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Maximizing Protection. Minimizing Risk. \*[www.sdrma.org](http://www.sdrma.org)

May 15, 2023

Ms. Helen Rodriguez  
 Director of Finance and Administration  
 Monterey Regional Waste Management District  
 Post Office Box 1670  
 Marina, California 93933-1670

RE: Notification of Election Ballot – 2023 SDRMA Board of Directors Election

Dear Ms. Rodriguez,

The Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) Board of Directors 2023 Election began in January, with the opening of nominations. On May 11, 2023, SDRMA's Election Committee reviewed the nomination documents submitted by the candidates in accordance with SDRMA's Policy No. 2022-06 Establishing Guidelines for Director Elections. The Election Committee confirmed that (4) candidates met the qualification requirements, and those names are included on the Official Election Ballot.

**The Official Election Ballot Document Packet posted below this letter as an attachment in Memberplus includes:**

- *Election Ballot Instructions*
- *Official Election Ballot (Action Required)*
- *Candidate's Statements of Qualifications (4)*

The signed Official (wet signature) Election Ballot **MUST** be sealed and received by mail or hand delivery at SDRMA's office on or before 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, to the address below. Faxes or electronic transmissions are NOT acceptable.

Special District Risk Management Authority  
 Election Committee  
 1112 "I" Street, Suite 300  
 Sacramento, California 95814

**Important Balloting and Election Dates** – The balloting and election dates are as follows:

- **August 8, 2023:** Deadline for members to return the signed Official Election Ballot.
- **August 9-11, 2023:** Ballots are opened and counted.
- **August 10-11, 2023:** Election results are announced, and candidates notified.



- **November 1-2, 2023:** Newly elected Directors are invited to attend SDRMA board meeting (Sacramento).
- **January 2024:** Newly elected Directors are seated, and Board officer elections are held.

Please do not hesitate to contact SDRMA's Management Analyst Candice Richardson at [crichardson@sdrma.org](mailto:crichardson@sdrma.org) or 800-537-7790 if you have any questions regarding the election and balloting process.

Sincerely,  
Special District Risk Management Authority

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Candice Richardson".

Candice Richardson  
Management Analyst



SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

## OFFICIAL ELECTION BALLOT ATTACHED

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This is an official election packet that contains items that require ACTION by your Agency's governing body for the selection of up to three (3) candidates to the SDRMA Board of Directors.

### ELECTION PACKET ENCLOSURES

- Election Ballot Instructions
- Official Election Ballot (Action Required)
- Candidate's Statements of Qualifications (4)



## SDRMA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS

Notification of nominations for three (3) seats on the Special District Risk Management Authority's (SDRMA's) Board of Directors was mailed to the membership in January 2023.

On May 11, 2023, SDRMA's Election Committee reviewed the nomination documents submitted by the candidates in accordance with SDRMA's Policy No. 2022-06 Establishing Guidelines for Director Elections. The Election Committee confirmed that (4) candidates met the qualification requirements, and those names are included on the Official Election Ballot.

The Official Election Ballot along with a Statement of Qualifications as submitted by each candidate is posted to the SDRMA MemberPlus portal along with these instructions. Election instructions are as follows:

1. The Official Election Ballot must be used to ensure the integrity of the balloting process.
2. Print a copy of this ballot, then select up to three (3) candidates. Your agency's governing body must approve the Official Election Ballot at a public meeting. **Ballots containing more than four (4) candidate selections will be considered invalid and not counted.**
3. The signed Official Election Ballot **MUST** be sealed and received by mail or hand delivery at SDRMA's office on or before 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 to the address below. Faxes or electronic transmissions are NOT acceptable.  
Special District Risk Management Authority  
Election Committee  
1112 "I" Street, Suite 300  
Sacramento, California 95814
4. The four-year terms for newly elected Directors will begin on January 1, 2024, and terminate on December 31, 2027.
5. Important balloting and election dates are:
  - **August 8, 2023: Deadline for members to return the signed Official Election Ballot.**
  - **August 9-11, 2023:** Ballots are opened and counted.
  - **August 10-11, 2023:** Election results are announced, and candidates notified.
  - **November 1-2, 2023:** Newly elected Directors are invited to attend SDRMA board meeting (Sacramento).
  - **January 2024:** Newly elected Directors are seated, and Board officer elections are held.

