

### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Robin Stieler, Clerk of the Board

From: Chairman Andrew Do, Supervisor, 1st District

Date: 09/15/21

RE: Add Item to 10/05/21 Board Meeting Agenda –Re-Appoint Drew Atwater to Orange County Audit Oversight Committee

Please place an item on the agenda for the October 5, 2021 Board of Supervisors agenda to re-appoint Drew Atwater to the Orange County Audit Oversight Committee, for a term concurrent with the Supervisor's term in office.

cc: Chris Wangsaporn, Chief of Staff, BOS-1 Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk, COB CLERM OF THE BOARD

7071 SEP 15 AM 8: 38



### APPLICATION FOR COUNTY OF ORANGE BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE

(FOR COUNTY USE ONLY)

Return to:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 333 West Santa Ana Blvd., Suite 465 Santa Ana, California 92701 Website: www.ocgov.com/gov/cob/

Instructions: Please complete each section below. Be sure to enter the title of the Board, Commission or

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<b>EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:</b> Please attach a resume to this application and provide any information that would be helpful in evaluating your application.								
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ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER? ☑ YES □ NO								

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Revised Date 02/07/19

### Drew Atwater

### **Objective**

My passion is using modern analytical methods to address natural resource public good problems to integrate finance, economics, resource management and conservation planning.

### Education

### MASTER OF SCIENCE | JUNE 2012 | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT RIVERSIDE

· Environmental Economics and Natural Resource Economics and Policy

### BACHELORS OF ARTS | MAY 2008 | REED COLLEGE

· Major: Physics

· Thesis: A Brief Study in Thermo-Acoustic Engines

### **Skills & Abilities**

#### INNOVATION

- Oversaw deployment of cloud-based database to clean and store Advanced Metering Infrastructure data, winning a global best practices award from Amazon Web Services.
- Project Lead on Aliso Creek watershed collaboration to work with the County of Orange, five local cities
  and environmental groups to share data and resources to reduce urban runoff. Selected by the MWD
  Board for Future Supply Action Program Funding and is the cornerstone of Moulton Niguel Water
  District winning a 2018 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award.

#### MANAGEMENT

- Developed the first data science team at a water utility to support financial analytics and innovation efforts across the organization.
- · Finance lead in 2016 labor negotiations which were negotiated in half a day.

#### COMMUNICATION

 Oversee the customer marketing function with a data driven approach to measure the impact of interventions through survey's and changes in water usage- worked with Facebook and Stanford on innovative approaches to measure impact of water utility marketing.

#### **LEADERSHIP**

 Work across the organization with a "one-team" approach to support innovation efforts across all departments.

### **Experience**

## MANAGER OF RATES, CHARGES, & FINANCIAL PLANNING | METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOURTHERN CALIFORNIA OCTOBER 2020 - PRESENT

Responsible for the development and implementation of key financial planning activities, studies, policies, and strategic financial plans. Manages development and implementation of the Metropolitan's pricing strategy; develops the annual revenue requirements and rate implementation proposal; manages public and customer outreach and public hearings during the rate setting process to support Metropolitan goals and ensure Metropolitan's rate competiveness and compliance with Board policies and governmental regulations. Provides financial forecasts and analyses as necessary to support Metropolitan's strategic business planning processes, including the Integrated Resources Plan, Integrated Area Studies, and capital funding strategies and bond issuances. Oversees development of Metropolitan financial policies regarding use of Metropolitan assets, annexation of property into Metropolitan, and asset valuation studies.

# DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & WATER RESOURCES (DIRECTOR OF PLANNING UNTILL JULY 2018) | MOULTON NIGUEL WATER DISTRICT | JUNE 2016 - OCTOBER 2020

Key initiatives include monitoring Statewide and regional water policy, oversee the development of the urban water management plan, long range water resources plan, long range financial plan, water shortage contingency plan, budget administration, policy recommendations on rate adjustments and their implementation, finance policies procedures, debt issuance and the implementation of water efficiency programs.

- Oversee the development of the District \$134 million annual operating and capital budget. Provides strategic oversight of the Districts Water Resource and Financial planning group who conducts short and long range financial planning, cost of service analysis and rate setting; conduct appropriate research and analysis; prepare forecasts of changes.
- Project lead on implementing new demand offset fees and connection fees. Connection fees were not previously updated for many decades.
- Oversaw update and implementation of regular financial policy review including Reserve Policy, Debt Management Policy and Investment Policy which had not previously been updated for over a decade.
- Lead the effort to rollout AMI for the District with 3 successful Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart Grants for \$2.1 M
- Manage the District's Financial Adviser and oversee planning for future District debt issuance. Plans, organizes, controls, integrates and evaluates the work of the Water Resource and Financial Planning group with the Districts water Efficiency group to implement new projects and programs based on outputs of studies based on key policy metrics such as cost effectiveness and drivers of participation.
- Assist with District labor negotiations by overseeing the preparation of financial model contract proposals for use during labor negotiations and presentations to the Board of Directors.
- Manage and collaborate with the Districts investment adviser to provide advice and recommendations to the Districts Treasurer and Board of Directors on changes to portfolio structure and investment policy.

