

Subject **CSDA e-News: Little Hoover Commission Update**
 From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
 To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
 Reply-To <cassandras@csda.net>
 Date 2017-01-24 05:00



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Little Hoover Commission Update: Healthcare Districts and Forest Management

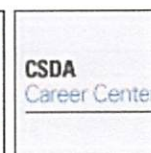
With its report on special districts due out in March, the Little Hoover Commission has released a summary of its November 16 healthcare district advisory meeting, its last of three public meetings focused on special districts. The preceding October 27 meeting centered on special districts' climate adaptation efforts, while the August 25 meeting followed up on the Commission's 2000 report, "Special Districts: Relics of the Past or Resources for the Future".

While CSDA anticipates the Commission's final report to touch on each of these areas, these special district hearings have spawned two new studies by the Commission. One on state permitting and another on forest management, with the first hearing on forest management scheduled for Thursday, January 26. [Read more...](#)

CalPERS Provides Guidance on Estimating Upcoming Rate Increases

Last month, CalPERS voted to reduce its discount rate from 7.5 percent to 7 percent over a three-year period beginning in 2018 for special districts and other public agencies. **A reduction in the discount rate results in increased rates employers pay to CalPERS to manage the fund. Each rate increase will be phased in over five years following each reduction in the discount rate.** Phase one will drop the discount rate from the current 7.5 percent to 7.375 percent in fiscal year 2018-19. Phase two will see an additional drop to 7.25 percent in 2019-20. Phase three will execute the final reduction to 7 percent in 2020-21. This means that special districts will not feel the full impact of the CalPERS rate increases associated with the discount rate reductions until 2024-25. [Read more...](#)

January 24, 2017



EDUCATION CALENDAR

January 24
[Required Harassment Prevention for Board/Staff Webinar](#)

January 26
[Board Member Best Practices](#)

Assembly Speaker Announces New Committee Members

California Speaker, Anthony Rendon (D-Paramount), announced his appointments to the State Assembly's standing committees. Speaker Rendon announced Committee Chairs in December, naming newly elected Assembly Member Cecelia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters) as Chair of the Assembly Local Government Committee. He has now renamed Assembly Member Marie Waldron (R-Escondido) as Vice-Chair and appointed the committee's full membership, including newly elected Assembly Members Anna Caballero (D-Salinas), Timothy Grayson (D-Concord), and Randy Voepel (R-Santee). [Read more...](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Free Upcoming Webinars for SDRMA Members

SDRMA members are able to participate in the following webinars at no charge:

- Required Harassment Prevention for Staff and Elected Officials - January 24
- 2017 Employment Law Update - February 2
- Understanding Board Member and District Liability Issues - February 8
- Ethics AB1234 Compliance Training - March 16

[Click here](#) to register now. You'll need to enter your new SDRMA discount code at checkout. Don't have your 2017 code? Email emilyc@csda.net. You can use the same code to view a large selection "free to SDRMA members" webinars in our [on-demand webinar library](#).



Save \$50: Register this Week for SDLA Conference

Take advantage of early bird registration rates and register for the Special District Leadership Academy (SDLA) Conference, February 26 - March 1 in La Jolla, on or before Friday, January 27. The SDLA Conference provides the knowledge base to perform essential governance responsibilities and is designed for both new and experienced special district board members.

Does your district have limited funds to participate in this and other CSDA professional development opportunities? The Special District Leadership Foundation has over \$40,000 in scholarship funds for 2017 for special districts with budgets of under \$10 million. The next application deadline is February 15; [apply today!](#)

MEMBER SERVICES

New Members for 2017

At their first meeting of the new year, the CSDA Board of Directors approved membership for five special districts and three businesses. Welcome to our newest members:

- [Caselle Accounting Software](#)
- Fair Oaks Water District
- [Kane, Ballmer & Berkman](#)
- Oak Tree Park & Recreation District
- Parlier Cemetery District
- [Simas & Associates, Ltd.](#)
- West Side Health Care District
- Wynola Water District



Santa Ynez

January 26
[Rules or Order Made Easy!](#)
Webinar

January 27
[Maximize Your Membership: Benefits](#)
Webinar

January 31
[Recent Developments in the Public Records Act](#)
Webinar

February 2
[2017 Annual Employment Law Update](#)
Webinar

February 3
[Board Member Best Practices](#)
Sacramento

February 26
[2017 SDLA Conference](#)
La Jolla

EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

Listed below are the most recent employment positions posted to www.csda.net:

[DISTRICT MANAGER | AUBURN PUBLIC CEMETERY DISTRICT](#)

[Sr. Accounting and Financial Analyst | Union Sanitary District](#)

[GENERAL MANAGER | Sweetwater Authority](#)

[Water Treatment Plant Operator III | San Juan Water District](#)

[Finance Director | City of Napa](#)

[Special Assistant to the CEO/ Board Relations Officer | Desert Healthcare District](#)

DISTRICT PRESS

Water Conservation District Offers Free Mulch & Compost

The Chino Basin Water Conservation District offers free compost and mulch from 9 a.m. to noon on the first and third Saturdays of each month at district headquarters: 4594 San Bernardino Street, Montclair.

Residents should bring shovel and containers. To find out more information please contact the district at (909) 626-2711 or www.cbwcd.org.

District Works to Expand Local Skatepark

Chico Skatepark Solutions has been working with the Chico Area Recreation and Park District to expand the skatepark on Humboldt Avenue that was built by the city years ago. A preliminary design plan has been unveiled by Grindline Skatepark Design of Seattle that will increase the bowl and add more street skating to the park. While there's a long way to go, a community group raising money to improve a Chico skateboard park has scheduled another event at 6 p.m. Feb. 11 in the Big Room at Sierra Nevada Brewing Company.

To view all job opportunities, visit the [Career Center.](#)

Open RFPs and RFQs

RFP - Compensation Study

RFP - Central Coast Supra-regional Activity-based Model Framework

RFP - Legal Services

View and download open RFPs and RFQs at the RFP Clearinghouse

For information on posting an RFP or job listing, call 877.924.2732.

Special District Administrator Renewal

Congratulations to Tim Deutsch with the Orange County Cemetery District for renewing his Special District Administrator Certification through the Special District



Leadership Foundation. Certification programs are a way for professionals within a field to affirm - to their customers, to their board of directors, and to themselves - that they are competent and experienced in their profession.

For more information on SDLF, the SDA Certification Program, exam dates, and more, contact Beth Hummel, program assistant, at (916) 231-2939 or by email at bethh@sdlf.org.

Connect with CSDA on Facebook and Twitter!

Are you connecting on Facebook and Twitter? If so, connect with CSDA! Get important updates on legislative issues, professional development offerings, and member services by liking California Special Districts Association on Facebook and following @specialdistrict on Twitter!

**California Special Districts Association**

1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone - 877.924.2732 Fax - 916.442.7889

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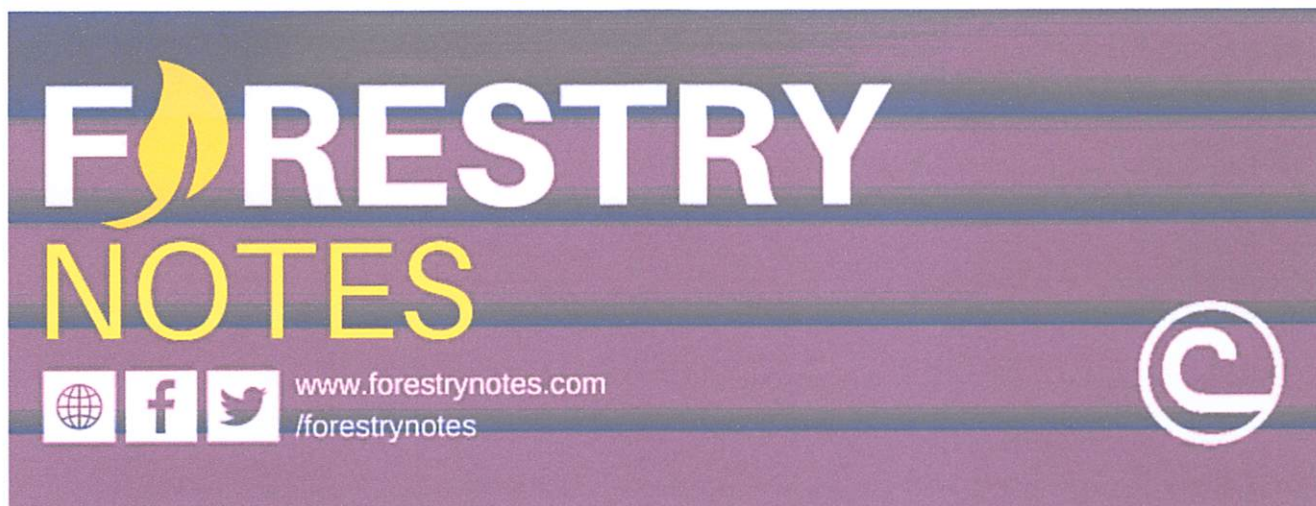
Subject **Forestry Notes: District-sponsored courses aim to support forest stewards**

From NACD Forestry Notes <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>

Sender NACD Forestry Notes <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>

To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Date 2017-01-25 01:42



District-sponsored courses aim to support forest stewards

A pair of conservation districts are helping landowners become forest stewards in their free time.

Becoming a forest steward - online

--> Forestry News

Database captures urban tree sizes, growth rates across U.S. [\[link\]](#)

Forests are a treasure. But are they good investments? [\[link\]](#)

Soil fungi help tree seedlings survive, influence forest diversity [\[link\]](#)

Presentation submissions for the 2017 SAF National Convention are due March 31 [\[link\]](#)

Calendar

February 15 - 19

2017 NWTF Convention and Sport Show

Nashville, Tennessee

March 21

The King Conservation District is promoting an online, seven-week forest stewardship course this winter, put on by Washington State University Extension. The Forest Stewardship Coached Planning course costs \$185 and meets for three hours every Tuesday evening. Topics covered include:

- How do you know if your trees are healthy? What should you do if they aren't?
- What types of trees do you have? Does your forest look like a "mess"?
- Are characteristics of your property attracting or repelling the wildlife you enjoy? What can you do if wildlife cause damage? [Read more>>>](#)

Districts among the many partners assisting 2017 LRP projects

Conservation districts are partners in half of the 2017 Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership (LRP) projects announced in December. Through the program, the U.S. Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) strive to work together to restore landscapes, reduce wildfire threats to communities and landowners, protect water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat.

In 2017, five LRP projects in California, Michigan, Nebraska, Oregon, and Virginia will work with local conservation districts. [Read more>>>](#)

Follow NACD Annual Meeting forestry activity on social media



The NACD Forestry Resource Policy Group (RPG) will meet next week in Denver during the 2017 NACD Annual Meeting. There are several forestry-related breakout sessions planned, including one to highlight district forest health engagement, a session on State Forest Action Plans, and one detailing the pine beetle infestation in Colorado and the potential for biomass utilization. A number of forestry partners will also have displays in the Conservation Expo area. NACD will track forestry highlights from the meeting on social media (Twitter and Facebook) with the hashtag #NACDforestry2017.



Tools available on JFT website

The Joint Forestry Team (JFT) website has resources available to help conservation districts and conservation district state associations engage in forestry partnerships. The site has a directory of all state-level forestry memorandums of understanding (MOUs) and example MOUs for states considering formalizing a multi-partner agreement. Recently, the JFT produced a series of webinars. One provided examples of state-level MOUs in action, and another discussed the process and objectives of State Forest Action Plans. To learn more, visit <http://jointforestryteam.org>.

