



# SPRING CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The Kimpton Sawyer Hotel | 500 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | May 11-12, 2023



# CALIFORNIA WATER ASSOCIATION **SPRING CONFERENCE**

## AGENDA

### THURSDAY, MAY 11

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS (CWA MEMBERS ONLY)

**8:30 am – 12:30 pm** Board of Directors Meeting  
Maple Suite

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS (CWA MEMBERS ONLY)

**1:00 pm – 3:00 pm** Regulatory Seminar  
Magnolia Ballroom

**1:00 pm – 3:00 pm** Supplier Diversity Committee Meeting  
Maple Suite

**3:00 pm – 5:00 pm** Small Company Seminar  
Magnolia Ballroom

**3:00 pm – 5:00 pm** Public Information Committee Meeting  
Maple Suite

#### REGISTRATION & RECEPTION

**3:30 pm – 6:00 pm** Registration  
— 2nd Floor Magnolia Foyer

**5:30 pm – 7:30 pm** Opening Reception  
— Sponsored by Blair, Church, & Flynn and National University  
Mini Golf and Taco Bar  
– Flatstick Pub



### FRIDAY, MAY 12

All sessions will be held in the Magnolia Ballroom.

**7:00 am – 5:00 pm** Registration  
— 2nd Floor Magnolia Foyer

**7:00 am – 8:00 am** Hosted Breakfast  
— Sponsored by Sheppard and Mullin



#### WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

**8:00 am** Spring Conference Welcome:  
Tim Guster, Vice President and General Counsel, Great Oaks Water Company, 1st Vice President, California Water Association

**8:10 am** Opening Speakers: Katie McCleary and Jennifer Edwards, Co-authors, "How to Bridge the Gap"

#### PARTNERSHIPS PANEL DISCUSSIONS

**9:10 am – 9:55 am** National Partnerships Panel  
Moderator: Rami Kahlon, Director of Regulatory Affairs, California Water Service  
Panelists: Renee Willette, Chief Strategy Officer, US Water Alliance

Rik Hull, Chief Operating Officer & Executive VP, Strategy & External Affairs, National Association of Water Companies

Regina Davis, Assistant Executive Director, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

**9:55 am – 10:05 am** Networking Break  
Coffee Break Sponsored by Latham and Watkins



#### PARTNERSHIPS PANEL DISCUSSIONS

**10:05 am – 10:50 am** Tribal Partnerships Panel  
Moderator: Ed Jackson, President, Liberty Utilities (CA), President, California Water Association

Panelists: Tracy Stanhoff, President, American Indian Chamber of Commerce of California

Anecita Agustinez, Tribal Policy Advisor, Department of Water Resources

Kenneth Holbrook, Tribal Liaison, California Public Utilities Commission



**10:50 am – 11:25 am** **Regulatory Partnerships Panel**  
Moderator: *Carmelitha Bordelon, Director of Regulatory Affairs, Suburban Water Systems*

Panelists: *Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director, Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board*

*Terence Shia, Director for Water Division, California Public Utilities Commission*

**11:25 am – 12:00 pm** **Diversity Partnerships Panel**  
Moderator: *Jeanette Diaz, Supplier Diversity and Procurement Manager, San Gabriel Valley Water*

Panelists: *Debra Lucero, WELLo, Water Education for Latino Leaders*

*Russell Lowery, Deputy Executive Director, California African American Water Education Foundation*

*Meghan Roberts, Executive Director, The Association of Women in Water, Energy and Environment*

**12:00 pm – 1:05 pm** **Luncheon – Magnolia Terrace**  
Sponsored by Nossaman LLP



**1:05 pm – 1:20 pm** **Legislative Keynote Speaker**  
*California State Senator Angelique Ashby, District 8, Sacramento*

*Keynote Speaker Sponsored by West Valley Construction*



## PARTNERSHIPS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

**1:20 pm – 2:05 pm** **Environmental Justice Partnerships**

Moderator: *Dawn White, Water Quality Manager, Golden State Water*

Panelists: *Jennifer Clary, State Director, Clean Water Action*

*Justine Massey, Policy Manager & Attorney, Community Water Center*

*Michael Claiborne, Directing Attorney, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability*

**2:05 pm – 2:50 pm** **Non-Governmental Organization Partnerships**  
Moderator: *Lauren James, Director, Communications, Suburban Water Systems*

Panelists: *Tia Fleming, Executive Director, External Affairs, California Water Efficiency Partnership*