# WATER RESOURCES MANAGER | MOULTON NIGUEL WATER DISTRICT | SEPTEMBER 2015 - JUNE 2016

Manage the preparation of the District-wide O&M, Water Efficiency Fund and CIP budgets and related documents; present final draft budgets to the management team, Finance committee and the Board of Directors; incorporate final changes and prepare final budget for publishing.

• Participate in short and long range financial planning, cost of service analysis and rate setting; conduct appropriate research and analysis; prepare forecasts of changes.

- Oversee the submission of water usage reports to State agencies, long range water resources planning and oversee cost/benefit analysis of water use efficiency programs
- Project manager of the District's 2015 Urban Water Management Plan
- Presented at the 2015 CA-NV Las Vegas Fall conference on the District's water budget rate structure and approach to the drought.
- Presented at the Water Smart Innovations 2015 Fall conference on the District's Alternate Plan submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board.

## SENIOR FINANCIAL & RESOURCE ANALYST | MOULTON NIGUEL WATER DISTRICT | JUNE 2014 - AUGUST 2015

- Lead analyst of the District's new comprehensive Long Range Financial Planning Model.
- Lead analyst of the District's wastewater rate model.
- Co-author of the District's Long Range Financial Plan Report.
- Presented at the 2014 CA-NV Reno Fall conference on how water budget based rate structures meet both revenue sufficiency and conservation goals.

## ASSOCIATE CONSULTANT | RAFTELIS FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS | OCTOBER 2013 – MAY 2014

- Built the 2013 MWD retail rate survey database.
- Corona Water Rate Study- analyzed the impacts of shifting from water budget rates to 100% volumetric uniform rates and co-presented results to executive water team.
- Built the Santa Margarita Water District 2014 long range financial plan looking at the water, recycled water and wastewater finances of the district.
- Built a connection fee model and wrote up the supporting report for the City of Roseville.
- Built a long range financial plan for Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District creating a tool
  to better navigate changing from a passthrough wholesale agency to a water supply reliability
  manager for the watershed. The critical project to analyze is Indirect Potable Reuse to augment the
  Main San Gabriel Basin under varying capital cost and operating scenarios. Presented the model
  results to the agency's general manager.
- Completed a full cost of service rate study update for the City of Santa Barbara wastewater utility based on volumetric conservation wastewater rates.
- Built a drought rate model for Alameda County water district. The District is facing a 20% supply shortfall due to the SWP's 0% allocation. The model allocates increased supply and lost revenue across customer classes.
- Assisted in developing a new Mojave Water Agency reserve policy and risk based financial model update. The Mojave risk based financial model utilizes existing groundwater storage and the Multi-Year Pool program to maximize the district's financial position by balancing the risk of maximizing Multi-Year Pool participation, groundwater storage and supply risk from the State Water Project.
- Prepared and attended presentations for Kickoff meetings for executive agency management to build robust conservation rates consistent with agency policy goals and political constraints.
- Regularly met with and worked with water and wastewater agency staff from general manager to support level throughout California.

## ASSOCIATE CONSULTANT | ATWATER CONSULTING GROUP | OCTOBER 2008 – SEPTEMBER 2013

Analyzed water rates, financial capacity, UWMPs, and capital improvement programs for Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water Districts retail agencies, SAWPA member agencies, and other water districts throughout southern California.

- Generated financial and capital analysis reports for the purpose of creating partnerships between Southern California water agencies to evaluate potential public-private partnerships in developing local projects such as brackish groundwater desalination.
- Developed strategies for Australian businesses to expand into the California water industry.
- Advised Jet Propulsion Laboratory on developing a Western Regional Climate Science Database.
- Lead author on white-paper analyzing photovoltaic powers financial feasibility at Three Valleys Municipal Water District with a focus on power purchase agreements versus traditional build own models.
- Program Coordinator for a survey of California water and wastewater agency onsite renewable generation sponsored by the Association of California Water Agencies, California Association of Sanitation Agencies, PGE, Southern California Edison, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and the California Energy Commission.

## GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHER | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT RIVERSIDE | JUNE 2011 - AUGUST 2013

Primary graduate student researcher on project to estimate program effects of conservation programs on water demand in southern California.

 Coordinate with local water agencies to acquire water demand data, append Decennial Census/American Community Survey data, and append household geospatial characteristics into a database.