Please do not hesitate to contact SDRMA's Management Analyst Candice Richardson at [crichardson@sdrma.org](mailto:crichardson@sdrma.org) or 800-537-7790 if you have any questions regarding the election and balloting process.

**OFFICIAL 2023 ELECTION BALLOT**  
**SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**VOTE FOR ONLY THREE (3) CANDIDATES**

Mark each selection directly onto the ballot, voting for no more than three (3) candidates. Each candidate may receive only one (1) vote per ballot. A ballot received with more than three (3) candidates selected will be considered invalid and not counted. All ballots must be sealed and received by mail or hand delivery at SDRMA on or before 4:30 p.m., Tuesday August 8, 2023. Faxes or electronic transmissions are NOT acceptable.

- ROBERT SWAN (INCUMBENT)**  
Director, Groveland Community Services District
  
- ACQUANETTA WARREN**  
Vice Chair, Local Agency Formation Commission for San Bernardino County
  
- JESSE CLAYPOOL (INCUMBENT)**  
Board Chair, Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District
  
- SANDY SEIFERT-RAFFELSON (INCUMBENT)**  
General Manager, Herlong Public Utility District

**ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 by the:

\_\_\_\_\_

**at a public meeting** by the following votes:

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

**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.**

Candidate\* Bob Swan  
District/Agency Groveland Community Services District (GCSD)  
Work Address P.O. Box 350, Groveland CA 95321  
Work Phone (209) 962-7131 Cell Phone (408) 398-4731

\*The name or nickname and any designations (i.e. CPA, SDA, etc.) you enter here will be printed on the official ballot, exactly as submitted.

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

I have been a member of the SDRMA Board for two terms. I would like to be elected to a third term because:

1. As a board member of Groveland CSD, I am very aware of the great value that smaller districts get from their membership in SDRMA, and I'd like to continue to support the Authority's great member services.
2. While the organization continues to operate well, thanks to its experienced and motivated staff, we are once again going through a period of management change. I believe that Board continuity is particularly important at such a time.
3. The California re-insurance market continues to be challenging. I believe that my eight years of board experience will be helpful as we negotiate the potentially tricky economic future.
4. Personally, I feel that we have a very well-functioning and collegial Board, and I find it both challenging and enjoyable to be part of it.

**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)**

1. SDRMA Board: Member since 2016, presently Vice President. I am our representative on the CSDA Legislative Committee (and a member in my own right), and on the Alliance Executive Council.
2. Groveland CSD Board: Member since appointment in June 2013. I was Board President 2014-2018.
3. Member of Board of Southside Community Connections, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in Groveland that provides transportation, educational, social and recreational services to seniors and differently-abled folks in the Groveland area. I was on this Board from 2018 through 2022, mostly as Treasurer.
4. Board Member (Treasurer) of Pine Cone Performers, a local community choral and acting group, since 2010.

**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)**

Background: BS Physics, MS Computer Science. 3 years in USAF. 30 years in the semiconductor industry as engineer, engineering manager, business unit director.

Skills, etc.: Very familiar with financial reports and cost accounting. Working knowledge of computer and communications technology. In my work life, I managed geographically distributed organizations with up to 150 technical personnel and up to \$120 million in annual sales. I'm pretty good at helping groups work together to achieve consensus (or, failing that, acceptable compromise).

In recent years, most of my volunteer work has been in driving folks (who can't drive themselves) to medical appointments, shopping, and the like. This is one of the services of Southside Community Connections.

I'm also a pretty decent choral singer, but that's not relevant to this application.

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

Our vision statement is "To be the exemplary public agency risk pool of choice for California special districts and other public agencies". To achieve this vision, I believe we must focus on:

(1) maintaining long-term financial stability, by ensuring that there is a fair allocation of cost versus risk across the membership, continuously evaluating the appropriate level of risk retention, and using creative ideas like our "captive" reinsurance agency to enhance our cash position.