*Jennifer Bowles, Executive Director, Water Education Foundation*

*Ed Ossan, Director, Natural Resource Defense Council*

**2:50 pm – 3:00 pm** **Networking Break**  
Afternoon Snack Sponsored by Iconix Waterworks



## PARTNERSHIPS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

**3:00 pm – 3:45 pm** **Educational Partnerships**  
Moderator: *Justin Skarb, Vice President, Community & Government Affairs, California Water Service*

Panelists: *Caitlin Peterson, Associate Director and Research Fellow, Public Policy Institute of California*

*Erik Porse, Ph.D., Director, California Institute for Water Resources*

*Greg Pierce, Co-Director of the Luskin Center for Innovation (LCI)*

**3:45 pm – 4:30 pm** **State Partnerships**  
Moderator: *Kaitlyn Johnson, Policy Advisor, Political Solutions*

Panelists: *Adam Quinonez, Director of State Legislative and Regulatory Relations, Association of California Water Agencies*

*Danielle Blacet, Deputy Executive Director, California Municipal Utilities Association*

*Sue Mosburg, Executive Director, American Water Works Association – CA NV*

*Karina Cervantez, Managing Director, California Association of Mutual Water Companies*



# SPEAKERS & MODERATORS



**ANECITA AGUSTINEZ**  
**Tribal Advisor**  
**Department of Water Resources**

Anecita Agustinez is an enrolled citizen of the Navajo Nation, born to the Tó dích'íinii (Bitter Water Clan) and born for the Ilocano Clan. She is a Tribal Policy Advisor for the Department of Water Resources, where she provides strategic policy support and recommendations regarding Tribal engagement and consultation. Before joining the Department, she served as the Native American Liaison at the Department's Office of Legislative and External Affairs, and Program Manager of the Office of Health Access at the Department of Health Care Services. Anecita was previously the Assistant Director of the Office of Native American Affairs at the Department of Justice. Her experience includes developing and conducting training in the areas of Tribal consultation, cultural competency, grant administration and legislative advocacy on behalf of California's Tribal Governments. She also coordinates communication and outreach with other state agencies and facilitates government-to-government consultation between Department of Water Resources and California's Native American Tribes and Tribal governments. She is an advocate for self-governance, respect for Tribal sovereignty and incorporating Tribal Science as a best management practice in state management of cultural resources and water infrastructure planning.



**ANGELIQUE ASHBY**  
**California State Senator**

Senator Angelique Ashby is the first woman elected to represent Sacramento in the California State Senate in more than 20 years. Prior to joining the legislature, she served as a Sacramento City Council Member for 12 years. She was the sole woman on the Council for more than half of her tenure and is the only member in city history to serve as Vice Mayor or Mayor Pro-Tem for 8 years.



**DANIELLE BLACET**  
**Deputy Executive Director**  
**California Municipal Utilities Association**

Danielle Blacet-Hyden currently serves as the Deputy Executive Director of the California Municipal Utilities Association. She has over 20 years of experience working with California public water agencies and in multi-member associations including the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and Western Growers Association. While at Western Growers she helped establish and manage a multi-state charitable foundation program providing grants and other resources for water-efficient gardens in K-12 educational institutions.



**CARMELITHA BORDELON**  
**Director of Regulatory Affairs**  
**Suburban Water Systems**

Carmelitha Bordelon is Director of Regulatory Affairs for Suburban Water Systems. She is responsible for preparing all regulatory filings before state public regulatory agencies. Her

career in the water industry began in 2010 when she started in accounting and finance at Southwest Water Company, Suburban Water's parent company. Prior to joining the water industry, Carmelitha worked in the homebuilding industry and in operations at PPG Industries' chemical division located in Lake Charles, LA. She is California Water Association's (CWA) Third Vice President.



**JENNIFER BOWLES**  
**Executive Director**  
**California Water Education Foundation**

A veteran journalist, Jenn directs the development of Western Water news, the Layperson's Guide series on key water topics, the California Water Education Foundation's Colorado River project, poster maps and tours, and various workshops and conferences. She oversees the Water Leaders program and leads fundraising, external communications, and website and social media efforts. For much of her career, Jenn was an award-winning journalist who covered water issues, renewable energy, endangered species, public lands and other natural resources across California and the West. Prior to joining the Foundation, Jenn served as a writer and communications strategist at Best Best & Krieger LLP, where she worked with some of California's leading water law attorneys. Previously, she worked as the environmental and water reporter at The Press-Enterprise in Riverside and as a reporter and editor at The Associated Press in Los Angeles.