# U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER | POLICY INT | APRIL 2010 – IUNE 2010

- Prepared policy briefs analyzing legislative viability of federal options for action on the energy-water nexus.
- Prepared materials for holding congressional hearings on the energy-water nexus.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST | CDM | AUGUST 2008 - OCTOBER 2008

- Analyzed existing treated water supply for Eastern Municipal Water District and prepared fact sheets on options for Integrated Resource Plan update.
- In addition, determined additional needed turnout connection capacity needed based on demand projections.
- Modeled Imbalances in the SARI line in dissolved solids.
- Attended meeting and have read Integrated Area Studies Report from 2007 by CDM.

### SUMMER STUDENT | JET PROPULSION LABORATORY | MAY 2007 - AUG 2007

- Worked with a local municipality, JPL engineers and a civil engineering firm (CH2M Hill) to design an alternative energy project within the Commercial Development Office.
- In the Commercial Development Office, worked on preparing Technical Support Packages, reviewed technology and wrote a recommendation for both market potential and patenting.

#### SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR | REED COLLEGE | AUGUST 2003 - MAY 2006

Licensed Nuclear Reactor Operator to manipulate reactivity, utilize experimental facilities, and analyze irradiated specimens through Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis.

- From August 2003 to May 2004 participated in a Reactor Training program, which culminated in a Nuclear Regulatory Commission administered exam and walkthrough proving ability to safely operate the reactor.
- From August 2004 to May 2005 participated in an advanced training program to ultimately supervise Reactor Operators, which culminated in taking a walkthrough to prove ability to handle emergency situations and obtained Senior Reactor Operator status.

#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

California Water Data Consortium Steering Committee 2020 - Present

California Data Collaborative Steering Committee, Chair 2019 - 2020

AWWA M1 Committee of Rates & Charges, 2019 - Present, Subcommittee on Rate Design Co-Chair

Water Solutions Network Inaugural Cohort

County of Orange Audit-Oversight Committee, Private Sector Member, Chair (January 2018- November 2019), Private Sector Member 2016-2017, and Presently

UC Riverside Design Thinking Advisory Board Member

ACWA Business Development Committee, Member 2018 - 2019

ACWA Legal Affairs Committee, Member 2016 -2018

SCWC Energy-Water Task Force

SCWC Recycled Water Task Force

SCWC Urban Water Task Force

SCWC Stormwater Task Force

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

"Evaluating Water Savings from Budget Based Tiered Rates In Orange County", Water Economics and Policy, April 2021.

"Rewiring Conservation for Energy", Southern California Water Coalition Energy Water Task Force, April 2020

"Towards California Water Conservation Impact Evaluations by Default: Lessons of a Turf Removal Rebate Study in South Orange County," Bloomberg Data for Good Exchange, September 2015

"Drought Demand Management: One Size Doesn't Fit All," Journal of American Water Works Association, January 2015

"Adaptation, Integration, and Connection: How Water Utilities Can Plan for Uncertainty," Journal of American Water Works Association, June 2015

"California Water Rate Trends," Journal of American Water Works Association, January 2015

"Why do Water Agencies need Reserves?," Journal of American Water Works Association, November 2014

"Conservation Rates Offer Options," American Water Works Association California-Nevada Section Source Journal, April 2014

### NOTABLE CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Association of California Water Agencies (Moderator Spring 2017 "Water Trends Program – New Tools for Water Management: CaDC Update", Panelist & Moderator Fall 2018 "Innovative Approaches to Watershed Collaboration", Panelist Fall 2019 "Energy Committee Overgeneration Workshop")

American Water Works Association Annual Conference & Exposition (Panelist June 2018 "Unraveling Watershed Complications")

American Water Works Association California-Nevada Section (Presentation Fall 2014 "Water Budget Based Rates: Meeting Both Revenue Sufficiency & Conservation Goals", Presentation Fall 2015 "Drought Demand Management- One Size Does Not Fit All")

California Stormwater Quality Association (Panelist Fall 2018 "Data Driven Stormwater Management")

California State Association of Counties (Panelist Fall 2018 "Collaborative Opportunities in Project Implementation: Aliso Creek Watershed")

ACC-OC (November 2019 "Inter-agency Collaboration to Reduce Urban Runoff")

Imagine H20 Water Innovation Summit (Workforce Panel March 2019)

Bloomberg Data for Good Exchange (Presenter Fall 2015 "Transforming how water is managed in the West", Panelist Fall 2016 "The Power of Data Science Volunteerism – Forecasting Urban Water Usage")

California Data Collaborative: Data Summit (Presenter, Moderator and Organizer 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 Annual Water Data Summit)

Other Conferences and Workshops that I have presented at: California Water Efficiency Partnership Peer to Peer, Southern California Water Coalition Stormwater Workshop, Southern California Water Coalition Energy-Water Task Force Workshop, Urban Water Institute, Sustain Southern California Water Solutions Conference, WateReuse OC Chapter, California Water Energy Team of the Climate Action Team (WET-CAT)

Regularly present at City Council Meetings, Chambers of Commerce, Moulton Niguel Water District Board of Directors meetings