

OCWA
Orange County Water Association
ESTABLISHED 1957

Water Matters

News for the Orange County Water Community

First Quarter 2021

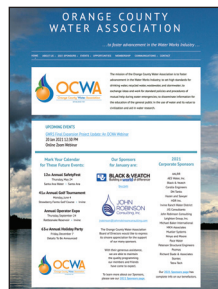
New Plans Abound for OCWA in the New Year!

By TIM HOGAN, OCWA Communications

A New Year, a new look, a new feel, and plenty of new plans for the coming year. No doubt, your Orange County Water Association Board of Directors is approaching 2021 with great hopes for a better year.

At the direction of President Ryan Gallagher, a new logo was developed to better represent the diversified interests of the Association's membership. While the traditional orange citrus remains central to the identification, it's enclosed by a multi-colored water drop, representing the different aspects of the water industry within the membership.

The Association also revised and updated its [website](#) for the new year. It's hoped the new look will make navigation easier, while



helping highlight some of the more important aspects of the Association's endeavors.

One thing that remained the same from 2020 was the composition of the Board of Directors. The pandemic so devastated OCWA's plans for last year the Board felt it only fitting to give the 2020 officers another opportunity to preside over a more favorable year. As you can see in the box below, all of last

year's officers have returned for 2021. Two new Directors joined the Board as well: Taryn Kjolsing and Derek Kurtti.

The Board is looking forward to resuming online Zoom webinars this month. Since the luncheons are not an option at this time, these webinars have been a welcome addition.

This month, Sandy Scott-Roberts, Program Manager for OCWD's Ground-water Replenishment System, will provide an update on [GWRS Final Expansion Project](#). It promises to be an in-depth look at one of the county's most important water projects.

In coming months, plans call for webinars on topics as diverse as the impact of PFAS on multiple county water systems, to our always popular MWDSC update. We'll have further details as plans are finalized.

Our webinars, as well as our training



sessions and social events, received a tremendous boost in December due to the overwhelming response to a call for Corporate Sponsors for 2021. In less than a day, there were more than double the number of Sponsors the Board planned to attract. Learn more about our Sponsors on page 2 of this newsletter or on the [website](#).

And speaking of training sessions and social events, we hope to resume all our familiar activities this year. In May, we'll resume our annual county-wide safety training event for operators, **SafetyFest**. This will be followed in September by our always-popular **Operator Expo**, which will again feature training sessions, vendor displays, and spirited competitions.

June will see the return of annual **Golf Tournament**. We had to delay it until October last year, but expect to be back to our regular Summer kick-off date for 2021. And the annual **Holiday Party** is set for December. As with our other events, further details will be provided closer to the date.

2021 Board of Directors

The 2021 OCWA Board of Directors are:

Ryan Gallagher, *President*;

Sandy Scott-Roberts, *Vice President*;

Bobby Young, *Treasurer*;

Dave Jones, *Secretary*;

Candice Espinoza, *Director*;

Taryn Kjolsing, *Director*;

and **Derek Kurtti**, *Director*

Our 2021 Corporate Sponsors

Our call for Corporate Sponsors for 2021 met with an overwhelming response.

In less than a day, we had more than double the number of Sponsors we had expected to attract.

With this support, we will build upon last year's success to continue our series of insightful industry webinars.

And as the County begins its pandemic recovery, we expect to renew the events and activities we had to postpone last year. Here are some of the Sponsors we have for 2021. To learn about all our Sponsors, visit the Sponsor page on the OCWA website.



Peterson Structural Engineers (PSE) is a single discipline structural engineering and consulting firm specializing in municipal structural evaluations and design particularly in high seismic regions. The company was founded in 1967 by Gary Peterson, whose fastidiousness set the stage for the principles in which the company continues to pride itself — integrity, dedication, and quality workmanship. To this day, our heart and soul lies in the people of PSE and our commitment to excellence.