**KARINA CERVANTEZ**  
**Managing Director**  
**California Association of Mutual Water Companies**

Karina Cervantez is the Managing Director for the California Association of Mutual Water Companies (CalMutuals). In her role, she manages members' statewide legislative advocacy efforts to strengthen support for small water systems. Karina previously served as mayor and a council member for the City of Watsonville. As California grappled with another historic drought, Karina became increasingly involved in working with similarly impacted communities to address statewide and regional water issues. She testified before the state legislature on the need for additional resources for disadvantaged communities to maintain compliance with the proposed maximum contaminant level (MCL) for chromium-6 in drinking water. In 2014, Governor Jerry Brown appointed Karina to the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.



**MICHAEL CLAIBORNE**  
**Directing Attorney**  
**Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability**

Michael is a Directing Attorney based in the Sacramento office for the Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability (LCJA). Before joining the LCJA team, Michael worked at a private law firm in Fresno where he practiced insurance coverage litigation. Michael works to find solutions to water issues affecting California's most vulnerable communities, along with the myriad of environmental justice issues affecting low-income communities of color in California.



**JENNIFER CLARY**  
**Water Policy and Legislative Analyst**  
**Clean Water Action**

Jennifer has served as a Water Policy and Legislative Analyst for Clean Water Action since 2003. She directs the Central Valley Program and serves on key state stakeholder committees, advising state agencies on actions to improve groundwater quality and allocate state funding for water infrastructure.



**REGINA DAVIS**  
**Assistant Executive Director**  
**National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners**

Regina L. Davis serves as the Assistant Executive Director of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), where she is responsible for strategic planning and execution of the organization's vision and mission to promote the role of the state utility regulator. She serves as an advisor to leadership, manages special projects, and drives organizational initiatives. Regina is also a relationship builder and institutional thinker, bringing an entrepreneurial and problem-solving spirit to her role. She also oversees media relations, writes, and edits official statements and speeches, manages NARUC's newsletter "The Bulletin," leads social media efforts, and provides overall communications strategies for the Association. In addition, she supports advocacy efforts by assisting in the review of official filings and legislative correspondence. Regina also hosts NARUC's podcast, The Power Walk.



**JEANETTE DIAZ**  
**Supplier Diversity Manager**  
**San Gabriel Valley Water**

Jeanette Diaz joined San Gabriel Valley Water Company in July 2016 in the role of Engineering Administrative Assistant. Today she manages San Gabriel's Supplier Diversity Program and Procurement Department, responsible for developing, budgeting, implementing, monitoring, and reporting on San Gabriel's Utility Supplier Diversity Program. (USDSP) She also manages San Gabriel's Los Angeles and Fontana Water Company division procurement processes. Additionally, Jeanette serves as a member of CWA's USDSP and Diversity and Inclusion Committees.



**JENNIFER EDWARDS**  
**Author, Business and Leadership Advisor**

Jennifer Edwards is a partner at Winning Streak Ventures, an early-stage venture capital fund which invests in disruptive technology companies. She is co-author of "Bridge the Gap: Breakthrough Communication Tools to Transform Work Relationships from Challenging to Collaborative." Inc. Magazine named the book one of three business books to read in 2022. Her "bridging differences" framework helps fuel better conversations, communication, and collaboration in corporations, schools, government, and social-sector organizations, and has been adopted by many top leaders, project teams, and boards across the globe. Her work has been featured in Forbes, WSJ, Fast Company, PBS, New York Post, Apple News, Shondaland, Computerworld, and more.



**TIA FLEMING**  
**Co-Executive Director**  
**California Water Efficiency Partnership**

Tia Fleming is the Co-Executive Director at the California Water Efficiency Partnership (CalWEP). She's been working with environmental and water-focused non-profits and municipal organizations for over a decade, managing communications, outreach, advocacy, facilitation, and coalition development. Before joining CalWEP, Tia worked in various capacities with WaterNow Alliance, Imagine H2O, and Food & Water Watch. She currently sits on the League of Provocateurs for Rogue Water Labs.