(2) continue to expand our risk management training and assistance services. We have made significant improvements in this area by bring it internal to the Authority.

(3) continue to emphasize services to our core membership: small to mid-sized districts with limited options for insurance.

(4) ensure that SDRMA remains a desirable workplace, and maintain our highly-qualified and responsive staff.

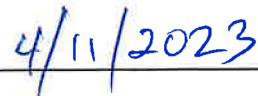
Above all, remember that this is an insurance pool, owned by its member agencies, and maintain an overarching focus on member service and support. Make certain that we will be here for our members.

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  
Board of Directors  
Candidate's Statement of Qualifications**

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.

Candidate\* **ACQUANETTA WARREN**  
District/Agency **Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) for San Bernardino County**  
Work Address **1170 W. Third Street, Unit 150, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0490**  
Work Phone **(909)388-0480** Home Phone

\*The name or nickname and any designations (i.e. CPA, SDA, etc.) you enter here will be printed on the official ballot, exactly as submitted.

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

As a City Mayor I have been fortunate to serve on regional boards that include special district representation: San Bernardino Countywide Oversight Board and Southern California Water Coalition's Board of Trustees. I realize that special districts, especially the smaller districts, are not included in the conversation for a variety of matters. Currently, I serve on San Bernardino LAFCO and the California Association of LAFCOs, which do have robust special district representation. I believe that my skills, experience, and understanding can contribute to SDRMA. Specifically, I want to contribute by developing programs that would help member agencies maximize their protection and minimize their risks.

**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)**

I currently serve as mayor for the City of Fontana. This is my fourth term, and my focus has been bolstering economic development, creating educational opportunities, improving public safety, and advocating for a healthier community. As mayor, I have been fortunate to serve on:

- San Bernardino LAFCO since 2014, serving currently as Vice Chair of the Commission. I am also a Board Member of the statewide organization of LAFCOs, CALAFCO, serving as Treasurer
- San Bernardino County Transportation Authority: Board of Directors, General Policy Committee, and Transit Committee
- San Bernardino County Racial Equity Committee for the San Bernardino Council of Governments
- San Bernardino Countywide Oversight Board

In addition, I am the current Chair for the Southern California Water Coalition's Board of Trustees as well as Co-Chair of its Task Force for Water Equity, Access, and Affordability.



**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)**

Aside from being Mayor for the City of Fontana, I am currently the District Director for the Second Supervisorial District for San Bernardino County and I coordinate district services and communications with constituents, I oversee community outreach efforts, as well as supervise district staff.


In addition to local-level involvement, I have served on the State Park Commission and as a trustee of the United States Conference of Mayors, an official non-partisan organization of cities in the United States with populations of 30,000 or more. I have also served in community organizations such as Water/Recycled Water Projects and Development Processing for New Communities, Casa Colina Rehabilitation Hospital Board of Directors, and the Upland YMCA Board of Directors.

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

My vision for SDRMA is to ensure that it continues to be the best risk management agency, who will continue to listen and communicate with its member agencies. I would strive to make sure SDRMA continues to provide excellent service, provide educational and training programs that are beneficial to its member agencies, and offer more resources that add value to its members. Lastly, I want to make sure SDRMA operates in the highest ethical manner with complete transparency.

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

4/25/2023

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

**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.**

Candidate\* Jesse D. Claypool  
District/Agency Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District  
Work Address USDA Service Center 170 Russell Avenue, Suite C, Susanville, CA 96130  
Work Phone 530-257-7271 Cell Phone 530-310-0232

\*The name or nickname and any designations (i.e. CPA, SDA, etc.) you enter here will be printed on the official ballot, exactly as submitted.

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

My interest for being on the SDRMA Board of Directors is because I believe it is imperative for there to be a knowledgeable and experienced voice on the Board with the perspective of the small to mid-size special district. In addition, I am eager to continue working with SDRMA staff and fellow Board members, providing relevant and affordable solutions, available to all special districts.

