

# ***San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency***

**DATE:** June 12, 2023

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Lance Eckhart, General Manager

**BY:** Cheryle Stiff, Executive Assistant

**SUBJECT:** Supporting Candidates for Association of California Water Agencies Board President and Vice President

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Support candidate Cathy Green (Current Vice President of ACWA and Board President of Orange County Water District) for the ACWA President position. Resolution No. 2023-10 must be submitted to ACWA no later than June 15, 2023.

Support candidate Lona M. Williams (Treasurer, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District) for the ACWA Vice President position. Resolution No. 2023-11 must be submitted to ACWA no later than June 15, 2023.

The Board has the option to support either candidate or both candidates by separate board action. The Board may also choose not to endorse either candidate.

## **BACKGROUND**

ACWA is the leading organization in the water industry in California. The Agency belongs to other organizations, such as the State Water Contractors, the Southern California Water Committee, and the California Special Districts Association; however, ACWA has in the past been the organization that the Board has supported the most (staff participates actively in the State Water Contractors).

## **ANALYSIS**

ACWA Election Committee is looking for ACWA members interested in leading the direction of ACWA Board President and Vice President for the 2024-2025 term.

Cathy Green (Current Vice President of ACWA and Board President of Orange County Water District) has expressed her desire to run for ACWA President.

Lona M. Williams (Treasurer, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District) has expressed her desire to run for ACWA Vice President.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

## **ACTION**

Adopt Resolution #2023-10, supporting the nomination of Cathy Green to the ACWA President position for the 2024-2025 term.

Adopt Resolution #2023-11, supporting the nomination of Lona M. Williams to the ACWA Vice President position for the 2024-2025 term.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Resolution No. 2023-10, Supporting Cathy Green for ACWA President

Cathy Green Biography

Cathy Green Statement of Qualifications

Resolution No. 2023-11, Supporting Lona M. Williams for ACWA Vice President

## **RESOLUTION 2023-10**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF CATHY GREEN AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE POSITION OF ACWA PRESIDENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Election Committee has announced a call for nominations of candidates for the election of President and President of the Association for the 2024-'25 term; and

**WHEREAS**, the Election Committee will present an open ballot with all qualifying candidates to the members for a vote by written ballot; and

**WHEREAS**, the individual who fills an officer position must uphold and abide by the ACWA Board of Directors Code of Conduct as set forth in Board Policy GO-2.1.10 and the Code of Conduct for ACWA Events as set forth in Board Policy GO-2.9; and

**WHEREAS**, the individual who fills an officer position will need to have a working knowledge of water industry issues and concerns, possess strength of character and leadership capabilities, and be experienced in matters related to the performance of the duties of the office; and

**WHEREAS**, this person must be able to provide the dedication of time and energy to effectively serve in this capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Green has served as ACWA Vice President since 2021 and on the ACWA board since 2014, and she has served on the ACWA Board Executive Committee since 2020; and,

**WHEREAS**, as ACWA Vice President since 2021, Cathy Green would like to run as President of ACWA to continue the momentum she has built on key initiatives she is leading, including advocating for state accountability on water policy issues, spearheading the ACWA Council of Past Presidents to mentor new ACWA members, and an internal human resources initiative to support ACWA staff; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Green has served as ACWA Region 10 Chair and Vice Chair; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Green has served on the ACWA Water Quality Committee, ACWA Energy Committee, and ACWA State Legislative Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Green has served in a leadership role at Orange County Water District (OCWD). She was appointed to the OCWD Board of Directors in November 2010 and was elected to office in 2012, and re-elected in 2016 and 2020. She was selected by the Board to serve as its President in 2014-16, and 2022 through present. She also served as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President from 2013-14 and 2018-22; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cathy Green currently serves as the Chair of the OCWD Executive Committee and the OCWD Joint Planning Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, prior to Cathy Green's service on OCWD's Board, she was elected to two consecutive terms on the Huntington Beach City Council where she served two terms as mayor. Cathy Green has been involved as a council liaison and committee member on many city boards, commissions, and committees; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the opinion of the San Geronio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors that Ms. Green possesses all of the qualities needed to fulfill the duties of the office of ACWA President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the San Geronio Pass Board of Directors wholeheartedly supports Cathy Green for nomination as a candidate for the office of ACWA President.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

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Larry Smith, President  
San Geronio Pass Water Agency

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the San Geronio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors at a regular meeting of said Board held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

ATTEST:

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Robert Ybarra, Secretary  
San Geronio Pass Water Agency

I, Robert Ybarra, Secretary to the Board of Directors of San Geronio Pass Water Agency, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was introduced at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency, held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.



## **CATHY GREEN BIOGRAPHY**

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In December of 2021, Cathy Green was elected vice president of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) for a two-year term. She has served as an active member of ACWA since 2012, including serving on ACWA's executive committee since 2020, the ACWA Board since 2016, and the Region 10 Board from 2012-2021. She held the position of ACWA Region 10 chair from 2018-2019 and served as vice chair from 2016-2017 and 2020-2021. Cathy Green has also served on several ACWA committees including the water quality committee since 2012, the energy committee since 2019, and the state legislative committee from 2012-2015.