Over the last 50 years, PSE has accumulated a wealth of institutional knowledge regarding structure types, building codes, construction standards and building materials, delivering innovative solutions to public sector clients on nearly all types of water and wastewater projects. From seismic resiliency to condition assessments and new structure designs, our depth of experience and expertise is exceptional. PSE's experience in water-related infrastructure projects includes services for water storage tanks and reservoirs constructed of steel, reinforced concrete and prestressed concrete, with an experience list of over 200 reservoir projects completed to date.

Additionally, PSE has provided design and consulting services for a multitude of above and below grade pump stations and lift stations, water treatment and wastewater treatment plants, equipment anchorage, basins and contact chambers, pipe bridges, caissons, vaults and culverts as well as various other water related structural elements.

PSE's depth of knowledge of structural engineering allows us to respond to complex projects, big or small, within Orange County and throughout the Southern California region.

Galit Ryan, PE

Firm Principal

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Founded in 1915, **Black & Veatch** provides consulting, design, engineering, procurement, and construction services for public and private clients. We specialize not only in the water and wastewater markets, but also within energy and telecommunications. Our strength lies in the fact that we offer world-class project delivery based on our comprehensive integrated design-build capabilities. Each year, we manage construction and are constructors on over \$2 billion in projects, supporting our clients from planning to design to construction and commissioning.

Our services have included peer review, studies, preliminary and final design, construction phase services, and/or EPC on a wide variety of projects undertaken around the world. Our team offers unique depth and breadth of experience, successfully delivering water and wastewater treatment, conveyance, and control structures. The vision of the Black & Veatch team is to provide comprehensive water resource capabilities and a collaborative approach for the planning, design, and construction management of solutions that support our client's, their mission, and the operations of their systems

Derek Kurtti, P.E.*

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John Robinson Consulting, Inc. is a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) certified water and wastewater consulting firm offering a range of services. The firm is well qualified to perform a variety of consulting services including grant/loan identification and assistance, Owner's Representation and Project Management,

PLA/CCP compliance, pipeline and pump station design, water resources systems feasibility and concept reports, UWMP development, Title 22 permitting, well design and rehabilitation, AWT design, potable and recycled water regulation guidance, recycled water customer conversions and construction administration and management. While located in Los Angeles County, John Robinson Consulting, Inc. has extensive project experience throughout Southern California.

Our founder John Robinson grew up in Orange County and started John Robinson Consulting, Inc. in 2013 to continue his passion for consulting work with a focus on personalized customer service. John Robinson has over 25 years of consulting and management experience in the private sector for cities, ports, special districts, water districts, wastewater clients and industrial clients. This knowledge and program management experience that John Robinson will provide you will be the highest standard of consulting services while ensuring deadlines are met and expectations exceeded.

John Robinson

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For more than 60 years, **Irvine Ranch Water District** has provided quality drinking water, sewage collection and pioneering recycled water services to a growing population in central Orange County, California. Our territory spans 181 square miles and includes all of the city of Irvine, plus parts of Lake Forest, Newport Beach, Tustin, Costa Mesa, and Orange, as well as certain unincorporated areas of Orange County.

IRWD is a California special district established in 1961 as a drinking water provider. Sewage collection was added in 1963, and in 1967 we launched our nationally recognized

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January 20: Industry Insight Webinar

GWRS Final Expansion Project Update

Presenter: **Sandy Scott-Roberts, P.E.**

GWRS Program Manager, Orange County Water District

The \$310 million Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) Final Expansion Project will bring the Orange County Water District's Advanced Water Purification Facility to



its build-out treatment capacity of 130 million gallons per day.

To complete this final expansion, the treatment capacities of the micro-filtration

system, the reverse osmosis system, and the ultra-violet light systems will need to be increased to treat secondary effluent from Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD). In addition, a new pump station, flow equalization tanks, and a pipeline will need to be constructed at OCSD's Plant No. 2 in Huntington Beach.