**KENNETH HOLBROOK**  
**Tribal Advisor**  
**California Public Utilities Commission**

Kenneth Holbrook serves the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Tribal Advisor and is the CPUC's main point of contact with the Native American Tribes of California. Ken is a member of the Pit River Tribe, as well as the Maidu Tribe of Northern California and has extensive experience working with California's Tribes in their shared goals of reacquiring land, ensuring access to safe, clean, and affordable utility services and infrastructure, and driving Tribal community development initiatives. He works closely with CPUC Commissioner Darcie Houck to consult with Tribes across the State in an ongoing CPUC proceeding known as the Tribal Policies Order Instituting Rulemaking. Ken also works closely with the Governor's Office of the Tribal Advisor and the California Energy Commission in his role at CPUC.



**RIK HULL**  
**Executive Vice President of Strategy and External Affairs**  
**National Association of Water Companies**

Rikardo Hull is Executive Vice President of Strategy & External Affairs for the National Association of Water Companies (NAWC). He previously served as an advisor to FERC Commissioner Rob Powelson, providing legal, policy, and strategic guidance on the oversight of wholesale energy markets, natural gas pipeline siting, and oil pipeline rates. Rik has also served as Chief Counsel to Pennsylvania Senate Majority Leader Jake Corman. Rik spent nearly a decade at the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Law Bureau. He began his career working for a law firm specializing in utility and environmental law.



**ED JACKSON**  
**President, Liberty Utilities (CA)**  
**President, California Water Association**

2023-24 President of California Water Association (CWA), Edward Jackson, is also the President, for Liberty Utilities, California. In his position, he is responsible for all operations in California, including both water and electric facilities. He is also a founding member of Liberty's Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Council. Ed began working for Liberty (then known as Park Water Company) in 1993 as a Utilities Engineer and later as the Director of Rates and Regulatory Affairs. Prior to joining Liberty, he worked at the California Public Utilities Commission as a Utilities Engineer from 1990 – 1992.



**LAUREN JAMES**  
**Director of Communications**  
**Suburban Water Systems**

Lauren James is the Director of Communications for Suburban Water Systems, where she is responsible for internal and external communications with customers, stakeholders, community-based organizations, and employees. She is also responsible for the Supplier Diversity and Conservation departments and programs. Lauren joined Suburban in 2015 to support the Covina water utility and other subsidiaries of SouthWest Water Company. She is focused on building Suburban's brand through several signature programs, including supplier diversity and conservation. Lauren recently experienced a career highlight when Suburban achieved 67.1% diverse vendor spend in 2022, the highest in company history and first overall among California regulated utilities.



**KAITLYN JOHNSON**  
**Associate Lobbyist**  
**Political Solutions**

Kaitlyn Johnson is an associate lobbyist for the firm Political Solutions in Sacramento. Kaitlyn focus is in the areas of water, housing, transportation, tourism, state budget, privacy, and employment. She has nearly a decade of experience working in the Assembly and the Senate as both a legislative and communications director.



**RUSSEL LOWERY**  
**Deputy Executive Director**  
**California African American Water Education Foundation**

Russell Lowery is the Deputy Executive Director for the California African American Water Education Foundation. In his role he has participated in successful legislative water bond negotiations in 2006 and 2010. He served as a diverse supplier liaison for Pacific Gas and Electric company, strategic advisor to several grassroots environmental organizations, including the Environmental Justice League, and 40 Acres Conservation League. Russel is a former board member for several community organizations, including Improving Your Tomorrow and People Reaching Out



**DEBRA LUCERO**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**  
**Plumas County**

Debra Lucero is a former Butte County Supervisor and currently serves as the Chief Administrative Officer for Plumas County. Her experience includes two decades working in local economic development focused on agriculture, tourism, business, arts, and culture. She is also a recent graduate of the Water Education for Latino Leaders (WELL) program. Debra has worked as an arts administrator, running state and local arts agencies in Butte and Shasta counties. She managed public access television stations in each city. She has worked as a journalist and public information specialist for a Hispanic advocacy group in Washington, D.C., and owned her own consulting business. As a county supervisor, she was active with the California State Association of Counties and has served on the board of directors for California Arts Advocates (CAA) and the Californians for the Arts.



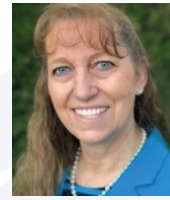
**JUSTINE MASSEY**  
**Policy Manager and Attorney**  
**Community Water Center**

Justine Massey is Policy Manager and Attorney for the Community Water Center, where she focuses on sustainable groundwater management. Justine is a co-recipient of the Stanford Anthropology Department's 2010 Beagle II Award for creating 3D-photographs to document research on medicinal practices in Perú's various bioregions. In 2019 she interned at UNESCO's International Hydrological Program in Montevideo, Uruguay. She has also contributed to a UN Special Rapporteur's report addressing climate change impacts.



