

# California Special Districts Association San Diego Chapter News

Volume 4 - 2018

November • December

## SPECIAL DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

### Sweetwater Authority: The Value of Investments in Local Water Supply and Partnerships

Sweetwater Authority (Authority), a joint powers public agency, provides public water service to approximately 190,000 people residing in National City and the South Bay Irrigation District (which includes portions of the City of Chula Vista and the County of San Diego).

Over the next five years, the Authority will invest \$72 million in infrastructure projects including: a new 36-inch transmission main pipeline to improve reliability, system wide flushing/pipe cleaning to protect water quality, and necessary work to the Sweetwater and Loveland dams to maintain safety. In 2018, the Authority's Governing Board adopted its budget for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, which included the creation of a rate stabilization fund, and accepted and filed a Five-year Water Rate Study. The Governing Board also approved new water rates and charges to support these major investments in infrastructure. In January 2019, Authority customers will see an increase in their water bill for the first time since 2015.

The Authority consistently reinvests in the water system. This includes developing a flexible water system, maintaining and upgrading infrastructure, and finding innovative projects and new technologies that can improve efficiency, increase water supply, and ensure that the communities we serve have a reliable water supply now and into the future. During wet years, the Authority is able to provide safe reliable drinking water to its ratepayers from 100% local sources, allowing it to keep rates among the lowest in the county.

The Authority recently launched two initiatives to serve youth within its service area. In 2019, the Authority will host local students from Chula Vista Elementary School District at the Hydrostation Innovation Lab. This partnership between the Authority, Otay Water District and the Chula Vista Elementary School District is the first of its kind. Each year, 4,500 fifth grade students will attend a one-day session at the Authority's Richard A. Reynolds Groundwater Desalination Facility. Students will learn about the various career opportunities in the water industry. The Authority has also formed a partnership with Olivewood Gardens in National City. Students who participate in education programs offered by Olivewood Gardens will receive additional lessons about water, including tap water safety and recycled gray water.



*Sweetwater Authority Governing Board members signed a section of pipe earlier this year. The pipe signing kicked off the Authority's capital improvement projects and commitment to maintaining its infrastructure. Board Members from left to right: José F. Cerda, Josie Calderon-Scott, Steve Castaneda, Teresa "Terry" Thomas, Ron Morrison, Jose Preciado and Jess Van Deventer.*



#### \* Meet Our Affiliates \*

**aalrr** Atkinson, Andelson  
Loya, Ruud & Romo  
A Professional Law Corporation



**DPMC**  
Devaney Pate  
Morris & Cameron LLP

**DUDEK**



**San Diego  
LAFCO**  
Local Agency Formation Commission

**suez**  
Utility Service Group is now  
SUEZ Water Advanced Solutions



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## San Diego Chapter Quarterly Dinner Meeting

Thursday – November 15, 2018

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Dinner served at 6:45 pm

### Location

The Butcher Shop Steakhouse

Kearny Mesa

5255 Kearny Villa Road

San Diego, CA (858) 565-2272

<http://butchershopsd.signonsandiego.com>

Please send in your RSVP form to our CSDA Treasurer, [Rich Stevenson at Sweetwater Authority](#).

**RSVP Deadline:**

**Thursday, 11/08/18**



Join us for a dynamic, interactive, and educational evening as CSDASD welcomes its guest speaker **Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan**, Deputy Public Health Officer, County of San Diego's Health and Human Services - Public Health Services. In his presentation, **Leveraging Special District and County Partnerships to Live Well**, Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan will talk about past and current efforts that align with interests of Special Districts and the County. He will highlight efforts such as the Kresge Emerging Leaders in Public Health Initiative, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Emergency Preparedness Rule, and Emergency Medical Services efforts.

Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan is a Board Certified Preventive Medicine Physician who aims to work on the population level to address health-related issues. He currently works to protect and promote the health of **all** San Diegans as the Deputy Public Health Officer for the County of San Diego's Health and Human Services Public Health Services. He has a strong interest in health equity and is mission-driven to improve the quality of life for **all** San Diegans via the Live Well San Diego Vision. In addition to population-based efforts, Dr. Sayone occasionally sees patients in the County's public health clinics. He also continues to be an associate reviewer for the American Journal of Health Promotion.

