robert Greenfield, JPIA General Counsel.

JPIA Staff and Executive Committee members were on hand at the JPIA’s exhibit booth on Tuesday evening, Wednesday, and Thursday to meet with members and other conference attendees.

Written by: Sylvia Robinson, Publications & Web Editor



JPIA Staff Members: Ethan Larson and Bobbette Wells.

JPIA Election Results

During the Board of Directors’ meeting in Monterey, an Executive Committee election was held to fill four positions, two of which were currently vacant.

Incumbents, E.G. “Jerry” Gladbach of Santa Clarita Valley WA, and Bruce Rupp of Humboldt Bay MWD, were both re-elected to the Executive Committee for another four years.

Jerry Gladbach has been JPIA Board President since 2010 and a member of the Executive Committee since 2006. Though as ACWA Vice President, he also served on the Executive Committee in 2002 and 2003. Jerry is Chair of the JPIA’s Personnel Committee.

Bruce Rupp has served on the Executive Committee since 2015. Currently, he chairs the JPIA’s Employee Benefits Program Committee and has been a member of that Committee for seven years. He is also Vice Chair of the JPIA’s Liability Program Committee.

Newly elected to the Executive Committee were Brent Hasteley of Yuba CWA and Fred Bockmiller of Mesa WD. They also have four-year terms.

Brent Hasteley is currently the ACWA President; his two-year term for that position will conclude in December 2019. As ACWA Vice President, Brent also served on the JPIA’s Executive Committee in 2016 and 2017.

Fred Bockmiller has been a Mesa WD Director since 1996 and has served as its representative to the JPIA’s

Board of Directors for 13 years. He has been a member of the JPIA’s Risk Management Committee since 2008.

The second election at the Board meeting was to fill two positions on the newly created California Water Insurance Fund (an ACWA JPIA Captive Insurance Company). The other positions of this newly formed seven-member Board are made up of four Executive Committee members (Tom Cuquet of South Sutter WD,



Jerry Gladbach
Santa Clarita VWA



Bruce Rupp
Humboldt Bay MWD



Brent Hasteley
Yuba CWA



Fred Bockmiller
Mesa WD

David Drake of Rincon Del Diablo MWD, Melody McDonald of San Bernardino Valley WCD, and Kathy Tiegs of Cucamonga Valley WD) and a resident of Utah (the attorney retained to set up the captive). The two Board members at large who were elected to fill the last two positions are Andrew Morris of Santa Rosa Regional Resources Authority and Scott Quady of Calleguas Municipal Water District. For this first term, the positions will be filled for three years each. After that, they will be two-year terms.

Written by: Sylvia Robinson, Publications & Web Editor

40 Years And Going Strong

It's not often that an organization gets to celebrate 40 years of service to its customers, but that is exactly what JPIA is doing this year. It is JPIA's ruby anniversary. Back in 1979, it was tough for public entities to obtain liability insurance, so water agencies across California formed the JPIA to provide risk sharing pools. What started with 83 members in the Liability Program has become over 400 members in Liability, Property, Workers' Compensation and Benefits Programs today. And 90 percent of the original members are still in the pool.

As part of the 40th anniversary celebration, JPIA's CEO presented A Look Back during the Pre-Board meeting lunch at conference in Monterey last month. Highlighting noteworthy events, Walter "Andy" Sells shared when each Program began, and also how staffing was increased over time and in certain specialties, to meet the needs of the members. He also discussed the tech-

nology and coverage changes made over the years to offer members easy access and up-to-date coverages. All in attendance at the conference were treated to a historic slideshow of board and staff members over the years, along with special 40th anniversary favors.

JPIA has produced a special video that captured the thoughts of spring conference attendees regarding their experiences with the Authority. This video will be unveiled at the Fall Conference in San Diego during Monday's Pre-Board meeting lunch. In addition, attendees will receive a variety of new favors specially chosen to celebrate JPIA's successful 40 years serving the water industry. Everyone should plan to attend the Fall Conference and help JPIA continue the ruby-themed celebration.

Written by: Patricia Slaven, Director of Human Resources and Administration

Hellos And Good-byes At JPIA

As water agencies have likewise experienced, JPIA recently welcomed a new staff member while saying goodbye to an existing staff member. January 4, 2019, was the first day of the year back at work after the holiday season, and was day one at JPIA for Thor Benzing, Senior Risk Control Advisor. Thor brought a strong background in Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Control to the JPIA membership. He most recently worked for Google as the Regional Safety Manager for North America where he was responsible for 85 sites throughout the continent. Prior to that, he worked for the University of California Office of the President in Safety and Training. As if those two positions weren't interesting enough, he also worked as the Director of Ground Safety for Silver State Helicopters, where he achieved his license to fly helicopters.