**KATIE MCCLEARY**  
**Author, Podcaster, Professor**

Katie McCleary is a storyteller, professor of leadership, and a socially driven entrepreneur who helps leaders, changemakers, and creatives launch big ideas that change lives. Along with Jennifer Edwards, she is co-author of "Bridge the Gap: Breakthrough Communication Tools to Transform Work Relationships From Challenging to Collaborative." She is the host of "The Drive" podcast on NPR's CapRadio with the American Leadership Forum-MV and teaches leadership in a master's program at Pacific University.



**SUE MOSBURG**  
**Executive Director**  
**California Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association**

Sue Mosburg is the Executive Director of the California-Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association (CA-NV AWWA). Before becoming executive director, she was a long-time AWWA volunteer where her leadership roles included Association Director on the AWWA Governing Board, and CA-NV AWWA Section Chair. A public servant for over 40 years, her experience includes risk management, water use efficiency, public outreach, system operations, and employee development program management. Sue is a California State certified Water Treatment Operator, Water Distribution Operator, and CA-NV AWWA certified Water Use Efficiency Practitioner, and Water Audit Validator.



**ED OSSAN**  
**Director**  
**Natural Resources Defense Council**

Ed Osann is Director of the National Water Use Efficiency, Water Initiatives, People & Communities Program for the Natural Resources Defense Council. Ed is a former director of policy and external affairs for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. He has also served on the steering committee for Water Efficient Products, a coalition of manufacturers and environmental organizations that helped launch the voluntary-labeling program known as WaterSense. He was also director of the National Wildlife Federation's Water Resources Program.

**CAITLIN PETERSON****Associate Director, Research Fellow  
Public Policy Institute of California**

Caitlin Peterson is Associate Director and Research Fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California Water Policy Center. She is an agroecologist whose research spans climate-smart agriculture, soil health, diversified cropping systems, agroecosystem resilience, and multi-benefit agricultural landscapes. In her previous work, she explored irrigation and soil ecosystem functions in California almond and tomato systems, crop-livestock integration in Brazilian soybean-beef systems, and small farmer adaptation to climate change in Colombia, Tanzania, and Ghana. As a consulting agroecologist, she led programs linking farmers across the US to emerging soil carbon marketplaces.

**GREG PIERCE****Co-Director  
Luskin Center for Innovation**

Greg Pierce is the Co-Director of the Luskin Center for Innovation and the director of the Center's Human Right to Water Solutions Lab. He is also the Co-Director of the UCLA Water Resources Group within the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and is a faculty member in the Department of Urban Planning. Since joining the Luskin Center, he has been instrumental in guiding the Center's leadership to produce rigorous, engaged research which informs Human Right to Water policy in California and across the country. Greg has authored more than 50 peer-reviewed journal articles and numerous major research reports. His broader research interests lie at the intersection of public finance, infrastructure planning, and environmental justice.

**DARRIN POLHEMUS****Deputy Director, Division of Drinking Water  
State Water Resources Control Board**

Darrin Polhemus is a Deputy Director for the State Water Board and leads the Division of Drinking Water, which administers the federal and state Safe Drinking Water Acts. He helps the Division oversee regulation of over 7,400 public water systems. Darrin's work is a key part of implementing the Safe Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) program, permitting recycled water usage, managing the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program, overseeing local regulation of small water systems, and developing other drinking water regulations. Darrin has also served as Deputy Director for the Division of Water Quality, Division of Administrative Services, and Division of Financial Assistance.

**ERIK PORSE****Director  
California Institute for Water Resources**

Erik Porse, Ph.D., is the Director of the California Institute for Water Resources and is an Associate Cooperative Extension Specialist with the University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. An engineer and environmental scientist, his research focuses on urban and water resources management. In California, Erik has contributed to state and regional studies for safe drinking water, urban water use, sustainable groundwater management, water reuse, stormwater planning, environmental finance, and climate smart agriculture. Erik has worked and taught in Mexico, Europe, Japan, and East Africa.