The secondary effluent from OCSD's Plant No. 2 brings a new water quality to the GWRS facility and with it some design challenges for water recycling. Also, as part of the GWRS Final Expansion Project, non-reclaimable



wastewater flows from the upper watershed will be separated at OCSD's Plant No. 2 headworks in order to not recycle these flows through GWRS.

The GWRS Final Expansion Project is

currently in construction and an overview of construction



activities completed to date will be given.

Additional planned upgrades to the overall GWRS facility will be addressed as well – these upgrades are required to prepare for the new GWRSFE project treatment capacity of 130 million gallons per day.

Plan now to join us January 20 for an insightful look at one of the major projects underway in the County today. You won't want to miss this.

About Our Speaker

Sandy Scott-Roberts, P.E. is the GWRS Program Manager at the Orange County Water District. She is also the Project Manager for the Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) Final Expansion Project which will increase the treatment capacity of the facility from 100 MGD to 130 MGD.



Ms Scott-Roberts has 17 years of experience in project management for the planning, feasibility, design and construction phases of water treatment facilities, including pipelines, pump stations, recharge basins, and injection wells. She started her career as a consulting civil engineer and has been at the Orange County Water District since 2006.

She holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Environmental and Civil Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Online ZOOM Presentation

Webinar Open for Log-In: 12:00

Presentation: 12:30 – 1:00

OCWA Members with Reservation: **FREE**

Non-Members with Reservations: **\$10.00**

Cancellations received AFTER Tuesday, January 19 CANNOT be refunded.

Visit the OCWA website to make reservations:
www.ocwater.org

RSVP IS A FINANCIAL COMMITMENT. NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED.

Recognizing Our 2021 Sponsors

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recycled water program. We value environmental stewardship, and in 1997 began treating urban runoff. Our Natural Treatment System wetland sites now total 26, including the San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary, home to more than 200 species of migratory birds. The site was recently recognized as a Wetland of Distinction by the International Society of Wetland Scientists.

The District is governed by a five-member Board of Directors elected by the people we serve to ensure we provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective services in an environmentally responsible manner. Under the Board's leadership, IRWD has diversified its water portfolio, developed new sources of drinking water, and dramatically expanded the use of recycled water — which has significantly reduced dependence on imported drinking water.

Visit IRWD.com for more information.



Water – It's All We Do

Carollo Engineers, Inc. is an environmental engineering firm specializing in the planning, design, and construction of water, wastewater, stormwater and recycled water facilities. With more than 1,100 employees in 49 offices, Carollo is the largest water-focused engineering firm in the country. We strive to optimize the use and benefits of this precious resource with a single-minded focus that allows us to deliver innovative solutions, the best talent in the business, and exceptional, responsive client service.

For more than 87 years, we have built a dedicated staff of experts and sustainable client relationships. Our team of professionals is committed to our local clients, providing top-tier services in planning, design, and construction of water and wastewater resources.

www.carollo.com

OC Water Community Mourns the Passing of Raymond C. Miller

Former SCWD GM served as OCWA President

In a year that saw more than its share of loss, former South Coast Water District General Manager Raymond C. Miller passed away on December 27, 2020.



Mr. Miller was an effective general manager who made significant achievements and exceptional contributions in water management and water reclamation.

He retired from SCWD in 1992, after more than two decades of service. As general manager, he was an active leader in the American Waterworks Association, the Orange County Water Association, and the California Association of Sanitary Agencies.

He served seven years on the Board of Directors for Orange County Water Association in the 1970s, rising to President of the Association in 1978.

After retirement, he formed RM & Associates, a consulting engineering firm. And in 1993 he was elected chairman of the California-Nevada section of the American Water Works Association.

Mr. Miller was a kind and distinguished gentleman who, even as late as last year, showed up at various county and agency meetings to support the South Coast Water District and the Orange County water community.

He will be deeply missed.

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OCWA's Board of Directors meets on the third Wednesday of each month, unless notified otherwise. At present, meetings are being held virtually. The next meeting is scheduled for:

**January 20, 2021
11:00 am to Noon**



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