Cathy Green was elected to the Orange County Water District (OCWD) Board of Directors in November 2010 and was re-elected in 2012, 2016 and 2020. She was selected by the Board to serve as its 2015, 2016 and 2023 president. She served as 1st vice president in 2013, 2014 and from 2020 to 2022.

Cathy Green currently serves as vice chair of National Water Research Institute, a 501c3 nonprofit that collaborates with water utilities, regulators, and researchers in innovative ways to help develop new, healthy, and sustainable sources of drinking water.

Prior to Cathy Green's service on OCWD's Board, she was elected to two consecutive terms on the Huntington Beach City Council where she served two terms as mayor. Cathy Green has been involved as a council liaison and committee member on many city boards, commissions and committees. She served on the Orange County Transportation Authority Board and was a director of OC Clean Tech.

Cathy Green serves on the boards of the Huntington Valley Boys and Girls Club and the Orange County Explorer Program; serves on the Huntington Beach City School District Medi-Cal Collaborative; is a director of the Prime Health Foundation and the Huntington Beach Hospital; is a member of the American Legion Unit 133 Auxiliary, Huntington Beach Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the Elks Lodge 1959; and is on the advisory board of the Bolsa Chica Conservancy. She is a founding member of Amigos de Bolsa Chica.

In addition, her community involvement has included serving as president of the Therapeutic Riding Center and the Huntington Beach Community Clinic, chair of the Orange County Emergency Medical Care Committee and of Explorer's/Learning for Life, first aid chair of Huntington Beach CERT, and board member of the OC Boy Scouts of America Council and American Family Housing.



Cathy Green is the recipient of many awards. Her most recent is a 2020 Boys and Girls Clubs of America National Service to Youth Award. In 2010, she was the recipient of the Spurgeon Award, and, in 2005, she was named Woman of the Year by then State Senator John Campbell. Other awards include the 2006 United Way Excellence in Child Care Planning, the 2007 Peace Maker Award from the Greater Huntington Beach Interfaith Council and the Golden West College Pillar of Achievement Award. She has also been recognized as Huntington Beach's Citizen of the Year by the Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce, a Huntington Beach Soroptimist's Woman of Distinction and a Bolsa Chica Conservancy Conservator of the Year.

Cathy Green is a registered nurse and holds a degree in law. As a nurse, she worked in the health care areas of intensive care, student health, community health, and patient advocacy. In addition to nursing, she gained experience with a variety of environmental projects while associated with Lockhart and Associates.

Cathy Green has been a resident of Huntington Beach since 1970 where she raised her two children, Teresa and Tom, with her late husband Peter.



## COMMITMENT · EXPERIENCE · LEADERSHIP

### ACWA BOARD MEMBER

- ACWA Vice President (2022-current)
- Executive Committee (2020-current)
- Region 10 Chair (2018-2019)
- Region 10 Vice Chair (2016-2017, 2020-2021)
- Region 10 Board Member (2012-2021)

### ACWA COMMITTEES

- Water Quality Committee (2012-current)
- Energy Committee (2019-current)
- State Legislative Committee (2012-2015)

### ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

- President (2015-2016, 2022-current)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (2013, 2014, 2019-2022)
- Director (2010-current)
- Joint Planning Committee: Chair
- Labor Ad Hoc Committee: Chair
- Communications/Legislative Liaison Committee: Vice Chair

### CIVIC AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency: Chair
- CalDesal: Director
- City of Huntington Beach Mayor (2003, 2009)
- Councilwoman (2002-2010)
- Registered Nurse
- Law degree

*My vision for ACWA is to embrace its motto -- Bringing Water Together -- which, for me, is about unifying ACWA members and working collaboratively with diverse stakeholders to find smart solutions to the challenges we are now facing.*

## **RESOLUTION 2023-11**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF LONA M. WILLIAMS AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE POSITION OF ACWA VICE PRESIDENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Election Committee has announced a call for nominations of candidates for the election of President and Vice President of the Association for the 2024-'25 term; and

**WHEREAS**, the Election Committee will present an open ballot with all qualifying candidates to the members for a vote by written ballot; and

**WHEREAS**, the individual who fills an officer position must uphold and abide by the ACWA Board of Directors Code of Conduct as set forth in Board Policy GO-2.1.10 and the Code of Conduct for ACWA Events as set forth in Board Policy GO-2.9; and

**WHEREAS**, the individual who fills an officer position will need to have a working knowledge of water industry issues and concerns, possess strength of character and leadership capabilities, and be experienced in matters related to the performance of the duties of the office; and

**WHEREAS**, this person must be able to provide the dedication of time and energy to effectively serve in this capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, Lona M. Williams has served in a leadership role as a member of the Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District Board of Directors since October 2, 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Lona M. Williams has held the positions of BCVWD Board President, and Treasurer. Ms. Williams has also served on the District's Finance and Audit committee; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the opinion of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors that Ms. Williams possesses all of the qualities needed to fulfill the duties of the office of ACWA Vice President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the San Gorgonio Pass Board of Directors wholeheartedly supports Lona M. Williams for nomination as a candidate for the office of ACWA Vice President.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.



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Larry Smith, President  
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors at a regular meeting of said Board held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

ATTEST:

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Robert Ybarra, Secretary  
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

I, Robert Ybarra, Secretary to the Board of Directors of San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was introduced at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency, held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.