Born in Nigeria to Sri Lankan parents, Dr. Sayone was raised in Toronto and Buffalo, New York. He received his Bachelor of Science in Biology from Purdue University in Indiana, a medical degree from New York University School of Medicine and a Master's in Public Health from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health.

During his six years with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Dr. Sayone worked on tobacco control, diabetes prevention, alcohol and drug use, vital statistics, lead poisoning, Ebola, and other emergency response efforts. His clinical work included treating patients with sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, and, most recently, in a smoking cessation program for government employees. In his last position in New York, Thihalolipavan served as Medical Director of the Clinical and Scientific Unit in the Bureau of Chronic Disease and Tobacco Control.

## Did You Hear the Great News?



During the Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) [Annual Meeting](#), ACHD recognized a Healthcare District for outstanding innovation and leadership over the last year. **Grossmont Healthcare District**, serving San Diego County's eastern region, received ACHD's District of the Year award for the program Seniors in Crisis, a collaborative effort focused on Alzheimer's care. It's estimated more than 64,000 San Diegans have Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia. Recognizing the severity of the disease, Grossmont Healthcare District partnered with a local hospital, and city and county agencies to support subject matter experts in Alzheimer's treatment and care.

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## President Tom Kennedy's Message



### Greetings San Diego CSDA Chapter!

It was great seeing many of you at the recent CSDA Annual Conference in Indian Wells. This was a great event that had lots of very informative sessions and some great opportunities to network with our peers. I learn a lot from both the sessions and from talking to others about how they handle problems that we all face. If you have not attended a CSDA Annual Conference yet, you should – the best practices are there for the taking!

At the Conference, the San Diego Chapter presented a check to the Special District Leadership Foundation in the amount of \$1,000. The SDLF has a scholarship program that helps small districts afford the costs of the conference travel etc. As a community of Special Districts it is critical that we ensure that ALL Special Districts – regardless of budget – get the detailed training they need to run their Districts effectively. It is in all of our best interests to make sure that every District has effective leadership because when one District fails we all get painted in a bad light. Our Chapter was one of two statewide to make a donation and I personally challenged the other Chapters to step up to the plate!

If you have not noticed yet, this is an election year. While our local, State, and Federal officeholders and their challengers duke it out in the media, here at the San Diego Chapter we have our own election to hold. At our November meeting we will be selecting officers to fill the President and First Vice President positions. As far as the President position goes, I have offered to serve but have no issue with someone else stepping up for the position. Our current First Vice President, Jim Peasley, has indicated that he would like to offer the opportunity to serve to someone else. The First Vice President handles the selection of speakers for our quarterly dinner meetings. Jim has done a great job over the last several years. If you have a desire to serve, please contact me and we will get the nomination forms to you.

Our quarterly dinner speaker is Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan who is a Board Certified Preventive Medicine Physician who will speak about past and current efforts that align with interests of Special Districts and the County. He will highlight the efforts of the Kresge Emerging Leaders in Public Health Initiative, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Emergency Preparedness Rule, and Emergency Medical Services efforts. Looks to be a very enlightening event.

Good luck to all of you running for election or re-election this fall – it will be a rather interesting election year!

~ Tom



### Treasurer's Report

April 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018



**Income** for the period was from the August 2018 dinner meeting \$2,010.00 (63 attendees) and 2018-19 Membership Payment of \$6,880.00 for a total of **\$8,890.00**.

**Expenditures** for the period included Butcher Shop Restaurant for August 2018 dinner meeting \$2,364.77 and a donation to the CSDA Special District Leadership Foundation \$1,000.00 for a total of \$3,364.77.

