



2026 Board of Directors Election

Candidate Biographies



Robert Eranio

Former President & CEO, Robert's Associated Water, Inc.

Robert Eranio is a seasoned water professional with over four decades of experience in both the public and private sectors. He founded and led Robert's Associated Water, Inc., providing consulting and contract operations to small water systems for ten years.

He began his career as a Laborer and Water Operator in Azusa, CA, and went on to hold progressively responsible roles supporting the City of Pasadena, Fort Irwin, Santa Barbara Desal, and Port Hueneme. He served as Superintendent and General Manager of Crestview Mutual Water Company in Camarillo from 1993 to 2015, and served on the Boards of Directors of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (2014-2019) and United Water Conservation District for five four-year terms (1998-2000 & 2002-2019), ultimately as Board President.

Robert has served on the CalMutuals Board of Directors since 2023 and has also served on numerous county and state advisory committees. He holds Grade 5 certifications as a California Water Treatment Operator and a California Water Distribution Operator, as well as certifications as an AWWA Cross-Connection Control Specialist and a Ventura and Santa Barbara County Backflow Tester.



Sandi McElhenney

President, Krista Mutual Water Company

Sandi McElhenney is President of Krista Mutual Water Company in Lebec, CA, and has been involved in the water industry for more than sixteen years.

She has played an instrumental role in the ongoing consolidation of Krista Mutual Water Company with Lebec County Water District, a project that upgraded and modernized Krista's 75-plus-year-old infrastructure, including a new blending station to bring the system into state fluoride compliance.

Sandi has served on the CalMutuals Board of Directors since 2023 and also serves on the board of the Castac Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency. She holds a Grade 1 California Water Distribution Operator certification. With a passion for clean, affordable drinking water for all, especially disadvantaged communities in the San Joaquin Valley, she also collaborates with Self Help Enterprises and the Community Water Center, both based in Visalia. Sandi is a California native, born in Santa Monica, and has resided all over the state; outside the office, her other loves are her family, dogs, church, community, and gardening.



Dave Michalko

President, Covina Valley Water Company

Dave Michalko is President of Covina Valley Water Company (CVWC), a role he was appointed to in late 2024 after leading the September 2023 merger of Valencia Heights Water Company and its wholesaler, Covina Irrigating.

Dave dedicated more than 35 years to Valencia Heights Water Company, serving as its General Manager since 1995. Since 2003, he has served on the Board of the San Gabriel Valley Water Association, including as President from 2017 to 2019, and since 2012 he has served on the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster, currently as Vice Chairman. He has also served as a Director of the Public Water Agency Group (PWAG) since 2019.

Dave holds a bachelor's degree from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and Grade 3 California Water Treatment Operator and Grade 4 California Water Distribution Operator certifications. He is a charter board member of CalMutuals, established in 2013, and currently serves as President of the CalMutuals Joint Powers Risk and Insurance Management Authority. He has also advised the State Water Resources Control Board's AB 401 Low-Income Rate Assistance Program (2017-2019), the County Drought Advisory Group, and the Department of Water Resources' DRIP Collaborative, helping small water systems with drought planning and risk assessment.



John "Jay" Zucca

President & Secretary, San Andreas Mutual Water Company

Jay Zucca is President and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the San Andreas Mutual Water Company, a mutual water system with 140 service connections in rural Santa Cruz County on the outskirts of Watsonville.

Jay is an Earth Scientist who retired from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory after 35 years, where he held a variety of research and management positions focused on developing technology to verify nuclear-weapon test-ban treaties. He currently works part-time, remotely, for the University of Nevada's Desert Research Institute as a geophysicist.

Jay has served on the CalMutuals Board of Directors since January 2020. Since joining, he has focused on issues related to small-system challenges in addressing contaminants, including guidance on the CalMutuals-Community Water System Alliance Hexavalent Chromium Economic Feasibility Study and the Cr6 Challenge Coalition.
