

12 September 2017

Ken Miller, President of the Board of Directors  
San Juan Water District  
9935 Auburn-Folsom Road  
Granite Bay, CA 95746

Subject: Vacancy for the Board of Directors

Dear Mr. Miller and Board Members,

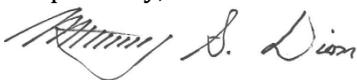
Although the passing of Bob Walters saddens me, I am enthusiastic to be considered to fill the vacancy and complete his term. With over 40 years of public service managing and overseeing utilities and public works, I offer a unique perspective for policy decisions. Proven leadership in both private and public sectors, I demonstrated the ability to work collaboratively and the fluency to navigate political processes.

Strategic perspective with local focus, my experiences encompass working water issues throughout the western U.S.; building teams, partnerships and consensus; emerging as a leader on complex public policy issues. As a founding member and a past chairman of the Sacramento Groundwater Authority, I was instrumental developing groundwater policies and conjunctive use for the region. I was an active participant in the Water Forum and Executive Committee Member of the Regional Water Authority. I served as a Board member for the ACWA/JPIA and frequently attend their executive committee meetings. I have served on the Board of Directors for the San Diego County Water Authority and led their successful water planning efforts. I am cofounder of CSU San Marcos program to develop ethical and high performing Utility Executives. Additionally, I served as an Alternate for the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and was on the Board of Directors for the Carson Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and North County Economic Development Council in San Diego. Currently, I volunteer with the San Juan School District and participate in the annual Creek Week activities.

As a recent retiree, I have been a contributing and visible member of ACWA/CSDA/League of Cities, leading policy development and legislative affairs addressing headwaters and land-use to enhance water resources and economic development in the watershed. I have been closely engaged with many leading edge projects including; the Carlsbad Desalination Project, Seattle's Tolt Water Treatment, Phoenix's Lake Pleasant Treatment, the LOTT Partnership and Stockton privatization and understand how to achieve successful large horizon visions and more importantly how to enable and support the District personnel to leave the rut and accomplish their goals. I am committed to ensuring sound governance policy to enhance transparency, stewardship and fiscal discipline.

I have prepared myself for this role by staying active in many of the water related events in the region, including regularly attending the RWA executive committee and the meetings of the SJWD Board of Directors or committees. I am committed and have often attended meetings of the SJWD retail agencies and agencies of interest to the American River including PCWA, SSWD, EDWPA and EID while funding my participation in ACWA and other major events on a regular basis. Thank you for considering my application. I will bring the ability; energy and commitment to support the community. Attached is my resume.

Respectfully,



Mitchell S. Dion  
140 Silva Ct., Folsom, CA 95630  
(760) 535-7137 cell

## **Mitchell S. Dion**

*Innovative, politically astute, and agile policy maker with extensive leadership experience **embracing fiscally sound, measured and responsible solutions.** Grounded by proficiency, Inspired by a keen interest in people.*

### **30 years of Leadership Experience in Senior Levels of Water Industry (public and private sector)**

#### **20 years as General Manager of Water Agencies**

#### **10 years overseeing County and Municipal Public Works and Planning Activity**

- Executive level management of large and small agencies from Special Districts, Municipal, County, State and Federal Government
- Oversight Board experience for Public Agencies and Private Corporation
- Effectively negotiated and managed O&M contract water & wastewater services for several mid-sized and large cities; including Seattle, Phoenix, Stockton and Houston
- Optimized processes, provided guidance and policy as necessary across all functional areas to plan, organize and execute the business and operational objectives achieving fiscal goals
- Led technical assessments and develop system operations plans for treatment, distribution and collection systems
- Engaged with elected officials and public agency personnel enhancing planning and service delivery
- Elected as Chairman Sacramento Groundwater Authority and Executive Board for the Regional Water Authority
- Improved rapport with other major water agencies, pursuing collaborative enhancements to the water supply
- Addressed complex regulatory and litigation issues resulted from contaminated ground water supplies
- Participated on RWQCB committee for Basin Plan amendments to facilitate the use of recycled water and conjunctive use of the groundwater basin
- Managed complex water rights portfolios and successfully initiated petition for new surface water rights

### **Successful Military Career**

#### **12 years managing military bases and ancillary functions**

#### **10 years leading engineering, utilities and operational support**

- Led DOD Award Winning Installation Excellence Recognition for Base operations in multiple years
- Successful collaborative approach working with NGO and other stakeholder groups
- Managed several large environmental remediation projects and implemented a reclaimed water project for aircraft hangar deluge system and golf course irrigation
- Successful within California Legislature to modify the proposed designation for the Walker River to Wild and Recreation mitigating impacts to military training and base operations
- Implemented a cutting edge private venture capital project to provide additional military housing
- Led development of a competitive bid for service functions in the Commercial Activities program

### **Legislative**

#### **State of California**

- Awarded for innovative work with State Agencies as staff member to California Defense Retention Council (BRAC)
- Generated handbook to guide communities and base planning efforts for Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- Introduced integrated strategy for six western states to leverage verse complete for mission (retaining bases)
- Acquired in-depth knowledge and practical experience in California and Federal environmental regulatory programs

### **Professional Education:**

M.S. Systems Management- R&D, School of Engineering

University of Southern California, Los Angeles

B.A. Environment Studies, California State University

Sacramento

A.A. General Ed/Science

American River College, Sacramento

**Professional level military schools, include:**

U.S. Army; Advanced Engineer Officer Course

(M.S. Construction Management):

U.S. Marine Corps; Engineer Officer, Utility Officer Courses:

U.S. Navy; Civil Engineer Officer School;

Public Works Management, Construction Contract Administration, Planning, Energy and Service Contract Programs:

U.S. Navy; Environmental Law

FEMA Emergency Management Institute, Floodplain Mgmt; NIMS

**Memberships:**

Member AWWA, APWA, CWEA, AWRA, GRA, CASA

Former Board Member: San Diego County Water Authority (Chairman Water Supply Planning Committee)

Former Board Member: N.County Econ Development Council

Former Board Member: CAMPO

Former Director JPIA (ACWA/JPIA)

Former Director Regional Water Authority

Former Chairman Sacramento Groundwater Authority

Former President Council of Water Utilities

**Volunteer:**

SJUSD, Environ Ed, Camp Winthers

Sacramento Creek week

San Diego – Clean San Diego Beach and Creek clean-up