The fund balances as of September 30, 2018 were as follows: the Grant Scholarship Fund balance received 50% of annual membership payments and increased to a balance of \$16,649.94; the Speaker Program fund remained unchanged with a balance of \$4,000.00; and the General Fund balance after adjustments for income and expenses was \$14,005.55 for a total **Fund balance of \$34,655.49**. The bank balance as of September 30, 2018 was \$35,155.49 pending three outstanding checks in the total amount of \$500.00.

## Our CSDA Chapter Needs YOU !

- Become Involved
- Be a Contributor
- Showcase Your Strengths and Talents

Consider a position on our Chapter's Executive Committee. Please contact [Tom Kennedy](#) to get your name in for the upcoming election.



Update Your Email

Contact Elaine Sullivan at [esullivan@lwwd.org](mailto:esullivan@lwwd.org)

### Jurassic Parliament — Quick Tip

# Shhh

## Interrupting is not allowed at meetings

Interrupting is one of the most common conversational gambits in our American society. It is not allowed at meetings run according to Robert's Rules of Order.

We see and hear interruptions all the time. Parents interrupt children, employers interrupt their subordinates, men interrupt women (and occasionally, though less often, women interrupt men). Let's put a stop to it!

### Interrupting = disrespect

Interrupting is a basic sign of disrespect. It puts the clamps on free expression. The person interrupting is perceived as dominant and the person being interrupted is the victim. It shouldn't happen.

In discussing this topic on page 383-384, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th edition (RONR) says that when a member has been assigned the floor and has begun to speak, he cannot be interrupted by another member.

Robert's Rules says further that the chair may not interrupt a speaker, even if he knows more about the subject than the speaker does (p. 44). Would that all chairs took this to heart!

### Interrupting – an exception

There is an exception to this rule. If someone saying something completely off the wall, negative, and breaking the rules of courtesy, the chair should stop them, or a member should interrupt to make a Point of Order. In that case, it is OK and indeed a good thing to interrupt.

 **Jurassic  
Parliament**

Visit: <http://www.jurassicparliament.com/>

for more.

## Is Your Website California Compliant?

Staying up-to-date on all the laws and regulations governing special districts can be a real challenge. Are you certain your website is meeting the latest mandated requirements? Check out the CA website compliance checklist.

### Public Records Act

**SB 929:** District website with contact information included, along with all other requirements listed below. (Requires all California special districts to have a website by Jan. 1, 2020 unless exceptions can be met).

**SB 272:** Enterprise System Catalog (per SB 272), This catalog lists your computer systems that meet certain requirements is required even if you don't have a website. Learn more about the law or sign up for the free compliance tool at [getstreamline.com/sb272](http://getstreamline.com/sb272)

**AB 2853 (optional):** Post the content most often requested by our constituents, and most often requested via Public Records Act request, to your website in an easy to find location. This can save the cost of making copies, allowing you to refer to your website when complying with PRA requests. In addition, it helps reduce phone calls!

### The Brown Act

**AB 392:** Post all agendas 72 hours in advance for general meetings—including on Your website.

**AB 2257:** Post the most recent agenda directly to the homepage of your website, searchable and platform-independent. Agendas must also be retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable.

### State Controller's Reports

**Financial Transaction Report:** Last year's financial transaction report, or a link to the Controller's "By the

Numbers" site, is posted on your website. The report must be posted "within seven months after the close of each fiscal year"

**Compensation Report:** Compensation report, or a link to the Controller's [publicpay.ca.gov](http://publicpay.ca.gov) website, posted in a conspicuous location on your website by April 30 each year

### Healthcare District websites

**AB 2019:** A healthcare district's website includes all required information posted in a prominent place. (AB 1728 requires websites, AB 2019 requires listing budget, board members, MSR, grant policy and recipients, audits and more)

### Formatting requirements

**AB 169: Open Data:** Anything posted online as "open data" meets the requirements for open data (per AB 169) California law defines what the term "open data" means, for content posted to an agency website

**Accessibility (Section 508 / WCAG 2.0 AA):** Site meets ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements and passes a scan from a Section 508 scanner. (Required so that people with disabilities can access your website. Check at [achecker.com](http://achecker.com), a popular scanner to test for compliance)



