

Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County

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32ND ANNUAL WATER SYMPOSIUM

"Next Move...Being Nimble In An Ever Changing World"



Thursday, April 18 2024

8 AM - 1:30 PM Courtyard by Marriott - Oxnard



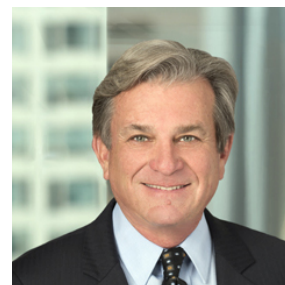
AWA President's Welcome

ANN DEMARTINI
CEO - DeMartini Enterprises, LLC

AWA Symposium Chairs



SCOTT D. MECKSTROTH, P.E.
Deputy Director - Ventura County Public Works



GREGORY J. PATTERSON
Partner - Musick Peeler & Garrett LLP

Water resilience and sustainability are essential goals in these fast-changing times. Water leaders and managers need to focus on the art of being nimble if they are to achieve these goals.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



AWA Program Moderator

DAVE CEPPOS
Director and Managing Senior Mediator
Sacramento State University, Consensus and
Collaboration Program

Dave manages the Consensus and Collaboration Program (CCP) (formerly the Center for Collaborative Policy), of California State University Sacramento. CCP is a 25-member statewide staff of public engagement, facilitation, and negotiation specialists addressing diverse stakeholder conditions on a wide range of policy topics. He is a national recognized expert on natural resource policy and conflict resolution with an emphasis on hydrogeology, hydrology, habitat restoration, resource planning and similar. He has extensive project/policy leadership and implementation experience on groundwater management (SGMA), water quality (ILRP, TMDL, SNMP), flood risk reduction, and fisheries management (ESA, CESA) cases.

Dave has worked as an environmental resource project manager in the private sector and as a State Section Leader in the Superfund Program with USEPA Region IV. Coming from a farm family in southernmost Florida, Dave received a B.L.A. in Landscape Architecture from the University of Florida in 1985 with a minor in Geology and Sociology. He completed additional graduate level studies in mediation and risk communication through Emory University; Columbia University and Pepperdine University.

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

VENTURA ECONOMIC FORECAST



MATTHEW FIENUP, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Center for Economic Research & Forecasting; Associate Professor, Economics California Lutheran University

Matthew is the Executive Director of the Center for Economic Research and Forecasting (CERF) at California Lutheran University. He is also Associate Professor of Economics in the school's Master of Quantitative Economics program. Matthew is an applied economist who specializes in econometrics, economic policy analysis, land use, and environmental markets. Matthew is a member of the Wall Street Journal Economic Forecasting Survey. He was the recipient of 2019, 2020, and 2021 Crystal Ball Awards for the Zillow (formerly Case-Shiller) Home Price Expectations Survey. CERF's U.S. home price forecast received multiple top-3 rankings among more than 100 forecasts included in the survey.

Matthew returned to school to pursue his PhD after running a small business in Ventura County for more than a decade. His other specialties include California Natural History, technical rock climbing and photography. Matthew graduated summa cum laude from the Brooks Institute of Photography and has spent more than 15 years working as a professional climbing guide.

Matthew completed his doctorate in environmental economics at the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at UC Santa Barbara.

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PATHWAYS TO AGRICULTURAL VIABILITY



HELEN MCGRATH

Farm Coordinator Ditch Ranch/Flying M Ranch

Helen McGrath is a fifth-generation member of the McGrath farming family, growing citrus, avocados and row crops in Somis and the Santa Clara River Valley. In addition to working with her family ranch, she has over 10 years experience supporting agriculture with Community Alliance for Family Farmers, Ag Innovations, CalCAN, and more.

Helen received her bachelors degree from Sarah Lawrence College, NY., she is a member of Class 43 of the California Ag Leadership Program, holds a certificate in Non-profit Public Organizational Management, and is the recipient of the 2020 VC Agricultural Foundation “Farmer of the Year” award.

Helen serves on the boards of several community organizations including, Southside Improvement Company -Agriculture Water District, Fillmore Basin Pumpers Association Inc, Farm Bureau of Ventura County, and the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clara Valley.

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PATHWAYS TO AGRICULTURAL VIABILITY, cont'd.



EDGAR TERRY

President – Terry Farms, Inc, and Senior Adjunct Professor at California Lutheran University

Edgar Terry is engaged in vegetable and strawberry production with his family company Terry Farms, Inc. Terry Farms, Inc. produces various vegetable and strawberry crops on 2,000 +/- acres in Ventura County, California. Also, he is a Senior Adjunct Professor at California Lutheran University where he teaches finance in the Degree for Professionals Evening Program and the Master of Business Administration Program. Edgar currently serves on several Boards & Committees, including Terry Farms, Inc. (President and CFO); CoBank; Limoneira; Farm Credit Funding Corporation System Audit Committee; Willal, Inc. (President); Rancho Adobe, Inc. (Vice President); Ventura County Irrigated Lands Group Steering Committee (Chairman 2005-2024); Ventura County Fair Foundation (Vice-Chairman); and Center for Economic Forecasting Advisory Board at California Lutheran University.

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THE STRATEGIC ROAD TO NIMBLE – A PLANNERS' DISCUSSION



WANDA L. MOYER

Deputy Public Works Director (Environmental Compliance) Department of Public Works – City of Simi Valley/Waterworks District No. 8

Over 35 years of environmental compliance and management experience have allowed Wanda to contribute to many important programs and projects across southern California.