Forestry Briefs

NACD Spring Fly-In

Washington, D.C.

March 23

[Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition \(SUFC\) Annual Meeting and Reception](#)

Washington, D.C.

March 28 - 30

[International Mass Timber Conference](#)

Portland, Oregon

April 10-12

[International Biomass Conference](#)

Minneapolis, Minnesota

June 20-22

[NACD Forestry RPG Summer Meeting](#)

Deadwood, South Dakota

June 27-29

[2017 North American Agroforestry Conference](#)

Blacksburg, West Virginia

Send news items by the 15th day of the preceding month to: Managing Editor at mike-beacom@nacdn.org

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20002
(202) 547-6223



[email us](#)

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New Allegan Conservation District forester promotes value of having forest stewardship plan

Allegan Conservation District forester Benjamin Savoie hopes to help local landowners get the most from their woods with a forest stewardship plan. Savoie said shaping a plan starts with asking the landowner a series of questions: What do you value most about your woodland? How do you use it? And what kinds of wildlife do you hope to attract?

“If they have plants, trees, and shrubs that are preferable to species like deer and turkey, you’re more likely to see them on your property... Having a management plan in place to either plant, or naturally grow these preferred species can definitely help for managing wildlife,” he told MLive. [Click here](#) to read more.

Pennsylvania

Conservation district helps preserve 500 acres of woodland

The Perry County Conservation District was among several partners to help complete a three-year project to preserve 500 acres of woodland in the county. The area is considered a wildlife refuge and is located near other protected lands, including the Tuscarora State Forest. [Click here](#) for more.

Iowa

SWCD encourages landowners to start planning for windbreaks

The Buena Vista Soil and Water Conservation District issued a press release to encourage area residents to consider planning now for 2017 windbreak installations or repairs. Windbreaks are linear plantings of trees and shrubs designed to enhance crop production, protect people and livestock, and benefit soil and water conservation. They are one of five recognized agroforestry practices.

In the release, the district suggested the months of January and February were good times to plan where windbreaks should be constructed and what type of plantings would be needed. It also said this month and next were prime times for signing up for cost share incentives. Read more on the story [here](#).

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Subject **FYI - Funders' Network Partners for Places Program - \$500,000**

From Justin Haessly <haesslyj@ranchowater.com>

To Rose Corona <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Date 2017-01-25 07:59



I don't think RCWD is eligible for this grant program. Not sure if EMARCD qualifies either, but thought you may want to take a quick look...

Funders' Network Partners for Places Program - \$500,000

- Applications Due: January 30, 2017
- Eligible Entities: Local governments

The Funders' Network announced funding to build partnerships between local government sustainability leaders and place-based foundations. The funding has six priority areas: making climate change preparation a factor for every government decision, pursuing deep greenhouse gas emissions reductions, integrating climate change preparation and greenhouse gas emissions reductions, incorporating sustainability and/or climate action into economic development initiatives, mobilizing resident and business action to advance sustainability and/or climate action, and undertaking comprehensive neighborhood sustainable development. The program also hopes to encourage a strong emphasis on projects that benefit and engage people of color, people with low incomes, and residents of immigrant and refugee communities in sustainability work in neighborhoods and city-wide.

For more information, visit the [funding opportunity description](#).

Subject **Brief Survey Reminder - CSDA Needs Your Feedback**
From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <cassandras@csda.net>
Date 2017-01-26 10:00



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A SPECIAL DISTRICT ALERT



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together



The California Special Districts Association has partnered with Digital Deployment to embark on a redesign of the CSDA website. This includes the utilization of technology to meet goals, provide the best experience possible, and communicate more effectively. Please take a few moments to help us understand how to take your needs into account by completing a short survey. All fields are optional, and it should take five minutes of your time to complete. We appreciate your input!

If you have not already done so, please [click here](#) to access the survey.
The deadline is **Wednesday, February 1**.

[California Special Districts Association](#) | 1112 I Street | Suite 200 | Sacramento, CA 95814



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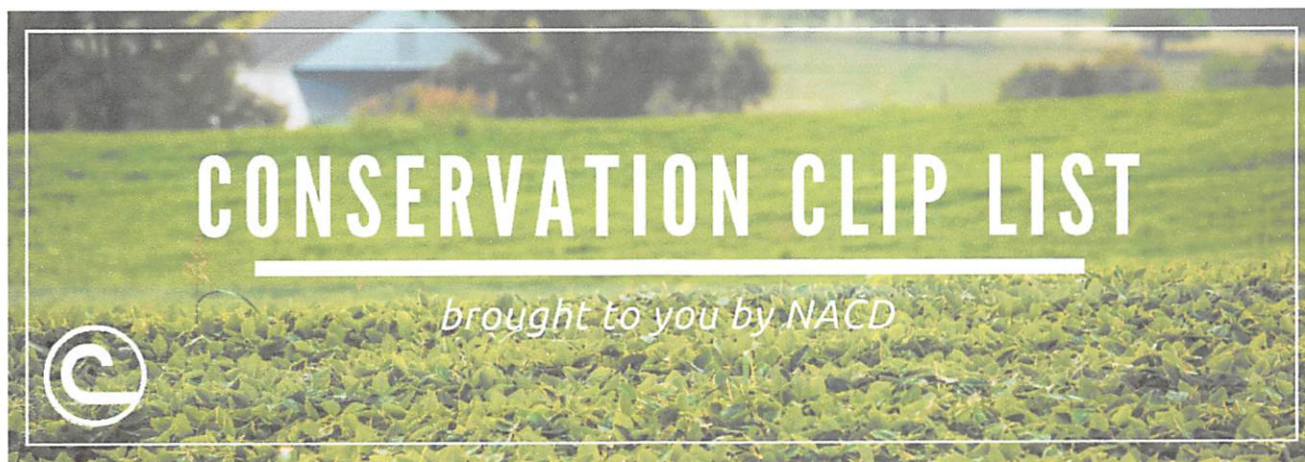
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Subject **Conservation Clip List - Brought to you by NACD**
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-01-27 01:21



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Conservation Clip List is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. If you have a relevant submission, please contact your NACD Communications Team.

Trump issues EPA media blackout and suspends agency's grants via PBS

The Trump administration has instituted a media blackout at the Environmental Protection Agency and barred staff from awarding any new contracts or grants, part of a broader communications clampdown within the executive branch. Emails sent to EPA staff since President Donald Trump's inauguration detailed specific prohibitions banning press releases, blog updates or posts to the agency's social media accounts. The Trump administration has also ordered what it called a temporary suspension of all new business activities at the department, including issuing task orders or work assignments to EPA contractors. The orders were expected to have a significant and immediate impact on EPA activities nationwide.

USDA, Cheyenne, and Arapaho Tribes restoring grazing land via San Francisco Chronicle

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are teaming up with the U.S. Department of Agriculture on a research and demonstration project to help restore grazing land. Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Gov. Eddie Hamilton signed an agreement with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service for the two-year soil health project. Hamilton says the project will help re-establish the tribes' relationship with state agricultural departments.

If These Trees Don't Get Time To Chill, Farmers Will Be Out On A Limb via NPR

Crops like pistachios, peaches, and almonds need a certain amount of cold weather every year. This is what the agricultural industry refers to as chill hours. Frigid temperatures between 32 and 45 degrees help set buds that will turn into flowers in spring, then into fruits and nuts in summer. The problem is that there is a decrease in the amount of hours needed for tree crops to reach these temperatures. Trees need more than 700 hours of sleep every winter, but for the past four years, many have slept less than 500 hours.

Clovis takes lead in installing Trump team at USDA via Agri-Pulse

Sam Clovis, Donald Trump's top farm policy adviser during the presidential campaign, will be leading the transition group installing his team and policy at the Agriculture Department. Clovis served as a surrogate for Trump during the campaign, speaking to farm groups and also representing Trump in an October debate with Kathleen Merrigan, a former deputy agriculture secretary representing Hillary Clinton.

California drought continues to shrink, federal government says via Los Angeles Times

With major reservoirs nearly full, the Sierra Nevada snowpack well above average and flood warnings in place for some rivers, federal scientists reported a continued weakening of California's drought. Overall, 44 percent of the state remains in severe drought or worse, down from 49 percent a week ago. A year ago this week, the same report found that 86 percent of California was in severe drought or worse. A stark difference remains between Northern and Southern California: 42 percent of the state is out of the drought entirely, the same percentage as last week. The areas no longer in a drought include nearly all of Northern California, from the San Francisco Bay Area to the Oregon border.

Many farmers still need training after Lake Erie algae via The Washington Post

Ohio's agriculture leaders say thousands of farmers have completed training that will be required for putting fertilizer on fields, but many more face a September deadline to finish the program aimed at combating the toxic algae fouling Lake Erie. The first of its kind requirement is one of several steps Ohio has taken to reduce the farm runoff that feeds algae in the state's lakes and rivers. State lawmakers put the measure in place in 2014, just months before algae in Lake Erie contaminated the drinking water for more than 400,000 people in northwestern Ohio and southeastern Michigan.

Pipelines Reversed: Terms of Pipeline Projects to be Renegotiated via DTN

The Trump administration signed an executive order to support the Keystone XL pipeline that was shelved by a series of legal challenges and rejection of a presidential permit from the previous administration. In addition, a second executive order moves forward: the Dakota Access pipeline that has faced extensive protest and opposition from Native American and environmental groups. The Dakota Access pipeline would run from North Dakota to Illinois. Dakota Access requires a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, while the Keystone XL needs a presidential permit.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau supports wolf delisting bill via Wisconsin State Farmer

The proposed Gray Wolf Delisting legislation would reinstate the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) order to remove the gray wolf in the Western Great Lakes and Wyoming from the federal Endangered Species List. It would also provide legal clarity for the gray wolf's status on the Endangered Species list.

Montana temporarily blocks slaughter of hundreds of Yellowstone Park bison via Minneapolis StarTribune

Montana Gov. Steve Bullock has blocked the impending slaughter of hundreds of Yellowstone National Park bison over disease concerns until a temporary home can be found for 40 animals wanted by an American Indian tribe. About 200 bison have been captured attempting to migrate from the park this winter. Federal and state officials have plans to kill up to 1,300 bison under a controversial disease control agreement.

