

State Water Board Training
February 23-24, 2009
Water Board Speaker Biographies

Carole Beswick

Carole Beswick, of Redlands, was first appointed to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board in 2000 and re-appointed in 2005. A long time Redlands resident, Ms. Beswick served two terms on the Redlands City Council and six years as Mayor. From 1989 to 2003, Ms. Beswick owned Paper Partners Inc., a local stationary business. She is a member and founding director of the board of directors for 1st Centennial Bancorp. She is also a trustee for the University of Redlands.

Jonathan Bishop

Jonathan Bishop received a Bachelors of Science degree in Environmental Engineering with an emphasis in water quality from Humboldt State University. Mr. Bishop worked for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board for 23 years. Some of the highlights of his tenure with the Los Angeles Regional Board include the development of a new program to investigate the sources of groundwater contamination impacting drinking water wells, the development of a comprehensive water quality data management system for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. From late in 1998 to mid 2004 he lead the effort to develop TMDLs in the Los Angeles Region, including the adoption of the first urban trash TMDL in the nation. In September 2004, Mr. Bishop was named Executive Officer for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. In May of 2007, he accepted the position of Chief Deputy Director of the State Water Resources Control Board. During the spring and summer, he also works as a part-time River Guide and leads whitewater-rafting trips down the Rouge River.

Tam Doduc

Tam Doduc serves for Governor Schwarzenegger as the Chair and fills the position of civil engineer on the State Water Resources Control Board. Ms. Doduc most recently served as Deputy Secretary at the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), where she directed the agency's environmental justice and external scientific peer review activities. She also coordinated various environmental quality initiatives, and provided general oversight of children's environmental health programs.

Ms. Doduc began her career in 1989 as an environmental consultant. She then joined the staff of the State Water Resources Control Board and, later, the California Air Resources Board. From 1998 to 2002, Ms. Doduc provided technical and business assistance to environmental technology developers and manufacturers, serving in the Office of Environmental Technology and, later, as Cal/EPA's Assistant Secretary for Technology Certification. From 2002 to 2004, Ms. Doduc served as Cal/EPA's Assistant Secretary for Agriculture, Air and Chemical Programs.

A licensed civil engineer, Ms. Doduc earned a Bachelor of Science in BioEngineering from the University of California at Berkeley, and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from the California State University in Sacramento. She also earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of California at Berkeley.

Michael A.M. Lauffer

Since 2005, Michael A.M. Lauffer has been the chief counsel to the State Water Resources Control Board and the nine California Regional Water Quality Control Boards. Mr. Lauffer has been an attorney with the Water Board since 1998, and between 2001 and 2005 he was lead counsel to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Prior to joining the Office of Chief Counsel, Mr. Lauffer was an attorney in private practice. He holds an undergraduate degree from Grinnell College, and a juris doctor degree and a master of studies in environmental law from Vermont Law School.

Darrin Polhemus

Darrin Polhemus is a Deputy Director for the State Water Board and in charge of the Division of Water Quality. The Division of Water Quality develops statewide policy for the Water Board, works on statewide water quality issues for both surface and groundwater, coordinates with other state and local agencies that have a role in the state's water quality, and coordinates with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards that actively regulate California's water quality.

Prior to heading the Division of Water Quality, Mr. Polhemus worked in the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Financial Assistance managing several of its local assistance programs and in its Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Unit where he worked on policy development, data system implementation, and special investigations.

Mr. Polhemus is a registered civil engineer and has a B.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Dorothy Rice

Prior to Dorothy Rice's appointment as Executive Director for the State Water Resources Control Board, Ms. Rice served as Deputy Director for the Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC) Site Mitigation and Brownfields Reuse Program. She was responsible for DTSC's site cleanup programs, including State Superfund sites, military facilities, school properties and brownfields throughout California. Her staff also provided emergency response to hazardous substances releases and cleaned up illegal drug lab sites. Ms. Rice served in this position from 1999 until March 2007.

Throughout her 25 year state service career, Ms. Rice has focused on developing strong, motivated teams, striving for continual program improvements and increased efficiencies, and on developing collaborative relationships and partnerships within state government and with external stakeholders.

In addition to her management and communication skills, Ms. Rice has over 25 years of experience working with California environmental protection programs. Prior to her tenure at DTSC, she held a number of executive positions at the California Integrated Waste Management Board, including Chief Deputy Director, and Deputy Director of the Permitting and Enforcement and Government and Regulatory Affairs Programs. Ms. Rice also worked in the State Capitol as a Senior Committee Consultant with the Assembly Committee on Environmental Protection and Toxic Materials from 1984 to 1991. In that capacity she drafted, negotiated and analyzed legislation concerning environmental protection issues.

Frances Spivy-Weber

Frances Spivy-Weber of Redondo Beach has been appointed to the State Water Resources Control Board. She has served as the executive director of the Mono Lake Committee since 1997.

From 1983 to 1992, Ms. Weber served as the director of international programs for the National Audubon Society. She previously was a legislative assistant for the Animal Welfare Institute from 1978 to 1982.

Ms. Weber was a member of the Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee and co-chair of its Water Use Efficiency Committee. She also served as co-chair of the Southern California Water Dialogue and convener of the California Urban Water Conservation Council. She has served on many boards, including the Water Education Foundation, California Council of Land Trusts, and Clean Water Action/Clean Water Fund.