Questions: Contact Sloane at Streamline:  
(916) 900-6619

[sloane@getstreamline.com](mailto:sloane@getstreamline.com)

## CSDA San Diego Chapter - 2018 Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	<b>Tom Kennedy</b> , Rainbow MWD, <a href="mailto:tkennedy@rainbowmwd.com">tkennedy@rainbowmwd.com</a>
<b>1st VP</b>	<b>Jim Peasley</b> , Padre Dam MWD, <a href="mailto:jfpeasley@cox.net">jfpeasley@cox.net</a>
<b>2nd VP</b>	<b>Elaine Sullivan</b> , Leucadia Wastewater District, <a href="mailto:esullivan@lwwd.org">esullivan@lwwd.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Diana Towne</b> , Rincon del Diablo MWD, <a href="mailto:dtowne@rinconwater.org">dtowne@rinconwater.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Rich Stevenson</b> , Sweetwater Authority, <a href="mailto:rstevenson@sweetwater.org">rstevenson@sweetwater.org</a>
<b>Past President</b>	<b>Mike Bardin</b> , Santa Fe Irrigation District <b>President</b> , <a href="mailto:mbardin@sfdwater.org">mbardin@sfdwater.org</a>
<b>State CSDA Representative:</b>	<b>Jo MacKenzie</b> , Vista Irrigation District CSDA Rep <a href="mailto:mackgroup@cox.net">mackgroup@cox.net</a>



CSDA San Diego chapter newsletter is printed quarterly. If you have any comments or suggestions, please direct them to Diana Towne, SDCSDA Board Secretary at: [dtowne@rinconwater.org](mailto:dtowne@rinconwater.org).

# CSDA Conference Honors

Congratulations to all of this year's CSDA Annual Award winners, especially our local members and member agencies! Individuals and districts both received awards acknowledging their achievements in Special District Governance and Districts of Distinction. A big shout out to **Leucadia Wastewater** for their Platinum level achievement, Special District Leadership Foundation's (SDLF) highest level of recognition for a district! This level of achievement incorporates completion of all SDLF programs demonstrating a comprehensive approach to excellence in district administration and governance.

Awards were presented at the CSDA Annual Awards Luncheon, Wednesday, September 26 during this year's [2018 CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase](#) in Indian Wells. Local honorees were:

### Recognition in San Diego Governance

- Elitharp, Craig – Vallecitos Water District
- Evans, Betty – Vallecitos Water District
- Gasca, Miguel– Rainbow Municipal Water District
- Hamilton, Hayden – Rainbow Municipal Water District
- Hodgkiss, Brett – Vista Irrigation District
- Knight, Thomas - North County Cemetery District
- Lochridge, Steve - North County Cemetery District
- Mack, Michael - Rainbow Municipal Water District.
- Martin, Hal - Vallecitos Water District
- Ott, Michael - North County Cemetery District
- Pruim, Glenn - Vallecitos Water District
- Sannella, Mike - Vallecitos Water District
- Stewart, Bill - Rainbow Municipal Water District

### Special District Administrator

- Hodgkiss, Bret—Vista Irrigation District

### District of Distinction

- Leucadia Wastewater District - **PLATINUM**
- Vallecitos Water District – **SILVER**
- Vista Irrigation District - **GOLD**

*Congratulations!*



At the CSDA conference, the SDCSDA presented a check for a \$1000 donation on behalf of its membership, which will be used to help fund additional scholarships available through the SDLF.

*Left to right: Elaine Sullivan, Director - Leucadia Wastewater; Jo MacKenzie, Director - Vista Irrigation District; Tom Kennedy, General Manager - Rainbow MWD (all three representing SDCSDA), David Aranda, ADA President, and Neil McCormick, Chief Executive Officer (both representing SDLF)*



### Grossmont Healthcare District (continued from Page 2)



*Grossmont Healthcare District Board members from left to right: Robert Ayres, Board Treasurer; Virginia Hall, Board Secretary; Gloria Chadwick, Board Vice President; Randy Lenac, Board Member; and, Michael Emerson, Board President.*