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TITLE: INTERPRETIVE PARK AIDE
SALARY: \$10.74/HOUR (STARTING PAY)
TYPE: PART TIME SEASONAL – 4-24 HRS/WK
REPORTS TO: STATE PARK INTERPRETER

POSITION SUMMARY:

The Interpretive Park Aide develops & delivers programs that create opportunities for visitors to connect with Lake Perris State Recreation Area resources. Programs vary & may include: evening campfire programs, informal interpretive programs, family programs, tours of the Ya'i Heki' Regional Indian Museum, kayak tours, naturalist strolls, & night prowls. The work schedule also varies & is comprised of 3-4 evening programs each month during the summer.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

1. Researches, writes & presents thematic interpretive programs. Also conducts informal interpretation including roving & providing visitor information.
2. Develops a rich & deep knowledge base about program audiences & Lake Perris State Recreation Area's cultural & natural resources through independently-directed research, incorporating this knowledge into interpretive programs.
3. Applies innovative interpretive techniques which are playful, entertaining, experiential, relevant & provocative.
4. Facilitates opportunities for visitors to connect intellectually & emotionally with & develop stewardship for the compelling stories of Lake Perris SRA.
5. Ensures visitor safety by applying risk management principles to program design & execution. Carries a first aid kit & radio during all outdoor programs.
6. Carries out administrative duties, such as properly using, caring for, & enhancing teaching resources as well as recording & compiling program attendance statistics.
7. Wears the Interpretive Park Aide uniform, maintains a neat & clean appearance, & is punctual for all programs.
8. Actively participates in continued professional development through coaching & other mentoring/ educational opportunities. Participates in peer coaching, providing supportive & meaningful feedback in verbal & written format to peers.
9. In cooperation with direct supervisor, establishes & completes special projects.
10. Housekeeping at the museum and other duties, as assigned

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE & SKILLS REQUIRED:

1. Possession of, or in the process of earning, a Baccalaureate degree in interpretation, education, natural resources, science, or anthropology (equivalent experience acceptable).
2. Exceptional written & verbal communication skills.
3. Ability to work successfully both independently & as a member of a team.
4. Enthusiastic, innovative, self-directed, flexible, motivated, & punctual.
5. Must be able to lift 45 pounds on a regular basis. May be required to lead hikes of up to 5 miles and lead kayak tours up to 3 miles.
6. Intermediate knowledge of Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel and Word

DESIRED EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, & SKILLS:

1. Background in the visual or performing arts.
2. Knowledge of Perris Valley ecosystems & cultural history.
3. Experience with different age levels.
4. Completion of, or in the process of earning certification as a Certified Interpretive Guide with NAI or Advanced Interpretive Talk module from Eppley Institute.
5. Proficient in Spanish.

TO APPLY

1. Submit a résumé to Kimberly Seltmann, State Park Interpreter, Kimberly.Seltmann@parks.ca.gov Telephone 951-940-5657. Fax 951-657-0077.
2. You must also complete a state application (Form titled "STD. 678") available online at <https://jobs.ca.gov/pdf/std678.pdf> or at the Lake Perris Sector Office. Deliver or mail the application to: Lake Perris SRA, Attention: Kimberly Seltmann, 17801 Lake Perris Drive, Perris, CA 92571
3. Closing date is February 21, 2017 or when filled.
4. FINAL CANDIDATES FOR THIS POSITION WILL BE SUBJECT BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION. FINAL CANDIDATES WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE LIVE SCAN FINGERPRINTING AND SUBMIT A CURRENT 3 YEAR DMV PRINTOUT.

Subject **Your River Network Member Opportunities in February**

From Alice Srinivasan <asrinivasan@rivernetwork.org>

To rose.corona@teamrcd.org <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Date 2017-01-30 11:37



Dear Rose,

I want to make sure you're aware of three great opportunities coming up in the next month! Temecula Elsinore Anza Murietta Resource Conservation District is eligible to take advantage of these benefits as a current Organizational Member of River Network.

1. **Apply for a River Rally 2017 scholarship by February 17th.** Scholarship applications must be submitted *as part of the conference registration process* by the February 17th deadline. Go [here](#) to register now. Your staff and board members can also apply for a limited number of Member Discounts for 25% off River Rally 2017 registration. To use your member discount, just apply the discount code **RNMEMB17** when you are ready to submit your registration payment.
2. **Get free supplies for a rain barrel workshop, if you submit your workshop plan by February 28th.** Members qualify for 20-40 free rain barrel conversion kits (a \$599-\$1,198 value) for rain barrel workshops planned and submitted by February 28th. We recommend scheduling your workshop to take place during April (Earth Month), as we'll be doing a big promotion of the National Rain Barrel Program with a press release & paid online ads throughout April.
3. **Sign up for our remote Nonprofit Financial Management Training Series that starts March 2nd.** Members get a discount of more than 30% off this special training series that includes a series of 6 webinars, group office hours and personalized consultation!

Now more than ever, we are here to help you harness your power and the power of our network to protect and restore our precious rivers and waters. As a Member, we will help **connect** you to your peers and spark innovation, **empower** you with knowledge and capacity, and **expand** our collective influence.

Please visit the [Organizations & Agencies Member page](#) on our website to see the full list of your current member benefits.

Sincerely,

Alice Srinivasan

Director of Community Engagement

P.S. If you are interested in **exhibiting at River Rally 2017**, your membership also qualifies your organization for 50% off the exhibitor fee of \$500! You can sign up for an exhibit table as part of your *conference registration process* (use **discount code RNEXT17** at

checkout), or contact our River Rally Coordinator at riverrally@rivernetwork.org, or 720.545.0397.

Subject **Apply for River Rally 2017 Scholarship by Feb. 17th!**
From River Network <info@rivernetwork.org>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-01-31 12:39



River Rally 2017

[View this email in your browser](#)



Join or renew your [River Network Membership](#) so you can receive a **Member Discount Code** for 25% off River Rally 2017 registration.

Become a Member Today!

You must be a current member as of April 30th to qualify for this year's River Rally member discount.

Want to inspire and be inspired by the next generation of river and water champions? Join us for the first-ever Teen River Rally at [#RiverRally2017](#)! Teen River Rally will bring more than 50 high school students from the Grand Rapids area to River Rally for a day to learn about career pathways in conservation.

Apply for [River Rally 2017 scholarships](#) by the February 17th scholarship application deadline! Your scholarship application must be submitted with conference registration.

Now more than ever, we are here to help you harness your power and the power of our network to protect and restore healthy rivers and affordable, clean water for everyone. That is what River Rally 2017 is all about.

Join NGO staff and volunteers, academics, agency and foundation representatives, industry innovators, and community leaders from across the U.S. and beyond for thought-provoking discussions about the drinking water crisis and water affordability, among many

other great water topics. And we promise you'll be inspired and have some fun along the way! See the full program [here](#).

Can't make it to the event, but want to support the next generation of river and water champions? Make a donation to River Network today!

DONATE NOW

Rally Ho!

Your Friends at River Network



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Subject **CSDA e-News: We Value Your Input!**
 From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
 To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
 Reply-To <cassandras@csda.net>
 Date 2017-01-31 05:01



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We Value Your Input



The California Special Districts Association has partnered with Digital Deployment to embark on a redesign of the CSDA website, and the utilization of technology to meet goals, provide the best experience possible and communicate more effectively. We would love to hear from you about

your experience with the association and how we can improve. This will help us prioritize new features and make improvements to existing tools. The survey should only take **five minutes** and will close on February 1, 2017.

Please complete if you have not already. We appreciate your input!

This Land is Your Land - Governor Brown's 2017 State of the State

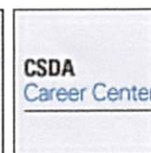
During last week's State of the State address, Governor Brown departed from the traditional practice of listing every issue and restating every priority to focus on what his administration is calling a "broader contest of our country and its challenges," later citing American folk singer Woody Guthrie's "This Land Is Your Land." Most pertinent to special districts, Governor Brown called for a renewed focus on infrastructure. [Read more...](#)

You Can Help Shape Local Climate Change Funding

The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) is holding a [Transformative Climate Communities Stakeholder Summit](#) on February 10, 2017 in Sacramento. All special districts are encouraged to attend to help shape this new cap-and-trade funded program focused on local communities. Although free, **you must register by this Friday, February 3.**

The Summit will provide an opportunity for public input on the draft guidelines for the TCC program, including eligibility, requirements, the application process and overall

January 31, 2017



EDUCATION CALENDAR

January 31
[Recent Developments in the Public Records Act Webinar](#)

February 2
[2017 Annual Employment Law Update](#)

program design. It will also highlight state-wide and national best practices in comprehensive, place-based community investment and allow for the discussion of opportunities for partnerships. [Read more...](#)

What are Your Climate Change Adaptation Barriers?



Special districts are encouraged to provide input on the financial barriers and challenges facing local governments as they implement climate change adaptation measures. The Local Government Commission and their partners are surveying local governments as part of a research project being conducted for [California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment](#).

If you work in local government and perform activities related to researching, planning, financing, convening stakeholders, and/or implementing adaptation activities, they ask you to share your valuable experience and insights through [this brief survey](#).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Improve Your Knowledge and Skills with these February Workshops

Don't miss out! Register now for these February workshops focused on the unique needs of California Special Districts.

- [Human Resources Boot Camp](#): Divided into four segments: hiring, performance evaluation, employee discipline, and legal trends, this day is designed to maximize your time and give you substantive information you can use at your district right away.
- [Proposition 26, Proposition 218, and Rate Setting](#): This workshop will provide an update on recent court cases and legislation interpreting and clarifying property-related fees and charges under Proposition 218 and an overview of the provisions of Proposition 26 and the impacts that they may have on local governments and their ability to raise revenues.

2017 Employment Law Update this Week

Register now for the [2017 Annual Employment Law Update](#) this Thursday, February 2 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. This two-hour webinar includes both a legislative update and case law update. Items to be covered include:

- FLSA Salary Basis Test
- SB 3 - State Minimum Wage Increase
- SB 1063 - Equal Pay Based on Ethnicity or Race
- AB 1676 - Equal Pay Issues Based on Prior Salary
- AB 1661 - Local Agency Officials Harassment Training
- SB 1001 - Prohibition on Requiring Additional Employment Authorization Documents
- And Much More!



Free to SDRMA members, \$65 CSDA members, and \$95 non-members.

MEMBER SERVICES

Webinar

February 3
[Board Member Best Practices](#)
[Sacramento](#)

February 8
[Understanding Board Member & District Liability](#)
[Webinar](#)

February 9
[Board Member Best Practices](#)
[Clovis](#)

February 10
[Maximize Your Membership-Legislative/Outreach](#)
[Webinar](#)

February 15
[Sustainability Best Practices](#)
[Webinar](#)

February 16
[Board Member Best Practices](#)
[San Jose](#)

February 26
[2017 SDLA Conference](#)
[La Jolla](#)

EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

Listed below are the most recent employment positions posted to www.csda.net:

[Administrative Assistant | Bryce Consulting](#)

[Deputy Executive Director – Projects | Contra Costa Transportation Authority \(CCTA\)](#)

[Secretary of the District | East Bay Municipal Utility District](#)

[Community Outreach Manager | Silicon Valley Clean Energy Authority](#)

It's That Time of Year Again!

Districts are posting their RFPs for auditing services in CSDA's RFP Clearinghouse. If your agency is looking for qualified, experienced firms to perform your audit or to help you with any other project or service, consider posting a Request for Proposals (RFP) or a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) on our website. Vendors who support CSDA and provide important services and products to special districts are familiar with our RFP Clearinghouse and are updated on new postings. Visit the [RFP Clearinghouse](#) for examples of current RFPs and information on posting.

CSDA Bookstore Adds New Board Member Publication



Communicating clearly, developing policies, working together, and making progress aren't always easy. Board expert Brent Ives knows this all too well. With years of experience working with special district boards as well as others, Brent has learned the best practices for establishing a successful board and serving its mission. In his new book, [52 Ways to be a Better Board](#), Brent provides valuable lessons on improving your board and its service to others. CSDA members save on this and many other publications in the online [CSDA Bookstore](#).

DISTRICT PRESS

New District Name and Wellness Walk

On Wednesday, February 1, Fallbrook Healthcare District is celebrating its new name: Fallbrook Regional Health District. As well as the name change on February 1, the district, in conjunction with the Fallbrook Community Center, is sponsoring its [First Wellness Walk](#), starting at the Fallbrook Community Center at 10 a.m. that day. Free pedometers will be given to the first 100 walkers.

