California
WATER COMMISSION

The California Water Commission consists of nine members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Seven members are chosen for their expertise related to the control, storage, and beneficial use of water and two are chosen for their knowledge of the environment. The Commission advises the Director of the Department of Water Resources on matters within the Department's jurisdiction, approves rules and regulations, and monitors and reports on the construction and operation of the State Water Project. California's comprehensive water legislation, enacted in 2009, gave the Commission new responsibilities regarding the distribution of public funds set aside for the public benefits of water storage projects, and developing regulations for the quantification and management of those benefits.

The roles and responsibilities of the Water Commission are defined in the Water Code, sections of the Government Code, and the Civil Procedures code. Some of their specific responsibilities are highlighted below:

Departmental Activities and Regulations

- Conferring with, advising, and making recommendations to the director of DWR with respect to any matters under his jurisdiction. *(WC §161)*
- Approving all rules and regulations of the Department, other than those relating exclusively to the internal administration and management of the department, before they can become effective. *(WC §161)*

State Water Project

- Conducting an annual review of the construction and operation of the State Water Project, and making a report on its findings to the Department and to the Legislature, with any recommendations it may have. *(WC §165)*
- Holding public hearings on all additional facilities proposed to be added to the State Water Project and naming any new facilities. *(WC § 161.5, 166)*
- Adopting a resolution of necessity, and giving each affected person a venue to be heard, before the Department may commence an eminent domain proceeding. *(CCP §1245.210)*

Federal Funding

- Presenting its views to the Congressional appropriations committees on funding for flood control or reclamation projects being planned or constructed in California by the United States Army Corps of Engineers or the Bureau of Reclamation. *(WC §12602)*

Water Storage

- Selecting water storage projects for funding under the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Act of 2012 (SBX7-2) through a competitive public process if the bill is passed. Funding must go towards the public benefits portions of projects that improve the operation of the state water system, are cost effective, and provide a net improvement in ecosystem and water quality conditions. *(WC § 79740)*
- Developing and adopting, by regulation, methods for quantification and management of public benefits of water storage projects by December 15, 2012, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Game, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the department. *(WC § 79744)*

California WATER COMMISSION—MEMBERS

Anthony Saracino, **Chair**, of Sacramento, is a private consultant, advising clients on water resources management and policy issues. Previously, he served as director of the California Water Program at The Nature Conservancy from 2005 to 2011. Prior to The Nature Conservancy, he was director of Schlumberger Water Services from 2001 to 2005. Saracino was principal of the consulting firm Saracino, Kirby, Snow from 1995 to 2001 and was director of geologic and environmental services for Wallace Kuhl and Associates Geotechnical Engineering from 1984 to 1995.

Joseph Byrne, Vice-Chair, of Los Angeles, is a partner in the law office of Burke, Williams and Sorensen, where he advises public and private clients on a variety of legal issues, including many related to water. Previously, he practiced law in the government practice group of a large law firm in Los Angeles, and worked in the California State Assembly from 1998-2002, where he served as counsel and chief water and public safety policy consultant to the Speaker of the Assembly.

Andrew Ball, of San Mateo, has been president and chief executive officer of Webcor Builders since 1994. Through his leadership and commitment, sustainability is at the forefront of Webcor's comprehensive business practices. Webcor now serves as the chair of the Industry Advisory Board for the Center for the Built Environment (UC Berkeley) and was a founding member for the Business Council on Climate Change (BC3) in association with the United Nations Global Compact. Webcor's early focus on broadening sustainability to the private building sector resulted in San Francisco's first Green Building code, the most stringent in the nation and in companion green building codes for the cities of San Jose and Oakland.

Daniel Curtin, of Sacramento, has served as director for the California Conference of Carpenters since 2001 and previously held the same position from 1992 to 1999. From 1999 to 2001, he served as chief deputy director for the Department of Industrial Relations. Prior to that, Curtin was a legislative advocate for the California Conference of Carpenters. He serves on the State Compensation Insurance Fund Board of Directors, the Economic Development Commission, and the Industrial Welfare Commission.

Joe Del Bosque, of Los Baños, is president and chief executive officer of Empresas Del Bosque, Inc., a diversified farm in the San Joaquin Valley since 1985, where he grows cantaloupes, almonds, asparagus, cherries, and organic melons. He is a Chair of AgSafe, a nonprofit organization whose mission is the prevention of injuries and fatalities among agricultural workers. He is a member of California Farm Bureau, California Latino Water Coalition, and Western Growers Association. Previously he served as director of Pacheco Water District and the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority.

Kimberley Delfino, of Sacramento, has been California program director for Defenders of Wildlife since 2000. In 2000, she worked as legislative director for the California Public Interest Research Group. For several years previously, Delfino was staff attorney for the U.S. Public Interest Research Group and an associate attorney for Meyer and Glitzenstein.

Luther Hintz, of Brownsville, is a professional civil and agricultural engineer specializing in water resources. From 1993 to 2005 he served as general manager and in 2005 as executive director, of Reclamation District No. 108 and its associate districts, retiring in 2006. For 32 years prior to that, he was a consulting engineer with the firm Bookman-Edmonston Engineering, Inc., a water resource development company. He is a fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers.