

CEO BULLETIN



To: Board of Directors
From: Norma J. Camacho, CEO

Week of February 14 – February 20, 2020

Board Executive Limitation Policy EL-7:

The Board Appointed Officers shall inform and support the Board in its work. Further, a BAO shall 1) inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established and 2) report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.

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1. Association of California Water Agencies' Website on Voluntary Agreements

A coalition of organizations, including federal, state and local water and irrigation districts, along with farmers, have united behind comprehensive plans called Voluntary Agreements for protecting the Bay-Delta from further environmental harm, while providing adequate water supplies for farms and cities. The Association of California Water Agencies has created a website with information on the Voluntary Agreements. The site includes links to related resources including key documents on the effort from the California Natural Resources Agency as well as links to information on many of the habitat improvement projects being proposed by water user participants. The site also contains links to recent news coverage and answers to frequently asked questions, along with a list of participants and supporters.

The website can be found here: <https://voluntaryagreements.org/>

For further information, please contact Jerry De La Piedra at (408) 630-2257.

2. Governor Reappoints Sean Maguire to State Water Resources Control Board

On February 11, 2020, Governor Newsom reappointed Sean Maguire, 38, of Carmichael, to the State Water Resources Control Board, where he has served as a member since 2018. Maguire, a registered civil engineer, held multiple positions at the California State Water Resources Control

Board from 2015 to 2018, and at Kennedy/Jenks Consultants from 2003 to 2015. This appointment requires confirmation by the California Senate which will take up the appointment later this year. Maguire, a Democrat, may continue to serve on the Board until confirmed. The compensation for the position is \$159,068.

For further information, please contact Rachael Gibson at (408) 630-2884.

3. Highlighting Valley Water's efforts to improve the environment and fish habitat.

Valley Water developed a plan to highlight the good news regarding the work Valley Water does to help improve the environment and fish habitat. Valley Water has been actively sharing videos and projects on social media, Valley Water's website and earned media in local publications.

Examples of recent posts and media coverage include:

- A video on social media about Steelhead Trout being spotted by a Valley Water camera in the Guadalupe River.
Link: <https://www.facebook.com/SCVWD/videos/2876246329063222/>
- A board column by Director LeZotte on the Almaden Lake Improvement Project, with an emphasis on the environmental benefits, was published by the Mercury News, Almaden Times and on Valleywater.org.
Link: <https://www.mercurynews.com/2020/02/14/almaden-lake-project-will-help-the-environment/>
- Staff posted a video on social media about a lamprey being spotted by a Valley Water camera in the Guadalupe River.
Link: <https://www.facebook.com/SCVWD/videos/437969016927127/>

Valley Water will continue to look for more opportunities to share these types of stories on social media, Valleywater.org and with local media.

For further information, please contact Rick Callender at (408) 630-2017.

4. Water Treatment, Distribution, and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Systems Infrastructure Planning Outreach

In accordance with Board Policy E-2 to ensure there is a reliable, clean water supply, and in alignment with Board priorities of asset management, Water Utility is looking at strategies for long term planning of the development and implementation of water treatment, distribution, and SCADA systems infrastructure projects. Towards that end, Valley Water is embarking on an outreach effort to gather planning information from other water utility agencies and experienced consultants. Valley Water plans to outreach to other agencies to learn about their infrastructure planning efforts. Valley Water also plans to issue a request for information (RFI) to consultants with relevant expertise to learn about the infrastructure planning projects they have completed, their project management strategies, and their project delivery methods. The information collected will be used as a benchmark for planning our own facilities projects.

For further information, please contact Bhavani Yerrapotu at (408) 630-2735.

5. Valley Water Upgrades Personal AlertGPS Safety Devices

For select field staff, Valley Water has been using AlertGPS Safety Wearables for just over three years now. AlertGPS Safety Wearables are small electronic safety devices that are similar in size to a pager. If a worker ever feels unsafe, threatened or is injured, they can simply press the SOS button on the device for immediate assistance. The SOS alert triggers a 2-way call to a 24/7 monitoring center where there are trained dispatchers to assess and dispatch emergency help if needed. Additionally, if a worker is lost, visiting an unfamiliar neighborhood, or is walking to their vehicle late at night, they can press the SOS button and speak directly with an agent. The agent will stay on the line until the worker confirms all is well or dispatch help if needed. Another use for the SOS button is if a worker witnesses an accident or any other crisis while on the job, they can simply press the SOS button and get help on the scene immediately. The device also has GPS locate capability that pinpoints the location of the employee upon pressing the SOS button.

AlertGPS Safety Wearables recently added new technical features to the device, and Valley Water has replaced all older versions with the new device. The new features include a Personal Alarm button and an Automatic Fall Detection feature. If a worker feels threatened and wants to summon others nearby for help, the worker can press the Personal Alarm button on the Device to initiate a loud local alarm. The AlertGPS's fall detection feature senses when a worker falls. If the worker fails to respond after receiving an audible fall detection alert from the device, a call is automatically initiated into AlertGPS' Monitoring Center and the dispatchers will attempt to contact the employee or automatically summon help if unresponsive.

For further information, please contact Tina Yoke at (408) 630-2385.

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