Fire District Crew Celebrates Something Special

Not infrequently, kids receive birthday presents of firefighter helmets, fire engine puzzles or books about the fire service. In the case of 4-year old Vivek Rathod, he received those gifts from Moraga-Orinda Fire District firefighters at a birthday party they threw for him at Fire Station 45 in Orinda. [Read more about this special celebration here.](#)

NEW Special District Administrator Certifications

Congratulations to Tim Unruh with the Kern County Cemetery District, Michael Gow with the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, Steven Wagner with the Goleta Sanitary District, Chad Davisson with the Ironhouse Sanitary District, and Allen Carlisle with the Padre Dam Municipal Water District for receiving their [Special District Administrator Certification](#) through the [Special District Leadership Foundation](#).

Certification programs are a way for professionals within a field to affirm - to their customers, to their board of directors, and to themselves - that they are competent and experienced in their profession. For



Connect with CSDA on Facebook and Twitter!

Are you connecting on Facebook and Twitter? If so, connect with CSDA! Get important updates on legislative issues, professional development offerings, and member services by liking [California Special Districts Association](#) on Facebook and following [@specialdistrict](#) on Twitter!



[Vector Control Planner | Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District](#)

[Director of Administrative Services | The San Mateo County Harbor District](#)

[GENERAL MANAGER | Sweetwater Authority](#)

To view all job opportunities, visit the [Career Center](#).

Open RFPs and RFQs

RFP - Audit Services

RFP - Central Coast Supra-regional Activity-based Model Framework

View and download open RFPs and RFQs at the [RFP Clearinghouse](#)

For information on posting an RFP or job listing, call 877.924.2732.

more information on SDLF, the SDA Certification Program, exam dates, and more, contact Beth Hummel, program assistant, at (916) 231-2939 or by email at bethh@sdlf.org.



California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone - 877.924.2732 Fax - 916.442.7889



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CARCD OPPORTUNITIES – UPDATES, EVENTS, EDUCATION, FUNDING FOR DISTRICTS AND REGIONS

February 2017

FEEDBACK REQUESTED!

CARCD is in the process of designing opportunities for member districts to participate in training and collaboration with other districts, both regional and statewide, using the format of quarterly symposiums on topics pertinent to RCDs. Symposiums will be hosted by a region or individual district and would include post-symposium distribution of a participation sheet to enable ongoing connection between districts interested in similar topics, and would ideally involve one or more speakers from the RCD community or partners able to provide detailed subject background and ideas for collaboration/ other action items.

Questions for SoCal Inland Members:

1. Does the format of the suggested symposium sound like something you/your staff/board would possibly be interested in – quarterly, 1-2 hours, participation voluntary and from districts interested in topic; post-symposium list distributed of those who participated for ongoing collaboration?
2. Would you be interested in hosting by taking the lead on topic development, setting the time, securing speaker(s)?

Please send responses to Jim Earsom at james.earsom@gmail.com or Mandy at mparkes@iercd.org

EVENTS/MEETINGS

State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP) Informational Meetings: one webinar and three in-person instructional meetings will be held in February to go over the availability of funding for implementation of projects focusing on efficient irrigation system installation on ag land.

Workshops include:

- **San Diego County Farm Bureau** (closest physical workshop)
 - **When:** Wednesday, February 8th from 9:30 – 11:30 AM
 - **Where:** 1670 E Valley Parkway, Escondido
 - **Cost:** free!
- **Webinar:**
 - **When:** Friday, February 10th from 9 – 11 AM
 - **Cost:** free but registration required; email grants@cdfa.ca.gov for the link to the webinar

CARCD Board Meeting

- **When:** Tuesday, February 22nd; 10 AM – 3 PM
- **Where:** DOC Offices, 801 K Street, Sacramento
- **Agenda:** CARCD will distribute the agenda 1-2 weeks prior to the meeting

- **Accessibility:** the BlueJeans conference system will be available for those intending to remote in to the meeting. Emily Sutherland from CARCD can provide instructions on downloading and using BlueJeans, and can be reached at: emily-sutherland@carcd.org or 916-457-7904

SoCal Inland Region Area Meeting

- **When:** **Tentatively** scheduled for Saturday, March 25th; time TBD
- **Where:** Rancho California Water District Board Room, 42135 Winchester Rd, Temecula, CA 92590
- **Agenda:** AVRCD and TEAMRCD will distribute prior to the meeting

EDUCATION/TRAINING/RCD TOOLS

California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Trainings:

- **Training I: HR Bootcamp for Special Districts**
 - **When:** Tuesday, February 21st from 8:30 – 4:15
 - **Where:** Cucamonga Valley Water District, 10440 Ashford Street, Rancho Cucamonga
 - **Cost:** \$150 for SDRMA members; \$225 for CSDA members; \$340 for non-members
 - **Description:** attendees will participate in lecture and discussion on four central topics to functional HR departments: hiring, performance evaluation, discipline, and legal trends. Continental breakfast and lunch provided!
- **Training II: Financial Management for Special Districts**
 - **When:** Wednesday, March 8th from 8:30 – 4:30
 - **Where:** Cucamonga Valley Water District, 10440 Ashford Street, Rancho Cucamonga
 - **Cost:** \$150 for SDRMA members; \$225 for CSDA members; \$340 for non-members
 - **Description:** attendees will participate in lecture and discussion on essential topics for effective financial management including budgets, internal controls, long-term planning, and capital improvement project planning. Continental breakfast and lunch provided!
- **Webinar: Best Practices in Board/Staff Relations**
 - **When:** Wednesday, February 22nd from 10AM – 12 PM
 - **Cost:** \$49/SDRMA members; \$65/CSDA Member; \$95 non-member
 - **Description:** This will go over applicable laws and best practices for effective relationships between board members and staff, including legal standards and tips for conduct standards

Resource Libraries!

Have you tried out the online resource libraries being developed by CARCD and DOC?

- CARCD: http://www.carcd.org/rcd_resource_library.aspx
- DOC: <http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/RCD/Pages/RCDResourceLibrary.aspx>
- *Note:* the process for vetting documents is still in process; please use these templates for all District needs, and be sure to involve your own legal counsel in the review process where appropriate.

Sign up for the Updated CARCD Listserve

- **Opportunity Summary:** interested board and staff not currently receiving information from CARCD can go to carcd.org, scroll to the bottom of the page, then enter email into the box under the "Subscribe to CARCD" banner, then clicking on the purple Yahoo!Groups button to the

right. Subscribers to the Listserve receive all CARCD emails concerning opportunities for education, funding, and requests for information from other members.

FUNDING

Update on Capacity-Building Funding: We are waiting for an update beyond the one given in early January, and that information on application timeline and required agreements will be distributed as soon as it's received.

Follow-up on Agricultural Water Use Efficiency and State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program – DWR/CDFA Joint Request for Proposals: for any districts interested in pursuing a group application for funds associated with this opportunity, Karen Buhr has confirmed that RCDs are ineligible unless they partner with individual irrigation districts. This remains open for single or multiple districts covered under an irrigation district to apply; however, CARCD will not be facilitating a group application.

NRCS/CARCD Small Outreach Grants – Round Three: the current round of small grant funding is being offered to RCDs, non-profits, and ag partners to engage in projects benefitting historically underserved producers.

- **When/due:** proposals accepted between February 1st and March 1st. Funds must be expended and final reports submitted by August 1st, 2017
- **Amount:** \$20,000 is available for Round II grant applications; **however**, the following restrictions apply: the cap for individual applications is \$2,000; only 10% of funding requested can be used for direct admin costs, and there is a limit of one grant per organization. Additional grant restrictions are listed on the attached document outlining the process.
- **Opportunity Summary:** CARCD has partnered with NRCS California to review simple applications for funding for resource conservation projects for RCDs and non-profits. The project funding is limited to one grant per organization, and must address resource conservation and/or outreach to historically underserved populations of producers. Applications should be submitted through local NRCS offices, and are available at carcd.org.
- **Contact Information:**
 - Kristen Murphy, CARCD: Kristen-murphy@carcd.org; 916-520-9404
 - Victor M. Hernandez at USDA-NRCS: victor.hernandez@ca.usda.gov, 530-792-5628

CARCD CONTACTS

President: Glenn Franklin
[209-966-6328](tel:209-966-6328) (home)
lonaglen@sti.net

Executive Director Karen Buhr
Karen-buhr@carcd.org
916-524-2100

SOCAL INLAND REGION

Area Chair Jim Earsom

- James.earsom@gmail.com
- 909-799-8272

Subject **eResource - This Week's NACD News Briefs**
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-02-01 05:14



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The NACD eResource

Weekly News Briefs from NACD

NACD ANNUAL MEETING BRINGS OVER 800 PEOPLE TO DENVER

NACD's 71st Annual Meeting has been one of the best yet! If you weren't able to make it to this year's conference, you can still watch [archived video](#) of Monday and Tuesday's general sessions and presentation footage from the Expo Stage. If you are a district member or employee that would like to put out a press release on your attendance of the meeting, head over to our [Newsroom](#). There we have links to NACD press releases, photos, video, and more detailed recaps of the week's activities.

If you're in Denver right now, we hope you'll join us this evening for our Appreciation Banquet and Reception. We'll be honoring our past, present, and future conservation leaders, and celebrating the stewardship successes of 2016. Before you leave the city, we also encourage you to share your thoughts on this year's meeting by taking this [super short survey](#). Your feedback helps us put on better and better conventions each year.

BEN MASTERS SHOWS TWO FILMS AT NACD MEETING

-->

Annual poster and photo contest winners announced

On Sunday, NACD announced the winners of the association's annual poster and photo contests. Check out our [press release](#) for the full list of winners and head over to [our Flickr page](#) for photos of all the top submissions.



Congratulations to all of this year's contest winners and participants! NACD received over 250 "We All Need Trees" posters from students kindergarten through 12th grade. You can learn more about NACD's stewardship and education programs on [our website](#).

Documentarian Ben Masters sat on a wild horse panel for NACD's Sunday evening program and came back on Monday to deliver the Leadership Luncheon keynote. On Sunday, he gave a showing of his movie "Unbranded" ([click here to purchase a copy](#)).



On Monday, Ben showed one of seven short films he has recently released on different conservation topics. To rewatch "Selah: Water from Stone," or to send it along to your friends, colleagues, and family, [follow this link](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

Interesting Facts & Anecdotes

from your District Operations and Member Services Committee



As part of a six-month series on district operations, the Did You Know? monthly feature in eResource will highlight chapters of the NACD District Outlook Task Force report: "Blueprint for Locally-Led Conservation - A Strategy for District Success and Sustainability."

The full report is a practical guide for conservation district leadership to use in the development of "sustainable" operational systems that can live long into the future.

For any organization to be "sustainable," it must have systems in place to be able to cope with change – and even create it when necessary. The Task Force found five elements – communications, training, structure and governance, business planning, and funding – were crucial to ensuring long-term success for

NACD heads to Delaware for state association annual meeting

NACD Northeast Representative and Policy Specialist Eric Hansen traveled to Delaware for the state association's annual meeting last week. A host of conservation activities specific to the state were on the conference agenda, including the Chesapeake Bay clean-up, cover crop surveys, and tax-revenue supported drainage ditches. "Despite being a relatively small state association, Delaware has very active districts and has been a strong supporter of NACD," Eric said.

