



Ventura County Special Districts Association

Jan/Feb
2015

Offering Quality of Life Services Through Direct Representation



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by **Elaine Freeman**

Hello everyone, I hope you all had a great holiday season. It is a time to reflect and count our blessings especially when we see so many people throughout the world not living as well as we do, nor having the choices we have.

I hope you and your agency will come out for our annual meeting on February 3. New officers will be installed for the next two years, plus recognition for the General Manager of the Year and the Board Member of the Year. The very special award, the Shirley Turner award isn't given each year and is given to those who have gone over and above what is expected in their support of your agency or special districts. It is an honor to be recognized by your peers so get those applications in.

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I was able to serve as your President over the last two years. My goal was to have interesting programs and try to centralize the location not always having the meetings in Simi Valley. In reflecting, we did become a chapter of CSDA, one of the first. This trend has continued throughout the State. We visited both the Chumash Museum and our first meeting was at Strathearn Historical Park in Simi Valley. Those of you who attended I hope you learned something new about the history of the area. We heard about ground water management, thank you Tully; we heard from Eric Burg from Calleguas about the bond of what it will do and not do and from CSDA Legislative Advocate Christina Lokke. I know your new President, Mike Paule will provide interesting programs.

Thank you again for your support during my two year term. It was an honor to serve and I will continue to assist in keeping you updated on what is happening in Sacramento.

How to reach us:

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VCSDA MEETING

February 3, 2015

At Las Posas Country Club

5:30 PM Registration and Social Time

6:15 PM Meeting and Dinner begins

MENU CHOICES:

**Prime Rib, Cornish Game Hen, and Vegan
More details with the RSVP form**

RSVP before deadline with enclosed form

Michael Powers



Michael Powers became the County Executive Officer for Ventura County in April of 2011. In this role he oversees a budget of \$1.9 billion, and over 8,500 employees in 27 agencies and departments. He is responsible for overseeing and supporting all major county functions and services including budget, finance, legislation, human resources, labor relations, economic development and information technology. As CEO Mike's focus is on quality public service, fiscal discipline and investing in both our community and County workforce. He feels it is a privilege to work alongside the talented, passionate and high caliber people who form the County Family.

Prior to his appointment, Mike was the Director of the Health Care Agency (HCA) where he oversaw the operation and management of the County's health departments. At HCA, Mike also served as Hospital Administrator, Physician Services Director, Compliance Officer and Deputy Director. He began his career with the County in 1992 as an Assistant County Counsel. Prior to joining the County, he worked in private legal practice with Nordman, Cormany, Hair & Compton. With a degree in Economics and Business from UCLA, he received his Law Degree from Loyola Law School.

Mike also serves or has served on a number of community boards.

VCSDA Board Members



PRESIDENT
Elaine Freeman
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VICE PRESIDENT
Mary Anne Rooney



TREASURER
Michael Paule
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Legislative Update



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The Legislators were sworn in on December 1 and subsequently, committee assignments were made. Our new Assemblywoman was assigned to the Agriculture Committee, Higher Education Committee, Jobs, Economic Development Committee and Veterans Affairs which she will chair. Scott Wilk is on the Assembly Budget Committee, Governmental Organization, Business & Professions Committee and the joint Committee on the Arts. There is a new committee which he will be Vice Chair for Privacy & Consumer Protection dealing with privacy with the internet, media, consumer retail information and medical records. Scott's first bill is AB 6 which would end the high speed rail and divert the monies to school construction. He really doesn't think it has a chance but thought it was a good idea. In the Senate, Fran Pavely is on the Natural Resources Committee and Hana Beth Jackson on the Judiciary.

Senator Steinberg introduced a new minimum wage bill which sounds good until you figure all the part time people who are employed by special districts, primarily park and recreation. In addition there is now the requirement for the Affordable Health Care law if they average 30 hours a week. This all adds up and makes it difficult on budgets and the ability to add and or maintain good programming.

The legislative calendar is as follows: January 5, Legislature reconvenes; January 10 budget bill must be submitted by Governor; January 30, last day to submit bill request to the Office of Legislative Council; February 27, last day for bills to be introduced; May 1 Last day for policy committees to meet and report to Fiscal Committees fiscal bills introduced in their house; June 5 last day for bills to be passed out of the house of origin; June 15 Budget must be passed by midnight; July 17 last day for policy committee to meet and report bills. Summer recess begins upon adjournment provided budget has been enacted and September 4 is the last day to amend bills on the floor and then October 11 the last day for governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before September 11.

If your agency has a need for legislative action, contact me or your local legislator. CSDA is willing to present issues to Legislators that need to be addressed.

Photos from the December 2, 2014 Meeting at the Camarillo Health Care District

Thank you Theresa Pennington, for taking the photos.

