

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 3, 2021

To: ACWA REGION 5 MEMBER AGENCY PRESIDENTS AND GENERAL MANAGERS
(sent via e-mail)

From: ACWA REGION 5 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- **Piret Harmon**, Scotts Valley Water District
- **Brian Lockwood**, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
- **Robert McDonald**, Carpinteria Valley Water District

The Region 5 Nominating Committee is looking for ACWA members who are interested in leading the direction of ACWA Region 5 for the 2022-2023 term. The Nominating Committee is currently seeking candidates for the Region 5 Board, which is comprised of Chair, Vice Chair and up to five Board Member positions.

The leadership of ACWA's ten geographical regions is integral to the leadership of the Association as a whole. The Chair and Vice Chair of Region 5 serve on ACWA's Statewide Board of Directors and recommend all committee appointments for Region 5. The members of the Region 5 Board determine the direction and focus of region issues and activities. Additionally, they support the fulfillment of ACWA's goals on behalf of members and serve as a key role in ACWA's grassroots outreach efforts.

If you, or someone within your agency, are interested in serving in a leadership role within ACWA by becoming a Region 5 Board Member, please familiarize yourself with the [Role of the Regions](#) and Responsibilities; the [Election Timeline](#); and the [Region 5 Rules and Regulations](#) and complete the following steps:

- **Complete the attached Region Board Candidate Nomination Form [HERE](#)**
- **Obtain a Resolution of Support from your agency's Board of Directors** (Sample Resolution [HERE](#))
- **Submit the requested information to ACWA as indicated by Wednesday, June 30, 2021**

The Region 5 Nominating Committee will announce their recommended slate by July 31, 2021. On August 2, 2021, the election will begin with ballots sent to General Managers and Board Presidents. One ballot per agency will be counted. The election will be completed on September 30, 2021. On October 4, 2021, election results will be announced. The newly elected Region 5 Board Members will begin their two-year term of service on January 1, 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Regional Affairs Representative Jennifer Rotz at JenniferR@acwa.com or (916) 441-4545.

ACWA Regions provide the grassroots support to advance ACWA's legislative and regulatory agenda.

Background

As a result of ACWA's 1993 strategic planning process, known as Vision 2000, ACWA modified its governance structure from one that was based on sections to a regional-based configuration. Ten regions were established to provide geographic balance and to group agencies with similar interests.

Primary Charge of Regions

- To provide a structure where agencies can come together and discuss / resolve issues of mutual concern and interest and based on that interaction, provide representative input to the ACWA board.
- To assist the Outreach Task Force in building local grassroots support for the ACWA Outreach Program in order to advance ACWA's legislative and regulatory priorities as determined by the ACWA Board and the State Legislative, Federal Affairs or other policy committees.
- To provide a forum to educate region members on ACWA's priorities and issues of local and statewide concern.
- To assist staff with association membership recruitment at the regional level.
- To recommend specific actions to the ACWA Board on local, regional, state and federal issues as well as to recommend endorsement for various government offices and positions.

Region chairs and vice chairs, with support from their region boards, provide the regional leadership to fulfill this charge.

Note: Individual region boards CANNOT take positions, action or disseminate communication on issues and endorsements without going through the ACWA Board structure.

GENERAL DUTIES / RESPONSIBILITIES FOR REGION OFFICERS

Region Chair

- Serves as a member of the ACWA Board of Directors at bimonthly meetings at such times and places as the Board may determine. The Chair will also call at least two Region membership meetings to be held at each of the ACWA Conferences and periodic Region Board meetings.
- Serves as a member of ACWA's Outreach Program, and encourages region involvement. Appoints Outreach Captain to help lead outreach effort within the region.
- Presides over all region activities and ensures that such activities promote and support accomplishment of ACWA's Goals.
- Makes joint recommendations to the ACWA President regarding regional appointments to all ACWA committees.
- Appoints representatives in concurrence of the region board, to serve on the region's nominating committee with the approval of the region board.
- Facilitates communication from the region board and the region membership to the ACWA board and staff.

Region Vice Chair

- Serves as a member of the ACWA Board of Directors at bimonthly meetings at such times and places as the Board may determine. The Vice Chair will also participate in at least two Region membership meetings to be held at each of the ACWA Conferences and periodic Region Board meetings.
- Performs duties of the Region Chair in the absence of the chair.
- Serves as a member of ACWA's Outreach Program, and encourages region involvement.
- Makes joint recommendations to the ACWA president regarding regional appointments to all ACWA committees.

Region Board Member

- Participate in at least two Region membership meetings to be held at each of the ACWA Conferences and periodic Region Board meetings.
- Supports program planning and activities for the region.
- Actively participates and encourages region involvement in ACWA's Outreach Program.
- May serve as alternate for the chair and/or vice chair in their absence (if appointed) to represent the region to the ACWA Board.

ACWA Region 5 Rules & Regulations

Each region shall organize and adopt rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and affairs not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation or bylaws of the Association (ACWA Bylaw V, 6.).

Officers

Region officers must be a local agency board member.

The chair shall appoint a secretary to the Board if one is deemed necessary.