Call for region representatives for the Urban and Community RPG

The Urban and Community Resource Policy Group (RPG) is charged with providing guidance to NACD's Natural Resource Policy Committee on how best to increase district visibility in urban and developing communities; strengthen district capabilities and funding; and showcase districts' work to address resource issues specific to urban and urbanizing communities. The RPG meets monthly via teleconference and currently has four vacancies in the South Central, Northern Plains, North Central, and Pacific Regions. If you're interested in joining the RPG, contact [Senior Advisor Deb Bogar](#).

Webinar: American Chestnut restoration opportunities

Friday, February 3 from 1:30 to 2:30pm Eastern, the American

districts. The same five topics will be covered over the next six months in "Did You Know?"

To read more about how the Task Force developed this report, head over to [NACD's blog](#). And don't forget - any individual, state, agency, or district can write a Did You Know? article and have it featured on NACD's blog and in eResource. If you have comments or questions on this month's, or suggestions for future editions, contact NACD Southeast Representative [Phylis Vandever](#).

Chestnut Foundation's Sara Fitzsimmons will give a presentation on American Chestnut restoration opportunities in the Northeast. For more information on the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Agroforestry webinar series, [visit their website](#). To register for the webinar and earn continuing education credits, [click here](#).

Contact Us

509 Capitol Court NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 547 6223

[email us](#)

NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- NACD Annual Meeting - January 28 - February 1, 2017
 - Spring Fly-In - March 21, 2017
 - Stewardship and Education Week - April 30 - May 7, 2017
-

NACD | 509 Capitol Court NE Washington, D.C. 20002 | (202) 547-6223 | www.nacdnet.org

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Subject **Oversight of Your County's Property Tax Residuals Changing in 2018**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <kylep@csda.net>

Date 2017-02-01 08:06



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Oversight of Your County's Property Tax Residuals Changing in 2018

On July 1, 2018, your county is one of 37 counties throughout California that will have its redevelopment agency (RDA) oversight boards consolidated into a countywide oversight board*. Who will represent special districts on your county's newly consolidated board, and how will they be chosen? CSDA and the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions teamed up to produce a [white paper](#) to help our respective members answer these questions and prepare for this important transition.

When the RDA oversight board consolidation occurs, the Independent Special Districts Selection Committee for your county will be granted the authority to appoint one special district representative to the new countywide RDA oversight board. If the committee fails to make an appointment by July 15, 2018, the governor will make the appointment on its behalf. Therefore, it is important that the special districts in your county and the Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCo) that administers the operations of the Independent Special Districts Selection Committee take proactive steps to ensure a successful locally-controlled appointment process.

Much is at stake in the decisions that go before oversight boards. In fiscal years 2015-16 and 2016-17 combined, the governor's 2016 May Revise to the state budget estimated special districts will receive \$316 million in property tax restoration due to the continued wind down of RDA's. Oversight board actions could affect the amount and speed of future property tax restorations to special districts and other local government agencies.

Be Prepared: [Download Your Copy of the CSDA CALAFCO Countywide Oversight Board White Paper](#)

*Los Angeles County's RDA oversight boards will be consolidated into five RDA oversight boards, one per county supervisorial district.

California Special Districts Association | 1112 I Street | Suite 200 | Sacramento, CA 95814



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Subject **These Special District Workshops are Game Changers**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csla.net>

To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <meganh@csla.net>

Date 2017-02-02 10:00



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Check Out these Workshops Specifically Designed for Special District Staff

Five reasons to attend:

- Hear from some of the best legal, finance, management, and human resources experts!
- Gain ideas and information you can implement in your district right away!
- Improve your job performance!
- SDRMA members can receive Credit Incentive Points and discounted pricing on select workshops!
- Workshops are targeted for the unique needs of special districts!

Click on the workshop title for a full description and link to registration. Space is limited...Register today!

Human Resources Boot Camp for Special Districts: February 21, 2017 - Cucamonga Valley Water District, 10440 Ashford Street, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Proposition 26, Proposition 218, and Rate Setting: February 23, 2017 - Vista Irrigation District, 1391 Engineer Street, Vista, CA 92081

Financial Management for Special Districts: March 8, 2017 - Cucamonga Valley Water District, 10440 Ashford Street, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Supervisory Skills for the Public Sector: March 20, 2017 - Monterey Regional Waste Management District, 14201 Del Monte Blvd. Marina, CA 93933 - *Limited Seating!*

Hammering Out a Legal Framework for Construction & Business Matters: March 23, 2017 - Municipal Water District of Orange County, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Supervisory Skills for the Public Sector: April 11, 2017 - Vista Irrigation District, 1391 Engineer Street, Vista, CA 92081 - *Limited Seating!*

So You Want to Be a General Manager: June 25, 2017 - Hyatt Regency Newport Beach, 1107 Jamboree Road, Newport Beach, CA 92660 - a special pre-conference workshop for the GM Leadership Summit - *Limited Seating!*

Is your district budget under \$10 million? You may be eligible for scholarship funds through the Special District Leadership Foundation.

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Conservation Clip List is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. If you have a relevant submission, please contact your NACD Communications Team.

Damages Not Allowed in Iowa Runoff Case via DTN Progressive Farmer

Des Moines Water Works will not be allowed to collect damages in a lawsuit aimed at forcing the state to regulate nutrients runoff in Iowa. Iowa officials have maintained the best approach to reducing nutrients runoff in the state is through voluntary conservation measures.

What all those dead trees mean for the Sierra Nevada via Los Angeles Times

The U.S. Forest Service estimates that since 2010, more than 102 million drought-stressed and beetle-ravaged trees have died across 7.7 million acres of California forest. More than half of those died last year alone. Exacerbated by anti-wildfire policies that produced a crowded forest more vulnerable to drought, the massive dieback is unprecedented in the recorded history of the Sierra. The beetle epidemic is transforming the 4,500-foot to 6,000-foot elevation band of the central and southern range for decades to come, if not permanently. The sheer scale of mortality means that outside of developed areas, it's likely that most of the tree corpses will be left to topple over.

Congress can now start erasing some of Obama's environmental rules. Here's what they're targeting via The Washington Post

Republicans in Congress may finally have the opportunity to begin dismantling a series of environmental rules finalized by the Obama administration. And they're likely to initially target two controversial environmental regulations released in the closing months of 2016, which place greater restrictions on both the coal and the oil and gas industries. The first is a regulation finalized in mid-November that seeks to curb fugitive methane emissions from oil and gas drilling operations on public lands. And the second, a last-minute rule adopted in December, prohibits coal-mining companies from engaging in any activities that could permanently pollute streams and other sources of drinking water.

Bacterium discovered at UW-Stout could be linked to honeybee mortality rate via WKOW

Experts said over the last few years close to 80 percent of hives have died out annually. UW-Stout biology professor Dr. Jim Burritt and his students stumbled across a never before seen illness. That discovery is now being recognized as a new bacterium and could be the reason so many bees keep losing their buzz.

Tax Idea Concerns Seed Trade via DTN Progressive Farmer

The prospect of a border tax has been developed by congressional Republicans and endorsed by President Donald Trump as one way to pay for a border wall. Yet it also is one example of a barrier that could be created in an industry that needs open borders for the movement of seed. Border rules can also affect the movement of seed for research, and the industry needs regulations that work across borders so that improved seeds can be developed to feed the expected 9 billion people in the world by 2050.

Affordable water may soon dry up, especially if you live here via PBS

Remember this number: \$120. It's the average monthly water bill in America. Researchers predict this figure will rise by \$49 over the next five years. And if it does, water may become unaffordable for one-third of American households. While water unaffordability is common overseas, most assume Americans have the resources and the willingness to do whatever it takes to pay for water. Nearly 14 million American households — 11.9 percent — couldn't afford water in 2014. If water prices continue to rise at the same rate (41 percent over five years), then a third of American households — 40 million — may lose access to affordable water.

Sonny Perdue vows to make American agriculture great again – but for whom? via The Guardian

As Georgia governor from 2003-2011 (and 2009 Biotech Governor of the Year), he supported factory farm expansion, cracked down on immigration, and opposed air quality regulation. Perdue's track record suggests he will prioritize policies and programs that aim to intensify production and exports of commodity crops like corn, soy, wheat, cotton, peanuts, and rice for global markets. We can also expect Perdue's USDA to slash incentives for conservation on farms that safeguard land and keep water viable for future generations and ignore worker demands for better wages and protection.

In America's Heartland, Discussing Climate Change Without Saying 'Climate Change' via The New York Times

Doug Palen, a fourth-generation grain farmer on Kansas' wind-swept plains, is in the business of understanding the climate. To adapt, he has embraced an environmentally conscious way of farming that guards against soil erosion and conserves precious water. He can talk for hours about carbon sequestration — the trapping of global-warming-causing gases in plant life and in the soil — or the science of the beneficial microbes that enrich his land. In short, he is a climate change realist. Just don't expect him to utter the words "climate change."

Rains wash away the worst drought conditions in Deep South via The Washington Post

Widespread rain is gradually relieving the Deep South's ongoing drought, leaving only a handful of counties in Alabama and Georgia with extremely dry conditions. The drought is approaching the one-year mark. Abnormally dry conditions began showing up in March 2016 in parts of the South, and intensified through the spring, summer, and fall.

The USDA is Trying to Help Save Native Grassland in Oregon via Modern Farmer

The USDA recently gave \$225 million in federal funding to 88 environmental projects across the country, including a program in Oregon to help improve the soil health in Wallowa County, home to the Zumwalt Prairie, one of the last intact native grasslands of its kind in the United States. The prairie consists of about 330,000 acres of native grassland that once covered 10 million acres stretching across the Pacific Northwest. The goal of the project is to create opportunities for private landowners to apply integrated crop and livestock production systems to improve soil health while reducing the use of chemical inputs, increase water efficiency, and prevent the further fragmenting of the native grasslands.

Vilsack backs Perdue for Agriculture Secretary via Agri-Pulse

Tom Vilsack is backing Sonny Perdue to run the Department of Agriculture, the job Vilsack held for eight years under President Barack Obama. "I have had the opportunity to work with Gov. Perdue and know how committed he is to all of our farmers, ranchers, and producers regardless of size or production

method expand markets here and throughout the world. As a former governor, he knows full well the opportunities and challenges that exist in rural communities. He will, I am sure, work hard to expand opportunity in rural America.”

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From Neil McCormick <neilm@csla.net>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <cassandras@csla.net>
Date 2017-02-03 11:00



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As promised, we are offering your entire board of directors and staff access to free AB1234 Ethics Compliance Training, just for renewing your dues on time. This is an on-demand training that your staff and board can take at their convenience on a computer of their choice. The training will be available until March 15, 2017.

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[1. Full information regarding this offer.](#)

If you have any questions or need assistance, please call 877.924.2732 or email to cassandras@csla.net.

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Notification of Nominations – 2017 Election SDRMA Board of Directors

February 3, 2017

Ms. Rose Corona
President
Temecula-Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District
Post Office Box 2078
Temecula, California 92593

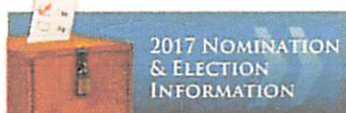
Dear Ms. Corona:

Notice of Nominations for the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) Board of Directors 2017 Election is being provided in accordance with the SDRMA Sixth Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement. The following nomination information is enclosed: Nomination Packet Checklist, Board of Director Fact Sheet, Nomination/Election Schedule, SDRMA Election Policy No. 2017-03, sample Resolution for Candidate Nomination and Candidate's Statement of Qualifications Form.

General Election Information - Four Director seats are up for election. The nomination filing deadline is Friday, May 5, 2017. Ballots will be mailed to all SDRMA member agencies in mid-May. Mail-in ballots will be due back to SDRMA Tuesday, August 29, 2017.