Wanda is a Ventura County native and graduated from C.S.U.N. with Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Environmental and Occupational Health Science. She is devoted to the protection of human health and the environment, by careful evaluation of biological, chemical and physical factors, and application of practical solutions. Her passion is improvement and education of water supply diversification and reliability.

Before joining the City of Simi Valley in 2007, Wanda gained 20 years of environmental experience while working at aerospace R&D and manufacturing sites. As the Deputy Public Works Director of Environmental Compliance, Wanda currently directs wastewater pretreatment, stormwater, water conservation, and solid and hazardous waste programs.

Wanda enjoys the great outdoors with her husband Steve of 35+ years. As empty nesters, they are making greater progress on their bucket list to visit all the National Parks!

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THE STRATEGIC ROAD TO NIMBLE – A PLANNERS’ DISCUSSION, cont’d.



DAN HADDOCK, PE
Director of Water Utility Services, Principal Engineer
INTERA Incorporated

Dan Haddock is the Director of Water Utility Services at INTERA, a consulting firm providing innovative water resource planning, management, and advisory services throughout California and the rest of the United States. Since beginning his water career 30 years ago as a Peace Corps volunteer in Central America, Dan has dedicated his professional life as a civil engineer to helping communities enhance the sustainability and resiliency of their water supplies through planning and preparation to adapt to changing needs, environmental conditions, and regulatory requirements. In addition to consulting, he has a decade of first-hand experience as a utility engineering director responsible for planning, capital program development, project delivery, and support for rates and regulatory compliance.

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GWYN-MOHR TULLY, J.D.
Partner
Zanjero

Gwyn-Mohr is a licensed attorney in California with over 30 years of experience in surface and subsurface hydrology, law, and policy. He consults with public agencies and private clients on developing and implementing water resource management plans and individual water projects. In this context, Gwyn-Mohr has conducted water rights investigations, assessed contractual water obligations, negotiated water transfers, prepared water settlements, evaluated surface and subsurface water supplies, organized regulatory and political actions, researched historical water rights and supplies, and conducted and coordinated high-level stakeholder interactions. Gwyn-Mohr specializes in solving complex water management problems that integrate legal, technical, and political issues.

Relevant Project Experience -

Interstate Water Issues on Colorado River and South Platte River. Analyzed interstate compacts related to the Colorado River system and Platte River. Assessed all additional law and legislative history related to “the Law of the River” in the Upper Basin and Lower Basin of the Colorado River to assess opportunities for water transfers among states. Prepared comprehensive analysis of the Interstate Compact between Colorado and Nebraska on the South Platte River. Analyzed the key issues under the compact and presented findings to the Nebraska Legislature to determine feasibility of implementing portions of the compact.

Water Management Strategy Development. Analyze water rights, water contracts, and water use for numerous cities, counties, water agencies, and special districts. Discovered “unknown” water rights and contracts for several public agencies and have developed plans to capture and use these assets for beneficial purposes. Prepared water management plans that assess water asset utility under future scenarios,

GWYN-MOHR TULLY, J.D., cont'd.

including changing hydrological and regulatory conditions. Prepared water asset management models to develop tangible future water planning scenarios and stress-tested water assets under future conditions.

Special Counsel to Public Agencies on Water Rights Issues. Developed strategic approach to engaging SWRCB on numerous water right permit extensions and prepared Petitions for Permit Extension as well as supporting technical and CEQA documents. Coordinated permit extension efforts for one client in context of Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement, dam removal, endangered species, and FERC relicensing. Resolved protests to petitions, drafted State Board Orders, and successfully extended permits. Prepared numerous temporary water transfer petitions and accompanying environmental documents to effectuate transfers. Prepared Amicus Brief to California Supreme Court on fundamental underpinnings of California Water Rights Law.

Founder, Verified Water - a Comprehensive Water Sustainability Platform. Developed the Verified Water Program which provides a full-service platform to originate and sell Verified Water Credits. Prepared the Verified Water Credit Standard that establishes the international criterion, rules, and protocols for Verified Water Credit origination, validation, and verification. Established Verified Water Market to transact Verified Water Credits. Launched business in 2022, originated Verified Water Credits in 2023, and sold credits to buyers in 2024

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MAKING WATER CONSERVATION A CALIFORNIA WAY OF LIFE – AN URBAN UPDATE

TIA FLEMING

Executive Director, External Affairs California Water Efficiency Partnership



Tia oversees CalWEP's external affairs. She has over a decade of experience working with environmental and water-focused non-profits and municipal organizations. She is skilled in outreach, advocacy, facilitation, coalition development, and engagement with strong media and communication experience. Prior to joining CalWEP, Tia worked in various capacities with WaterNow Alliance, Imagine H2O and several environmental and climate-focused non-profits in California.

CalWEP's mission is to maximize urban water efficiency and conservation throughout California by supporting and integrating innovative technologies and practices; encouraging effective public policies; advancing research, training, and public education; and building collaborative approaches and partnerships.

California Water Efficiency Partnership (CalWEP)

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AWA 32nd Annual Water Symposium

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AWA 32nd Annual Water Symposium

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Thank You For Supporting AWA

AWA is the only nonprofit in our region focusing solely on water issues and collectively assisting our local county, cities, and water providers in continuing education, communication, collaboration and partnerships to ensure our local water reliability.