Thor will work with members throughout northern and central California and cover from Humboldt to Sacramento and Monterey. He has a passion for training and will use his extensive knowledge in that arena to help JPIA update many training classes.

Thor lives with his wife Ebony in Sacramento and enjoys wine tasting, cooking, and collecting vintage firearms. Members are encouraged to give Thor a hearty welcome and ask him about his time at Google – he has lots of interesting stories to tell.

Recently, JPIA also said good-bye to another member of the Risk Management team. Carol Barake, Manager of the team, retired in April after two and one half years with JPIA. Carol brought new ideas into play and revised many processes to better serve JPIA members. Once she settles into retirement, she plans to spend time traveling with her husband and volunteering. Time moves on and thankfully, good people continue to make their mark on JPIA.

Written by: Patricia Slaven, Director of Human Resources and Administration



Thor Benzing, Senior Risk Control Advisor.



Carol Barake, retired Risk Control Manager.

\$4.5 Million In Refund Checks Distributed To Members

In March and April of 2019, the JPIA distributed \$4.5 million in refunds to approximately 193 of its members.

Since the establishment of the Rate Stabilization Fund, more than 20 years ago, the JPIA has refunded over \$50 million to its members.

Many of this year's refunds were delivered in person by members of the Executive Committee and management staff. Here are some of those presentations.



1



2



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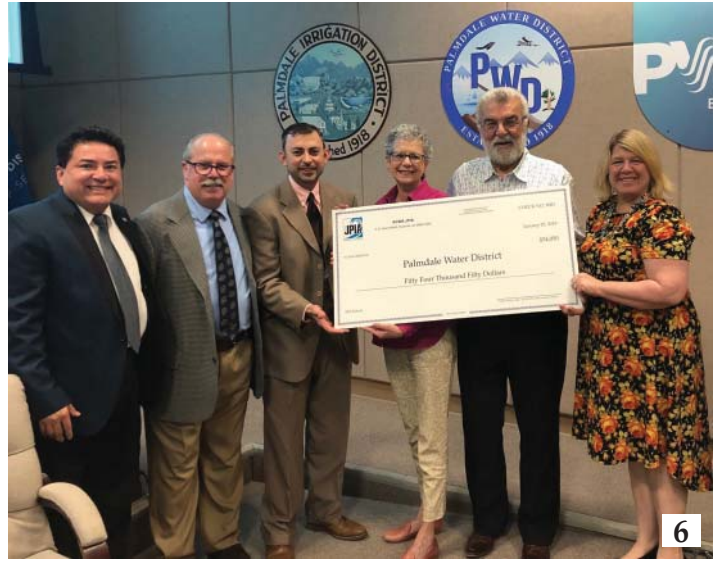
1. Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
2. Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
3. Calaveras County Water District
4. Moulton Niguel Water District
5. Reclamation District 108
6. Palmdale Water District
7. San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
8. Desert Water Agency
9. Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
10. Stockton East Water District



4



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10

Refund Check Presentations

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11. Ramona Municipal Water District
12. Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District
13. Solano Irrigation District
14. Kings River Conservation District
15. Sweetwater Authority
16. Orange County Water District
17. East Contra Costa Irrigation District
18. Vallecitos Water District
19. Reclamation District 2047
20. Humboldt Community Services District
21. Cucamonga Valley Water District
22. Rancho California Water District
23. Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District



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16



JPIA Services & Resources

Whether districts are founding members or recently joined the JPIA, they can use the checklist below to insure that they are utilizing all of the benefits available through the JPIA.

Risk Management Services

- On-site visits for loss/risk assessments, accident investigation, and staff training
- Assistance developing, implementing, and maintaining safety policies and programs
- Office and field ergonomic evaluations
- Risk transfer training & consultations

Training Resources

- On-site, local, and regional classes; annual training conferences
- Online training resources, including live and recorded water-industry specific webinars
- Training library with over 600 DVDs for check out
- Professional Development Program Certifications in Human Resources, Operations, and Supervisor Basics

Human Resources Services

- Employment Practices Hotline, including free legal consultations
- Online resources, including job descriptions, forms, sample policies and much more
- Regional HR group meetings and networking forums
- One-on-one consultations and handbook reviews
- Occu-Med, Inc. pre-employment physicals and fit-for-duty services

Employee Benefit Services

- Direct member advocacy for employees when they have questions or claim issues
- Assistance in compliance with legal requirements
- Electronic enrollment system, allowing employee self-enrollment, district oversight, and robust reporting

ACWA JPIA Mission Statement

The ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority is dedicated to consistently and cost effectively providing the broadest possible affordable insurance coverages and related services to its member agencies.