Nominee Qualifications - Nominees must be a member of the agency's governing body or a management employee (see SDRMA Election Policy 2017-03, Section 4.1) and be an active member agency of **both** SDRMA's Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation Programs. Candidates must be nominated by Resolution from their member agency's governing body and complete and submit a "Candidates Statement of Qualifications".

Nomination Documents and Information - Nomination documents (Nominating Resolution and Candidates Statement of Qualifications) and nomination guideline information may also be obtained on SDRMA's website at www.sdrma.org. To obtain documents electronically:



From the SDRMA homepage, click on the "2017 Nomination & Election Information" button. All necessary nomination documents and election information may be downloaded and printed.

Term of Office - Directors are elected to 4-year terms. The term of office for the newly elected Directors will begin January 1, 2018 and expire December 31, 2021.

Nomination Filing Deadline - Nomination documents **must be received in SDRMA's office no later than 5:00 P.M. on Friday, May 5, 2017.**

Please contact SDRMA Chief Operating Officer Paul Frydendal at 800.537.7790, if you have any questions regarding the 2017 SDRMA Board of Director Nominations or the election process.

Sincerely,
Special District Risk Management Authority



Gregory S. Hall, ARM
Chief Executive Officer

SDRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS FACT SHEET

Fact Sheet



SDRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) is a public entity Joint Powers Authority established to provide cost-effective property/liability, worker's compensation, health benefit coverages and comprehensive risk management programs for special districts and other public agencies throughout California. SDRMA is governed by a Board of Directors elected from the membership by the programs' members.

Number of Board Members	7-Board Members: SDRMA Board of Directors consists of seven Board Members, who are elected at-large from members participating in either program.
Board of Directors' Role	SDRMA Board of Directors provide effective governance by supporting a unified vision, and ensuring accountability, setting direction based on SDRMA's mission and purpose, as well as establishing and approving policy to ensure SDRMA meets its obligations and commitment to its members.
Board of Directors' Responsibilities	Board Member responsibilities include a commitment to: serve as a part of a unified governance body; govern within Board of Directors' policies, standards and ethics; commit the time and energy to be effective; represent and make policy decisions for the benefit, and in the best interest, of all SDRMA members; support collective decisions; communicate as a cohesive Board of Directors with a common vision and voice; and operate with the highest standards of integrity and trust.
Four Seats For this Election	4-Seats: Elections for Directors are staggered and held every two years, four seats during one election and three seats in the following election. Four seats are up for election this year.
Term of Directors	4-Year Terms: Directors are elected for 4-year terms. Terms for directors elected this election begin January 1, 2018 and end on December 31, 2021.
Board Member Travel Reimbursement	Board Members are reimbursed for reasonable travel and lodging in accordance with SDRMA Board Policy Manual 2017-01 and applicable laws and are allowed to claim a stipend of \$195 per meeting day or for each day's service rendered as a Member of the Board.
Number of Meetings per Year	7-Board Meetings Annually: Generally not more than one meeting per month, with an average of seven board meetings per year.
Meeting Location	SDRMA office in Sacramento, California.
Meeting Dates	Typically the first Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning of the month.
Meeting Starting Times	3:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.: Meetings are from 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon until 5:30 p.m. and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Meeting Length	4 - 6 hours: Length of meetings on average.
Average Time Commitment	15 - 20 hours: Commitment per month.

"The mission of Special District Risk Management Authority is to provide risk financing and risk management services through a financially sound pool to California public agencies, delivered in a timely and responsive cost efficient manner."

Special District Risk Management Authority | A Property/Liability, Workers' Compensation and Health Benefits Program

**SDRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2017 NOMINATION/ELECTION SCHEDULE**

2017 Nomination/Election Schedule



JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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DECEMBER						
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24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

TASK TIMELINE

- 1/5 Board approves Election Schedule
- 2/3 Mail Notification of Election and Nomination Procedure to Members in January
90 days prior to mailing Ballots (103 actual days)
- 5/5 Deadline to return Nominations
- 5/11 Tentative Election Comm. Reviews Nominations
- 5/17-18 Mail Ballots 60 days prior to ballot receipt deadline (103 actual days)
- 8/29 Deadline to Receive Ballots
- 8/30 Tentative Election Committee Counts Ballots
- 8/31 Election Committee Notifies Successful Candidates and Provides Them With Upcoming Board Meeting Schedule
- 9/27 Directors' Elect Invited to CSDA Annual Conf/SDRMA Breakfast/Super Session
- 11/1-2 Directors' Elect Invited to SDRMA Board Meeting
- 1/2018 Newly Elected Directors Seated and Election of Officers

**SDRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ELECTION POLICY NO. 2017-03**

2017 Nomination Packet Checklist



SDRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION AND ELECTION GUIDELINES

January 5, 2017, marked the official commencement of nominations for the SDRMA Board of Directors. Four seats on the Board of Directors are up for election in August 2017.

For your convenience we have enclosed the necessary nomination documents and election process schedule. Please note that some items have important deadlines. All document contained in this packet, as well as additional information regarding SDRMA Board elections are available on our website www.sdrma.org and/or by calling SDRMA Chief Operating Officer Paul Frydendal at 800.537.7790.

- ____ **Attachment One:** **SDRMA Board of Directors Fact Sheet:** This document reviews the Board of Directors' Roles and Responsibilities along with other important information.

- ____ **Attachment Two:** **SDRMA Board of Directors 2017 Nomination/Election Schedule:** Please review this document for important deadlines.

- ____ **Attachment Three:** **SDRMA Election Policy No. 2017-03:** A Policy of the Board of Directors of the Special District Risk Management Authority establishing guidelines for Director elections.

- ____ **Attachment Four:** **Sample Resolution for Candidate Nomination:** A resolution of the Governing Body of the Agency nominating a candidate for the Special District Risk Management Authority Board of Directors.

- ____ **Attachment Five:** **Candidate's Statement of Qualifications:** Please be advised that no candidate statements are endorsed by SDRMA. Candidate's Statements of Qualification will be distributed to the membership with the SDRMA election ballot, "exactly as submitted" by the candidate.

Please complete and return all required nomination and election documents to:

SDRMA Election Committee
C/O Paul Frydendal, COO
Special District Risk Management Authority
1112 "I" Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95814

A POLICY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR DIRECTOR ELECTIONS, DIRECTOR APPOINTMENTS, AND CREATION OF
A SUPERVISING ELECTION COMMITTEE

- WHEREAS, SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (SDRMA) is a joint powers authority, created pursuant to Section 6500, et. seq. of the California Government Code; and
- WHEREAS, the Board of Directors recognizes that it is in the best interest of the Authority and its members to adopt a written policy for conducting the business of the Board; and
- WHEREAS, establishing guidelines for Director elections and appointments will help ensure a process that is consistent for all nominees and candidates, will promote active participation by SDRMA members in the election/appointment process, and will help ensure election/appointment of the most qualified candidate(s); and
- WHEREAS, the Bylaws provide the Board with the option of conducting the election using a mail-in ballot process; and
- WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of SDRMA has an overriding and compelling interest in insuring the accuracy of the election/appointment process of its Board members through the creation of an election committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is the policy of the Board of Directors of SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, until such policy shall have been amended or rescinded, that the following procedures shall be followed when conducting Director elections or filling a Director vacancy by appointment:

1.0. Election Schedule

- 1.1. Not later than the first Board meeting of each election year, the Board of Directors shall approve an election schedule based on the following criteria and time frames.

2.0. Election Committee

- 2.1. The Board of Directors herein establishes an election committee with the following composition, duties and responsibilities; The five (5) members of the Election Committee shall include two presently sitting members of the Board of Directors of SDRMA whose seats are not up for election, the Chief Operating Officer of SDRMA, and the CPA/auditor regularly used and retained by SDRMA at the time of counting ballots of and for an election to the Board of Directors. For good reason found and stated, the Board of Directors of SDRMA may appoint any CPA/auditor who, in the discretion of the Board of Directors, would appropriately serve the Election Committee. The General Counsel for SDRMA shall also sit as a member of the Election Committee with the additional obligation of providing legal advice to the balance of the Committee as legal questions may arise.

3.0. Member Notification of Election

- 3.1. Authority staff shall provide written notification, of an election for the Board of Directors, to all member agencies during January of each election year. Such written notification shall be provided a minimum of ninety (90) days prior to the distribution of ballots and shall include; (1) the number of Director seats to be filled by election; (2) a copy of this nomination and election procedure; and (3) an outline of nomination/election deadline dates.

4.0. Qualifications

- 4.1. A candidate seeking election, re-election or appointment to SDRMA's Board of Directors must be a member of the Governing Body or a management employee of an SDRMA member participating in both the Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation Programs. To qualify as a "management employee," the candidate must be a management-level (as determined by the Governing Body) employee whose wages are reported to the IRS on a "W-2" form. Only one (1) representative from any Member may serve on the Board of Directors at the same time. [Per Bylaws, Article II, (2) (b)]
- 4.2. Each nominated candidate must submit a properly completed "Statement of Qualifications" (required form attached) with an original signature (electronic signatures are not acceptable) on or before the filing deadline in May in order for the candidate's name to be placed on the official ballot. A candidate shall provide responses to all questions on the candidate's "Statement of Qualifications". Each nominated candidate's "Statement of Qualifications" must be filed in SDRMA's office on or before the aforementioned deadline by: (1) personal delivery; (2) U.S. mail; or (3) courier. When ballots are mailed to the membership, each candidate's "Statement of Qualifications" form will be distributed to the membership exactly as submitted by the candidate to SDRMA. However, any attachments submitted by the candidate(s) with the Statement of Qualifications will not be sent by SDRMA with the ballots to any members.
- 4.3. If a nominated candidate elects not to use the provided form "Statement of Qualifications," and prepares instead the candidate's own completed form, the candidate's form must include the title "Statement of Qualifications" and contain exactly all information required and requested by the provided form.

NOTE: The candidate's "Statement of Qualifications" form must be submitted as a part of the nominating process. When ballots are mailed to the membership, each candidate's "Statement of Qualifications" form will be distributed "exactly as submitted" to SDRMA, except that any attachments submitted by the candidate will not be sent to any SDRMA members.

- 4.4. A candidate who does not submit a Candidate's Statement of Qualifications that complies with Section 4.2 or 4.3 will be disqualified by the SDRMA Election Committee.

5.0. Nominating Procedure

- 5.1. Candidates seeking election or reelection must be nominated by action of their respective Governing Body. Only one (1) candidate may be nominated per member agency and one (1) candidate shall not represent more than one (1) member agency. A resolution from the candidate's district/agency Governing Body nominating the candidate must be received by the Authority on or before the scheduled date in May. (A sample of the resolution is enclosed). Actual receipt by the Authority on or before the scheduled deadline date in May is required. The resolution nominating the candidate may be hand-delivered to the Authority or sent by U.S. mail. In the event a candidate is nominated by two (2) or more member agencies, he or she shall represent the member agency whose nominating resolution is first received by the Authority. The other member agency or agencies that nominated the candidate shall be entitled to select a replacement nominee as long as a resolution nominating the replacement is received by the Authority prior to the scheduled deadline date.
- 5.2. A member may not nominate a candidate unless that member is participating in both the Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation Programs and is in "good standing" on the date the nominations are due. "Good standing" is defined as no accounts receivable due to SDRMA which is more than ninety (90) days past due.
- 5.3. No earlier than the day after the deadline for receipt of nominations, the Election Committee, as hereinabove defined and comprised, shall review all nominations received from members, and will reject any nominations that do not meet all of the qualifications specified and set forth in this policy. The Election

Committee's decisions regarding the qualification of nominees are final. Following the Election Committee's review of all nominations, the Election Committee shall direct that a ballot be prepared stating and listing all of the qualified nominees. The ballot of qualified nominees shall be distributed to the membership for election by mail as described below.