Attendance

If a region chair or vice chair is no longer allowed to serve on the Board of Directors due to his / her attendance, the region board shall appoint from the existing region board a new region officer. (ACWA Policy & Guideline Q, 1.)

If a region chair or vice chair misses three consecutive region board / membership meetings, the same process shall be used to backfill the region officer position. (ACWA Policy & Guideline Q, 1.)

If a region board member has three consecutive unexcused absences from a region board meeting or general membership business meeting, the region board will convene to discuss options for removal of the inactive board member. If the vacancy causes the board to fail to meet the minimum requirement of five board members, the region must fill the vacancy according to its rules and regulations. (ACWA Policy & Guideline Q, 3.)

Vacancy

The vice chair position shall automatically ascend to the chair position in the event that a vacancy occurs in the chair position during the regular term cycle.

Elections

All nominations received for the region chair, vice chair and board positions must be accompanied by a resolution of support from each sponsoring member agency, signed by an authorized representative of the Board of Directors. Only one individual may be nominated from a given agency to run for election to a region board. Agencies with representatives serving on the nominating committees should strive not to submit nominations for the region board from their agency. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 2.) Election ballots will be e-mailed to ACWA member agency general managers and presidents.

The nominating committee shall consist of three to five members.

In an effort to preserve objectivity during the nominating committee process, candidates other than nominating committee members shall be nominated for election.

The nominating committee should pursue qualified members within the region to run for the region board, and should consider geographic diversity, agency size and focus in selecting a slate.

See the current region election timeline for specific dates.

Endorsements

ACWA, as a statewide organization, may endorse potential nominees and nominees for appointment to local, regional, and statewide commissions and boards. ACWA's regions may submit a recommendation for consideration and action to the ACWA Board of Directors to endorse a potential nominee or nominee for appointment to a local, regional or statewide commission or board. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 3.)

Committee Recommendations & Representation

All regions are given equal opportunity to recommend representatives of the region for appointment to a standing or regular committee of the Association. If a region fails to provide full representation on all ACWA committees, those committee slots will be left open for the remainder of the term or until such time as the region designates a representative to complete the remainder of the term. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 4. A.)

At the first region board / membership meeting of the term, regions shall designate a representative serving on each of the standing and regular committees to serve as the official reporter to and from the committee on behalf of the region to facilitate input and communication. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 4. B.)

Tours

ACWA may develop and conduct various tours for the regions. All tour attendees must sign a "release and waiver" to attend any and all region tours. Attendees agree to follow environmental guidelines and regulations in accordance with direction from ACWA staff; and will respect the rights and privacy of other attendees. (ACWA Policy & Guideline P, 6.)

Finances

See "Financial Guidelines for ACWA Region Events" document.

Amending the Region Rules & Regulations

ACWA policies and guidelines can be amended by approval of the ACWA Board of Directors. The Region 5 Rules & Regulations can be amended by a majority vote of those present at any Region 5 meeting as long as a quorum is present.

2021 ACWA Region Election Timeline 2022-2023 Term

February 26:

NOMINATING COMMITTEES APPOINTED

- With concurrence of the region board, the region chairs appoint at least three region members to serve as the respective region's Nominating Committee
- Those serving on nominating committees are ineligible to seek region offices
- Nominating Committee members are posted online at www.acwa.com

March 1-31:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE TRAINING

- Nominating Committee packets will be e-mailed to each committee member
- ACWA staff will hold a Zoom training session with the nominating committees to educate them on their specific roles and duties
 - Regions 1-10 Nominating Committees: via Zoom

May 3:

CALL FOR CANDIDATES

- The Call for Candidate Nominations packet will be e-mailed to ACWA member agency Board Presidents and General Managers

June 30:

DEADLINE FOR COMPLETED NOMINATION FORMS

- Deadline to submit all Nomination Forms and Board Resolutions of Support for Candidacy for region positions
- Nominating Committee members may need to solicit additional candidates in person to achieve a full complement of nominees for the slate

July 1:

CANDIDATE INFORMATION TO NOMINATING COMMITTEES

- All information submitted by candidates will be forwarded by ACWA staff to the respective region Nominating Committee members with a cover memo explaining their task

July 11 - 31:

RECOMMENDED SLATES SELECTED

- Nominating Committees will meet to determine the recommended individuals for their region. The slate will be placed on the election ballot.
- Nominating Committee Chairs will inform their respective ACWA Regional Affairs Representative of their recommended slate by July 23
- Candidates will be notified of the recommended slate by July 30
- The Nominating Committee Chair will approve the official region ballot

August 2:

ELECTIONS BEGIN

- All 10 official electronic ballots identifying the recommended slate and any additional candidates for consideration for each region will be produced and e-mailed to ACWA member agencies only
- Only one ballot per agency will be counted

September 30:

ELECTION BALLOTS DUE

- ***Deadline for all region elections. All region ballots must be received by ACWA by **September 30, 2021*****

October 4:

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS

- Newly-elected members of the region boards will be contacted accordingly
- An ACWA Advisory will be distributed electronically to all members reporting the statewide region election results
- Results will be posted at acwa.com and will be published in the October issue of ACWA News