

H2O IN THE KNOW

SAN BERNARDINO MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE

- What's Happening at SBMWD
- FY 2018-19 Accomplishments
- Community Spotlight
- Hard Work in Every Drop: Employee Highlights
- SBMWD Career Pathway Programs

COLLABORATIVE STEPS TOWARD RESILIENT WATER SUPPLIES

On January 30, 2019, the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) Water Board held a joint meeting with the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (Valley District) Board of Directors to discuss the collaborative groundwater basin sustainability efforts between the two agencies and their regional partners. These efforts will preserve the basin and increase local water supplies. Projects discussed included the Waterman Turnout Hydroelectric Project, a collaboration between SBMWD and Valley District as equal partners providing electricity for SBMWD operations.

"Protecting our precious resource - the groundwater basin - is essential to ensure that we meet customer water needs now, and in the future," commented Miguel Guerrero, SBMWD General Manager. "The partnership we have developed with Valley District will be a cornerstone in diversifying our water supply."

"Our Water Board appreciates all the hard work and collaboration put forth by representatives of both agencies," said Toni Callicott, President of the SBMWD Water Board. "The projects and programs presented at the meeting are examples of the great innovation and accomplishments that can be achieved by working together for the benefit of the San Bernardino Valley and our residents."

Both agencies continue to build resilient water resources to benefit San Bernardino.



Left to right: Ron Coats, EVWD Governing Board member; Toni Callicott, SBMWD Board President; T. Milford Harrison, Valley District Board President



Miguel J. Guerrero, SBMWD General Manager, presents the collaborative projects proposed between SBMWD and Valley District

TRUSTED, QUALITY SERVICE SINCE 1905

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SBMWD

SBMWD WELCOMES NEW WATER BOARD COMMISSIONERS

The San Bernardino Municipal Water Department welcomes Mr. Rikke Johnson and Mr. Thomas Brickley to the City of San Bernardino Water Board



Water Board Commissioner
Rikke Johnson

Commissioner Rikke Johnson, former San Bernardino City Council Member, has over 12 years of experience in public service. Mr. Johnson has been a resident of the City of San Bernardino for over 50 years.

Thomas Brickley, recently retired President and General Manager of Brickley Environmental and co-owner of Environmental Contractors Transportation, brings over 25 years of experience in local business and personnel management to the Water Board.



Water Board Commissioner
Thomas Brickley



THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP

At the April 26th meeting SBMWD staff and Water Board thanked former Mayor Judith Valles and Dr. Louis Fernández for their years of leadership, dedication and service to the San Bernardino community as Water Board Commissioners.



FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Introduced eBilling giving customers the ability to view billing information online and to sign up for paperless billing
- Processed over 1,600 employment applications, coordinated over 400 interviews and opened 46 job recruitments

- Installed or repurposed 4 wells at the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction facility (RIX) to maintain flows to the Santa Ana River
- Repaired over 260 service lateral leaks and over 105 water main leaks
- Installed over 135 new water services and more than 70 new sewer services

- Reached mutual agreements with stakeholders through the Groundwater Council to support basin sustainability

CONSERVATION CONNECTION

In fiscal year 2018-2019 SBMWD worked to expand and enhance water conservation outreach resources for our Spanish speaking community.

Pictured above, SBMWD General Manager Miguel J. Guerrero, provided Water Department updates for guests attending the water-saving garden workshops.

ENSURING INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY

As part of our commitment to secure a safe and reliable water supply, staff continues to maintain and improve infrastructure. In line with this commitment, work was completed to replace the roof of the Electric Reservoir this spring. The reservoir can store up to 8 million gallons of water, and plays a crucial role in storage and distribution.

The original redwood roof structure was replaced with a new aluminum roof that is structurally sound and meets current seismic standards. This project required months of planning and construction to accommodate existing system demands while rebuilding the new roof from the inside out. The reservoir was then thoroughly sanitized to prepare for service.

The Electric Reservoir was built in 1937



Crews thoroughly sanitize the interior of the reservoir to prepare for refill and water storage



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

CAJON HIGH SCHOOL WINS THE 2019 INLAND SOLAR CHALLENGE

High school students across the Inland Empire build and race solar-powered boats in the Inland Solar Challenge competition. SBMWD sponsors, plans, and participates in this annual event to promote water resource education and careers in water.

Congratulations to Cajon High School, sponsored by SBMWD, which took home the first place award for the third year in a row! Way to go Cajon Cowboys!

To learn more about the Inland Solar Challenge, please visit InlandSolarChallenge.com



SBMWD TEACHES CONSERVATION THROUGH MUSIC

SBMWD introduced new programs to help local students learn about water resources and conservation through lively and humorous bilingual musical performances. Ten musical assemblies were presented to local schools by ZunZun, an award-winning performing arts group specializing in environmental education.

The assemblies celebrate water as a core necessity for life and engages students with imaginative segments focused on sustainability and how our daily actions impact local water resources.



HARD WORK IN EVERY DROP: SBMWD EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS



Zarah Alaam, SBMWD Database Analyst



The Water Board congratulates employees recognized for their years of service and dedication to the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

Meet Zarah Alaam, a GIS Database Analyst in the Water Utility Division who has been employed with SBMWD since November 2015. Her day to day duties include creating and updating water system maps as well as developing, maintaining, and operating GIS database programs and applications. Zarah also trains fellow employees to use GIS applications which increases efficiency.

Zarah enjoys the people she works with and knowing that her work contributes value to Department operations. "Our staff really works as a team and there is a sense of camaraderie which motivates me to work hard for our Department."

Zarah is a wife and mother of three who loves spending time with her family, traveling and contributing to her local church activities

Thank you, Zarah, for what you do and for sharing what you love about working for the Department.

Build a Career in Water

The demand for experienced, certified and trained water and wastewater professionals is increasing. Industry experts predict a significant percentage of water workers will retire over the next decade. This is why local water technology and career pathway programs are so valuable to the community. Without an influx of new workers entering the field, there will be a shortage of trained professionals qualified to maintain water and wastewater systems.

SBMWD collaborates with San Bernardino Valley College to promote water industry careers by offering water supply technology scholarships, a Wastewater Operator in Training program, and student internships.

For more information about these programs or employment opportunities with SBMWD, please call (909) 384-5141, or visit SBCityWater.org.

For more information about training opportunities and water technology programs at San Bernardino Valley College, please visit ValleyCollege.edu



We want to connect with you!
Follow us at @SBCityWater



1350 South E Street, San Bernardino, CA 92408
909.384.5141

SBCityWater.org
OFFICE HOURS:

MON - THURS 7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.
FRI 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.