- 5.4. Upon verification or rejection of each nominee by the Election Committee, staff will mail acknowledgment to both the nominee and the district/agency of its acceptance or rejection as a qualified nominee for election.
- 5.5. A nominee requesting that his/her nomination be withdrawn prior to the election, shall submit such requests in writing to SDRMA's office a minimum of three (3) days prior to the scheduled date for mailing the ballots. After that date, all qualified nominees names shall appear on the ballot mailed to the membership.

6.0. Terms of Directors

- 6.1. The election of directors shall be held in each odd-numbered year. The terms of the directors elected by the Members will be staggered. Four directors will serve four-year terms, to end on December 31 of one odd-numbered year. Three directors will serve four-year terms, to end on December 31 of the alternate off-numbered year. [Per Bylaws, Article II, (3), paragraph 1].

7.0. Campaigning

- 7.1. SDRMA staff will mail each qualified candidate's "Statement of Qualifications", "exactly as submitted" by the candidate with the ballots to the membership.
- 7.2. Candidates, at their own expense, may distribute additional information to member agency(s) after the ballots have been mailed and prior to the election.
- 7.3. SDRMA staff is prohibited from actively promoting a candidate or participating in the election process while on Authority premises.
- 7.4. SDRMA staff may provide member information, mailing lists, financial reports or operational data and information, that is normally available through the Public Records Act, to candidates to assist them in their research and campaigning. In addition to obtaining such information under the Public Records Act, candidates may request SDRMA staff prepare mailing labels for the distribution of campaign materials to member agencies. Under existing policy, charges will apply for this service. The SDRMA logo is trademarked for use by SDRMA only. Neither the logo, nor any other Trademark of SDRMA may be used in any campaign literature. No campaign literature is to imply support of any candidate by SDRMA.
- 7.5. SDRMA election mailings to the membership, including ballots and candidates' "Statement of Qualifications", shall be sent via first class mail.

8.0. Limitations on Campaigning

- 8.1. As used in this section the following terms have the following meanings:

"Campaign Activity" means any activity that expressly advocates the election or defeat of a candidate or provides direct support to a candidate for his or her candidacy. "Campaign activity" does not include the incidental and minimal use of public resources, such as equipment or office space, for campaign purposes or the use of public resources to nominate a candidate or vote in any Board of Directors election.

"Candidate" means an individual who has been nominated by the Member Agency to have his or her name listed on the ballot for election to the Board of Directors.

"Expenditure" means a payment of Member Agency funds that is used for communications that expressly advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate. "Expenditure" does not include the use of public funds to nominate a candidate or vote in any Board of Directors election.

"Public resources" means any property or asset owned by the Member Agency, including, but not limited to, land, buildings, facilities, funds, equipment, supplies, telephones, computers, vehicles, travel, and Member Agency-compensated time.

- 8.2. An officer, official, employee, or consultant of a Member Agency may not expend or authorize the expenditure of any of the funds of the Member Agency to support or oppose the election or defeat of a candidate for the Board of Directors.
- 8.3. No officer, official, employee, or consultant of a Member Agency shall use or permit others to use public resources for campaign activity.
- 8.4. At any time during an election campaign, if a Member Agency or its officers, officials, employees or consultants violate this section, that Member Agency shall be ineligible to nominate a candidate for the Board of Directors election in which the violation occurred. Any candidate of an offending Member Agency shall be deemed to have withdrawn his or her candidacy. Prior to declaring a Member Agency ineligible to nominate a candidate or a specific candidate's candidacy withdrawn, the Elections Committee shall hold a hearing to determine whether or not a violation of this section occurred. The hearing shall be conducted pursuant to reasonable procedures that the Elections Committee shall prescribe, provided that the affected Member Agency or candidate shall have an opportunity to dispute the violation. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Elections Committee shall determine by a majority vote whether the violation occurred.

9.0. Balloting

- 9.1. A ballot containing nominees for the Board of Directors, accepted and approved by the Election Committee, shall be mailed by first class mail, to each SDRMA member agency, except as provided in Section 9.2 below, no less than sixty (60) days prior to the deadline for receiving ballots and the closing date for voting. Ballots shall show the date and time the ballots must be received in SDRMA's office. A self-addressed, stamped, return envelope shall be mailed with each ballot.
- 9.2. In the event that the number of qualified/approved nominees is equal to or less than the number of director seats up for election, the mailing of the ballots as outlined in Section 9.1 shall be waived.
- 9.3. Only those qualified nominees approved by the Election Committee will be eligible candidates on the ballot. Write-in candidates shall not be accepted.
- 9.4. It is required that the Governing Body of each member vote on behalf of their agency (sample Resolution enclosed) and the ballot MUST be signed by the agency's Presiding Officer.
- 9.5. A member may not vote unless the member was a member of the Authority in "good standing" on or before the nomination due date for the pending election. "Good standing" is defined as no accounts receivable due to SDRMA which is more than ninety (90) days past due.
- 9.6. A member may cast only one (1) vote for the same candidate. By way of example, if there are four (4) candidates on the ballot, a member may not cast two (2) to four (4) votes for any single candidate. Any ballot casting more than one (1) vote for the same candidate will be considered void.

- 9.7. A member may vote by using the official ballot provided by SDRMA, or a copy of SDRMA's original ballot, or a reasonable duplicate prepared by the member agency. Whichever of the three foregoing formats is used, the ballot must contain an original signature and confirmation that the ballot was approved at a public meeting of the agency's Governing Body. Ballots submitted without an original signature and/or without confirmation that the form of the ballot was approved at a public meeting of the agency's Governing Body will be considered void.
- 9.8. Ballots may be returned using either hand-delivered or mailed in ballots - faxed or e-mailed ballots will not be accepted. Mailed in ballots must be addressed to, and hand-delivered ballots must be delivered to, the Special District Risk Management Authority office presently located at 1112 I Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, California 95814-2865.
- 9.9. Any ballot received after the specified deadline will not be counted and will be considered void.

10.0. Election Results

- 10.1. All ballots will be opened and counted at SDRMA's office only after the deadline for receiving ballots. Ballots will be opened by SDRMA's Election Committee, no more than five (5) days after the closing deadline. Candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared the elected director(s).
- 10.2. In the event of a tie, a coin toss shall be used to determine the elected director. The coin toss shall be conducted by the Election Committee at the time and place of the conclusion of counting ballots.

PROCEDURE: In the event more than two (2) candidates tie, the coin toss shall be between two (2) candidates at a time based on the order in which their name appeared on the ballot. This process shall be repeated, as needed, in cases where there are more than two (2) candidates.

- 10.3. Excluding tie votes, within five (5) days after the ballots are opened and tabulated Authority staff shall advise the candidates and their respective agency in writing of the final election results. Copies of the results shall also be mailed/distributed to SDRMA's Board of Directors, staff and consultants and published in the first available CSDA newsletter.
- 10.4. If a director-elect withdraws after the election or fails to accept the Director seat prior to December 31, the Board shall name a new director-elect by going back to the ballots and awarding the seat to the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes during the election.
- 10.5. Staff shall invite newly elected director(s) to attend the Annual Membership meeting and all scheduled Board meeting(s) after confirmation of election results until the director(s) elect assume office. Director(s) elect will be reimbursed for expenses, except for director stipends, in accordance with approved director reimbursement policy (copy of policy shall be provided to newly elected directors).
- 10.6. A member or candidate dissatisfied with the election result may, within ten (10) days after the ballots are opened and tabulated, file with the Authority a written challenge and appeal. The challenge and appeal must clearly set forth the complaint and any and all facts in support of the challenge and appeal. Within ten (10) days after the ballots are opened and tabulated, the challenge and appeal shall be delivered and received by the Authority. Within five (5) days of receipt of the challenge and appeal, the Authority shall deliver the same to the Election Committee for decision. The Election Committee shall have absolute authority for deciding the challenge and appeal. Notice of the decision of the Election Committee shall be provided to the party filing the challenge and appeal within ten (10) days.

11.0. Director Vacancy

11.1. If a director vacancy(s) occurs (Note 1), appointment of a replacement director for the balance of the unexpired term will be made by the remaining members of the SDRMA Board. In order to accomplish this in an orderly and consistent manner, when a vacancy(s) of an elected Director(s) occurs, the SDRMA Board of Directors, after discussion and consideration, shall, when deemed appropriate, instruct staff to:

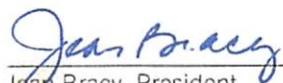
- a) notify all then member entities that a vacancy has occurred; and
- b) said notice shall refer to the applicable Article in the By-laws in advising member entities and their eligible candidates of the steps to take to apply for appointment; and
- c) the SDRMA Board shall establish the closing date for the receipt of applications; and
- d) candidates shall submit the following, by the date specified in the notice:
 - i) a letter of interest; and
 - ii) a resume, with particular emphasis on the candidate's knowledge of special districts and risk management; and
 - iii) a resolution from, or a letter approved by, the candidate's Governing Body nominating the candidate; and
- e) the Election Committee shall review all applications received, and shall reject any that do not meet all of the qualifications specified and set forth in this policy; and
- f) upon verification or rejection of each application by the Election Committee, staff will mail acknowledgement to both the applicant and the district/agency of its acceptance or rejection of the applicant as a qualified candidate for appointment; and
- g) candidates shall be interviewed at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the SDRMA Board of Directors following the date of closure for the applications. Interviews shall be in person, or if an unforeseen emergency arises, the interview may be by telephone at the same scheduled time; and
- h) the SDRMA Board shall make the appointment without undue delay, but need not act at the same meeting.

Note 1: If the Director vacancy occurs within nine (9) months after the date the ballots were counted and certified by the Election Committee or within nine (9) months after a candidate was appointed to fill a vacancy, then the Board shall have the option to interview and appoint the candidate(s) who did not receive sufficient votes to be elected OR to interview and appoint from the pool of candidates from 11.1.g) above. If the Director vacancy occurs in an election year after the Notification of Election is sent to the members, the Board may determine to fill the vacancy by appointing the candidate who receives the next highest number of votes in the election. If the Board determines in its sole discretion that none of these options is appropriate, then staff shall be instructed to proceed with the process described above in steps 11.1 a) to h).

Revised and adopted this 2nd day of February 2017, by the Board of Directors of Special District Risk Management Authority, at a regular meeting thereof.


This Policy No. 2017-03 supercedes Policy No. 2015-01 and all other policies inconsistent herewith.