**ADAM QUIÑONEZ****State Relations Director  
Association of California Water Agencies**

Adam Quiñonez is the State Relations Director at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), where he oversees ACWA's state legislative and regulatory priorities. Adam advocates on energy and water quality legislative issues, as well as the state budget. Prior to joining ACWA, Adam served in Governor Brown's administration as Legislative Director at the Department of Consumer Affairs, where he worked on a number of issues related to consumer protection and led in the development of a medical cannabis regulatory framework.

**MEGHAN ROBERTS****Executive Director  
Association of Women in Water, Energy and Environment**

Meghan Roberts is Executive Director of The Association of Women in Water, Energy and Environment (AWWEE). is a nonprofit organization that provides educational and professional development opportunities for over 3,800 members in California's water, energy, and environment fields. She brings experience in the energy industry from working at the California ISO, and in the water and environment fields working in external affairs for The Nature Conservancy California.

**TERENCE SHIA****Director, Water Division  
California Public Utilities Commission**

Terence Shia serves as the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Director for the Water Division. He previously served as Commissioner Genevieve Shiroma's Policy Advisor on water, telecommunications, and transportation matters. Prior to advising Commissioner Shiroma, he served as a supervisor in the Water Division on a variety of projects, including assisting small water utilities and implementing long term improvements in water conservation and drought planning. He has also worked as a Senior Engineer in the Public Advocate's Office, advocating for consumers in General Rate Cases and utility infrastructure requests.

**JUSTIN SKARB****Vice President of Government and Community Affairs  
California Water Service**

Justin Skarb is the Vice President of Government & Community Affairs at California Water Service (Cal Water). Cal Water is the second largest retail water utility in California, serving more than two million Californians from Chico in the north to the Palos Verdes peninsula in the south. Justin and his team manage public policy issues at the federal, state, and local levels, as well as overseeing the organization's philanthropic giving efforts.



**TRACY STANHOFF**  
**President**  
**American Indian Chamber of Commerce of California**

Tracy Stanhoff is President of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of California. She is the founder of AD PRO, a full-service advertising, graphic design, and branding firm serving Fortune 500 corporations, tribal enterprises, government entities, and small business clients globally. Tracy works to provide networking and support for American Indian business people in California and throughout the United States. Tracy is a passionate advocate for better understanding and appreciation of the importance of American Indian businesses to support expansion and growth of these businesses. Tracy's hard work has paid off in a long list of honors and awards, including 2013 National Minority Supplier Development Council National Supplier of the Year—Class I; 2022, 2013, 2005 and 2001 Class I Supplier of the Year Award from the Southern California Minority Business Development Council; and Top 10 Native Businesses in the Country from *Indian Country Today* magazine. Tracy is a former Tribal Chair of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Mayetta, Kansas.



**DAWN WHITE**  
**Water Quality Manager**  
**Golden State Water**

Dawn White has 35 years of experience working on drinking water quality programs and is currently the Water Quality Manager for Golden State Water Company. Her responsibilities include regulatory compliance and oversight of water quality programs

including cross connection control. Dawn is a past member of the State Water Resource Control Board's SAFER advisory group and works on a number of programs related to small systems, including funding programs. She is also a past Chair of the California–Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association and a 2011 recipient of the George Warren Fuller Award. Dawn chairs the Water Quality Committee for CWA.



**RENEE WILLETTE**  
**Vice President of Programs and Strategy**  
**US Water Alliance**

Renée Willette is the Vice President of Programs and Strategy at the US Water Alliance, a national nonprofit organization advancing policies and programs that build a sustainable water future for all. She oversees all programmatic work and supports the CEO on strategic growth efforts for the organization. Prior to joining the Alliance, Renée worked for Stantec, a global, multi-sector engineering and architecture firm where she served as the water sector leader for the Midwest region. In her role at Stantec, she managed the Minneapolis team of water and wastewater engineers, oversaw regional business development efforts, supported national strategic partnerships, and served on Stantec's United States Inclusion and Diversity council. Previously, Renée was the director of strategic initiatives for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), which is responsible for providing 24/7 water, wastewater, and municipal power services to 2.6 million Bay Area residents. At the SFPUC, Renée led the agency's regional workforce development partnerships as well as the revitalization strategy for the \$2.7 billion Sewer System Improvement program. Renée also served as senior staff in two San Francisco mayoral administrations, focusing on fiscal policy and state and federal government affairs.

## SPONSORS

**SAVE THE DATE! CWA 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**October 16 – 18, 2023 | Monterey Plaza Hotel | Monterey, CA**