**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)**

The vast amount of understanding and experience that I've gained as a current member of the SDRMA Board of Directors will undoubtedly aide as I continually strive to be an increasingly effective member of the SDRMA Board of Directors going forward.

In addition to being a current SDRMA Board member, I am currently Chairman of the Board for the Honey Lake Valley Resource Conversation District and a board member of a Regional Water Managment Group. Previously I have served on the following, Lassen County's Civil Grand Jury, two terms, CSDA Professional Development committee, two terms, Janesville Union School District trustee, Technical Advisory Committee for the prevention of violence against schools K-12, two terms, and CSDA Member Services committee, two terms.

**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)**

I have attended various board member trainings and completed leadership and governance classes, including the following; CSDA's Extraordinary Leadership Training and CSDA's Special District Leadership Academy. I have received CSDA's Recognition in Special District Governance certificate and successfully completed Executive Education in Public Policy at University of Southern California, Sol Price School of Public Policy.

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

My continued vision for SDRMA is to be effective within the communities they serve. With focused attention to affordable solutions, administered by a team of highly dedicated professional staff, SDRMA will continue to be an industry leader providing affordable solutions to its members.

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 4/20/2023

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

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.

Candidate\* Sandy Seifert-Raffelson  
District/Agency Herlong Public Utility District  
Work Address P O Box 115, Herlong CA 96113  
Work Phone (530)827-3150 Cell Phone (530)310-4320

\*The name or nickname and any designations (i.e. CPA, SDA, etc.) you enter here will be printed on the official ballot, exactly as submitted.

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

I am a current Board member of SDRMA and feel that I have added my financial and general manager background to make a better-informed decision for SDRMA members. As a Board member, I continue to improve my education of insurance issues and look forward to representing small District's and Northern California as a voice on the SDRMA Board. I feel I am an asset to the Board with my degree in Business and my 35 plus years' experience in accounting and special districts.

I understand the challenges that small District face every day when it comes to managing liability insurance, worker's compensation and health insurance for a few employees with limited revenue and staff. My experience in small districts give me an appreciation of the importance of risk management services and programs, especially for smaller District that lack expertise within. I feel I am an asset to this Board, and would love a chance to stay on 4 more years!

**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)**

While serving on the SDRMA Board, I have been privilege to be Secretary of the Board, Vice-President and currently President. I have served on CSDA's Audit and Financial committee's for several year; I have served on the SDLF Board and current President; Northeastern Rual Health Clinic Board; Fair Board; School and Church boards; 4-H Council and leader for 18 years; and UC Davis Equine Board. In the past 30 years, I have learn that there is no "I" in Board and it can be very rewarding to part of a team that makes a difference for others.

As part of my many duties working for Herlong PUD, I worked to form the District and was directly involved with LAFCo, Lassen County Board of Supervisors and County Clerk to establish the initial Board of Directors and first policies for HPUD. I have administered the financial portion of 2 large capital improvement projects with USDA as well as worked on the first ever successful water utility privatization project with the US Army and department of Defense. I am currently in the middle of a 14 million infrastructure project with SRF monies. I am also the primary administrator of two federal contract for utility services.

**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)**

I have my Bachelor's Degree in Business with a minor in Sociology. I have audit small districts and worked for a small district for almost 18 years. I am a good communicator and organizer. I have served on several Boards and feel I work well within groups or special committee. I am willing to go that extra mile to see things get completed.

I believe in recognition for jobs well done. I encourage incentive programs that get members motivated to participate and strive to do their very best to keep all losses at a minimum and reward those with no losses.

With HPUD and with SDRMA both boards and employees have worked hard to receive their District of Distinction and their District of Transparency.

I feel I am a good leader with people skills that can accomplish what is necessary to keep a District or JPA moving forward.

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

SDRMA Staff and Board work together to bring Special Districts affordable insurance for the pool they serve. By listening to the needs of all California Special Districts and meeting those needs at a reasonable price that Special Districts can afford. I would continue advocating for these continued efforts and rewarding continue education for all Districts and employees.

I see SDRMA pool continuing for centuries and serving those needs.

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 *Janet Seifert Rappelson* Date 4/17/2023