APPROVED:



Jean Bracy, President
Board of Directors

ATTEST:



Gregory S. Hall, ARM
Chief Executive Officer

**SAMPLE
RESOLUTION FOR
CANDIDATE NOMINATION**

**Available for download in Microsoft Word file format
visit our website at www.sdrma.org**

[AGENCY NAME]

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE [AGENCY NAME] NOMINATING
[CANDIDATE'S NAME] AS A
CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO THE SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) is a Joint Powers Authority formed under California Government Code, Section 6500 et.seq., for the purpose of providing risk management and risk financing for California Special Districts and other local government agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and Bylaws of SDRMA set forth director qualifications, terms of office and election requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of SDRMA established procedures and guidelines for the Director Election process; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of SDRMA established a policy requiring candidates seeking election to the SDRMA Board of Directors to be: 1) a member of the agency's governing body or management employee per SDRMA Election Policy 2017-03, Section 4.1 and be an active member agency of both SDRMA's Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation Programs, and 2) be nominated by Resolution of their member agency's governing body, and 3) each nominated candidate must submit a completed and signed "Candidate's Statement of Qualifications" on or before the May 5 filing deadline in order for the candidate's name to be placed on the official ballot.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The governing body of [AGENCY NAME] nominates [CANDIDATE'S NAME], its [POSITION TITLE], as a candidate for the Board of Directors of the Special District Risk Management Authority.

2. [ONLY IF CANDIDATE IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE AGENCY'S GOVERNING BODY: The governing body of [AGENCY NAME] has determined that [CANDIDATE'S NAME] is a management employee for purposes of SDRMA Election Policy 2017-03, Section 4.1].

3. The governing body of [AGENCY NAME] further directs that a copy of this Resolution be delivered to SDRMA on or before the May 5, 2017 filing deadline.

ADOPTED this [DATE] of [MONTH/YEAR] by the Governing Body of [AGENCY NAME] by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	[LIST NAMES of GOVERNING BOARD VOTES]
NAYES:	"
ABSTAIN:	"
ABSENT:	"

APPROVED

ATTEST

President – Governing Body

Secretary

**CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT
OF
QUALIFICATIONS**

**Available for download in Microsoft Word file format
visit our website at www.sdrma.org**

This information will be distributed to the membership with the ballot, “exactly as submitted” by the candidates – **no attachments will be accepted**. No statements are endorsed by SDRMA.

Nominee/Candidate _____
 District/Agency _____
 Work Address _____
 Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Why do you want to serve on the SDRMA Board of Directors? (Response Required)

[illegible]

What Board or committee experience do you have that would help you to be an effective Board Member? (SDRMA or any other organization) (Response Required)

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery.

Special District Risk Management Authority Board of Directors Candidate's Statement of Qualifications
--

What special skills, talents, or experience (including volunteer experience) do you have?
(Response Required)

[illegible]

What is your overall vision for SDRMA? (Response Required)

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.

I certify that I meet the candidate qualifications as outlined in the SDRMA election policy. I further certify that I am willing to serve as a director on SDRMA's Board of Directors. I will commit the time and effort necessary to serve. Please consider my application for nomination/candidacy to the Board of Directors.

Candidate Signature _____ Date _____



SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

1112 I Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95814-2865
T 916.231.4141
T 800.537.7790
F 916.231.4111
www.sdrma.org

SAFETY/CLAIMS EDUCATION DAY

March 28, 2017

Hilton Sacramento Arden West Hotel

SDRMA provides Property/Liability, Workers' Compensation, Health Benefits and risk management services to California public agencies. Two times a year, we host our Safety/Claims Education Day to provide free training and information regarding coverages, online training programs, technology updates and our many valuable MemberPlus Services™.

In addition, SDRMA members who attend the Education Day are eligible to earn credit incentive points (CIPs) to reduce their annual contribution amounts for both Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation programs.

The Education Day is free to all SDRMA and CSDA members except for the separate workshop for the CSDA Special District Leadership Academy – Governance Foundations.

Come join us for safety, education and fun!

Hotel Information

Hilton Sacramento Arden West
2200 Harvard Street
Sacramento, California 95815
T. 800.344.4321

Reserve your room by Tuesday,
March 13, 2017 for group rates
\$118 plus tax
Single or Double Room Rates

Ask for SDRMA Claims Day rate.

Register online at www.sdrma.org

PROGRAM AGENDA

7:30 – 8:15 a.m.	Registration / Buffet Breakfast (provided)
8:15 – 9:00 a.m.	Welcome, Annual Membership Meeting
9:00 – 9:25 a.m.	SDLF Acknowledgements and Presentations
9:25 – 10:15 a.m.	General Session - TargetSolutions Presentation • Amy Albanese, TargetSolutions
10:15 – 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.	SDRMA Supervisor Safety Specialist Certificate Program • Derek Davis, Lapidus Consulting Separate All Day Workshop - Earn this special certificate for SDRMA Members Only!
SEPARATE BREAKOUTS	
	SDLA Governance Foundations Workshop • David Aranda, SDA Separate All Day Workshop - SDRMA Member: Free • CSDA Member: \$125
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	General Session Employment Law Update - Gender Identity in the Workplace • Dennis Timoney, SDRMA / Carl Fessenden, Porter Scott
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (provided)
1:00 – 2:15 p.m.	1A - Workers' Comp - SB863: 5 Years Later • Debbie Yokota, SDRMA & Mike Sullivan & Associates 1B - Property - Is this Covered? • Dennis Timoney, SDRMA 1C - New MemberPlus Online Portal Demonstration • SDRMA & The iFish Group
Concurrent Breakout Sessions	
2:15 – 2:30 p.m.	Break
2:30 – 3:45 p.m.	2A - Workers' Comp - Temporary Disability: Is it really Temporary? • Debbie Yokota, SDRMA 2B - Liability - Check the Fine Print: Contractual Exposures • Dennis Timoney, SDRMA
Concurrent Breakout Sessions	
3:45 p.m.	Adjourn

REGISTRATION FORM – Please select which sessions you will be attending

- ☐ I will be attending the SDRMA Supervisor Safety Specialist Certificate all-day workshop

-OR-

- ☐ I will be attending the SDLA Governance Foundations all-day workshop
(CSDA will bill the district directly if applicable)

-OR-

To register online:

Go to
www.sdrma.org
and click on
"Register for a
Training Workshop"

Choose one afternoon session in this section:

- ☐ 1A - Workers' Comp - SB863: 5 Years Later • Debbie Yokota, SDRMA & Mike Sullivan
☐ 1B - Property - Is this Covered? • Dennis Timoney, SDRMA
☐ 1C - New MemberPlus Online Portal Demonstration • SDRMA & The iFish Group

Seating is limited.

Choose one afternoon session in this section:

- ☐ 2A - Workers' Comp - Temporary Disability; Is it really Temporary? • Debbie Yokota, SDRMA
☐ 2B - Liability - Check the Fine Print; Contractual Exposures • Dennis Timoney, SDRMA

- ☐ Vegetarian Meal Request

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

District: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Cancellation Policy • Cancellations must be made in writing and received by SDRMA (via fax or mail) three business days prior to the event.

Subject **2017-18 Rates, Longevity Distributions, New Board Officers, 2017 Board of Director Election**

From SDRMA - Greg Hall, CEO <ghall@sdrma.org>

To <rose.corona@emarcd.org>

Reply-To <memberplus_accounts@sdrma.org>

Date 2017-02-06 15:07



Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



SAVE THE DATE!

**SDRMA Safety/Claims
Education Day & Annual
Membership Meeting**

**March 28, 2017
Hilton Sacramento
Arden West Hotel**

**No Registration Fees
Full Plated Breakfast &
Lunch Included**

Earn CIP Points

**[Click Here](#) for more
information!**

Board Approves Rates for 2017-18

In 2009, the SDRMA Board of Directors reduced property, liability and workers' compensation rates by 15% due to the poor state of the economy and the negative financial impact on our Members. Since that time, the Board has been able to keep **rates flat for the past 7 years** by using Rate Stabilization Reserves to help fund subsequent budgeted revenue shortfalls amid non-existent investment income.

However, due to those factors as well as escalating costs for reinsurance and overall claims costs over the past several years, after considerable review and discussion, the Board approved a 10% increase in property and liability rates for 2017-18.

For Workers' Compensation Members, due to continuing improvement in revenues following a rate increase in 2014-15, the Board approved NO rate increase to workers' compensation rates for 2017-18. However, your agency's actual annual contribution amount for 2017-18 may vary compared to 2016-17 as a result of any reported payroll changes, EMOD changes and Credit Incentive Program (CIP) points earned.

All Members will be receiving a letter in the next two weeks outlining the approved rates for 2017-18. In addition, Workers' Compensation Members will receive their new EMOD along with an estimated annual contribution amount to use for budgeting purposes.

Board Approves Longevity Distribution

The SDRMA Board of Directors believe it is important to recognize and reward members for their loyalty and commitment to SDRMA's programs and approved their 8th Longevity Distribution at the February 2, 2017 board meeting. The distribution may only be declared by the Board of Directors each year after all Board policy reserve requirements have been met. The distribution is weighted based on the member's length of time in that program and the amount of the member's annual contributions

Website Quick Links

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FREE WEBINARS!

The following Webinars are free to SDRMA members as a result of our support and partnership with CSDA;

February 8
Understanding Board Member and District Liability Issues

March 16
Ethics AB1234 Compliance Training

[View CSDA's complete Education Calendar here](#)



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compared to the total contributions of all pool members.

The approved Longevity Distribution amount is \$247,965 for Property/Liability members and \$463,920 for Workers' Compensation members. For the Property/Liability program, over 91% of members will receive the distribution credit and for the Workers' Compensation program, over 90% of members will receive the distribution credit. There is no action required by your agency. Every member that has completed the 3 full program year initial commitment by June 30, 2016 for either the Property/Liability or Workers' Compensation program is eligible to receive the Longevity Distribution credit for that particular program.

All members will be receiving a detailed letter in the next two weeks and qualifying members will receive the Longevity Distribution credit on their 2017-18 renewal invoice(s). If you have any questions please call the SDRMA Finance Department at 800.537.7790.

Board Elects New Board Officers for 2017

The SDRMA Board of Directors elected new Board Officers for 2017. They are;

Jean Bracy, President
Ed Gray, Vice President
Sandy Seifert-Raffelson, Secretary

Board Officers are elected to serve in that position for a one-year term. You can read about the SDRMA directors on our website [Click here](#).

Board of Director Nominations/Election

A Notice of Nominations for the SDRMA Board of Directors 2017 Election is being mailed to members in accordance with the SDRMA Bylaws and Election Policy. There are 4 Director seats up for election with each seat serving a 4-year term.

The nomination filing deadline is Friday, May 5, 2017. Nominees must be a board member or management employee and be an active member agency of both SDRMA's Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation programs. Candidates must be nominated by resolution of their member agency's governing body and submit the required documents. Ballots will be mailed to all Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation member agencies in mid-May.



Nomination documents can also be obtained on the SDRMA website at www.sdrma.org or by contacting the SDRMA office at 800.537.7790.

Withdrawal Notice Deadline - April 1

Members considering to withdraw from coverage for 2017-18 for either the Workers' Compensation Program or Property/Liability Program are required to submit a "Notice of Intent to Withdraw". The notice must be received in the SDRMA office before April 1, 2017 according to SDRMA Bylaws.

Members not renewing coverage for 2017-18 will not receive the longevity distribution credit recently approved by the Board.

New Members

The SDRMA Board of Directors approved the following new members at their January and February board meetings;

Property/Liability Program (currently 502 members)

Grizzly Ranch Community Services District
Strawberry Fire Protection District

Workers' Compensation Program (currently 438 members)

City of Jurupa Valley
Grizzly Ranch Community Services District
Strawberry Fire Protection District

Health Benefits Program (currently 122 participating groups)

None

The SDRMA Board of Directors and staff welcome you to SDRMA and are here to serve all your risk management needs!

ALWAYS MEMBER FOCUSED.

800.537.7790 | www.sdrma.org

SDRMA, 800.537.7790, 1112 I Street Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95814

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