

April 27, 2022

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

California Water Environment Association
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030
Oakland, CA 94621
vthornton@cwea.org

Dear Arvind:

I am a member in good standing with **CWEA** and I hereby nominate:

Charles "Chuck" Greely who is a member in good standing with **CWEA** and WEF for the position of (check one):

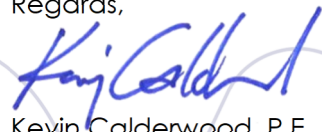
- ☒ Vice President from the South (to be President-Elect).
- ☐ Vice President from the South (will be President in third year of four-year service).
- ☐ Director at-large from the North (three-year term).
- ☐ Director at-large from the South (Treasurer in third year of three-year term).
- ☐ Water Environment Federation Delegate Director from the South (three-year term, serving July 2022 to October 2025, voting privilege begins October 2022).

Having served with Chuck on the CWEA Board during his term as Treasurer-track Director, I am confident that he will be an excellent President-track board member. He has a deep understanding of our association, is thoughtful and deliberate in his decision making, and works collaboratively and effectively with his fellow board members. Plus, he understands that "fun" is an important part of CWEA's culture and makes board meetings and workshops more enjoyable for everyone.

A brief bio of the nominee is attached. I have informed the nominee of this nomination and the requirement to complete the questionnaire and provide a photo by **May 20, 2022**.

Thank you for your consideration of this candidate.

Regards,



Kevin Calderwood, P.E.

CWEA Member/CWEA President, 2019-2020

NOMINEE FOR CWEA STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name: Charles (Chuck) Greely

Title: Principal

Employer: Dudek

Street Address: 78075 Main Street, Suite G203

City, State, Zip: La Quinta, CA 92253

Phone: 760-685-0735

Email: cgreely@dudek.com

Personal Interest

Why are you interested in being nominated for CWEA Board of Directors?

There are a variety of reasons I'm interested in being nominated for the Board. I have gained so much personally and professionally from my past experience on the Board and would welcome a return to it. (Hopefully the Board and Association have benefited by my involvement even a fraction of the level I have!) There is also a legacy component to my interest. We accomplished so much during my last stint on the Board but I left with a feeling of "work left to do" and welcome an opportunity to re-engage and see some of our programs and strategic plan elements come to fruition.

Commitment and Support (Please review the job descriptions in the Board Bylaws)

What do you feel are the most critical duties of this position, and how will you perform them?

As a Board member, your primary function is strategic oversight and advancement of our mission and purpose. This includes fiduciary and legal duties, maintaining good governance, advocating for the mission, and helping with Board development and recruitment. My approach to these duties is based on effective communication; collaboration with fellow Board members, volunteers, and partner organizations; open mindedness and a willingness to "listen before you respond"

Fulfilling the requirements of the position takes a significant amount of time. Discuss your personal time commitment to this position.

Like most people in our industry, I carry a hectic schedule; balancing family, work, and volunteer commitments. I come in eyes open, fully understanding and aware of the time commitment required for Board service and prepared to make the professional and personal time sacrifices needed to fulfil that obligation.

Do you have the support of your employer to fulfill the economic and time commitments of this position?

I have complete support from my employer to fulfill both the time and financial commitments associated with the position. Dudek has always been enthusiastic supporters of CWEA, having numerous staff hold positions on local section boards as well as supporting my previous time on the CWEA Board.

What do you expect of other board members and staff to ensure your experience on the board is satisfying?

Accountability, open mindedness, a commitment to ethical and respectful conduct, a willingness to put up with occasional (or frequent) smart assedness, transparency... so basically a continuation of my past experience with the Board and CWEA staff.

FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Please review more about CWEA at <https://www.cwea.org/about-cwea/>.

If elected to this position, what would you do to assist CWEA's function and purpose?

I am a firm believer in leadership through example, I think I can assist the Associations function by being prepared and educated on topics for Board meeting discussions, being a strong and vocal contributor to Board discussions and CWEA activities, and being open and welcoming to new ideas. I will also work with and encourage staff to make sure Board communications are timely and efficient.

What areas of the Association can be improved? What abilities do you bring to assist in these improvements?

I think the Association does a great job in enhancing education and effectiveness of our water professionals and advocating for the best interest of our members and the industry. Where I think we continue to struggle is with an outreach and educational process (and enthusiasm gap) for and from the next generation of water professionals. I don't think there is a "magic bullet" that will solve this but I do think it needs to permeate our thinking and strategic planning process.

What do you feel the Board has defined to be the future direction of CWEA? Do you have other suggestions for objectives that you would like to see considered?

The Board and the Association have set strategic goals that go beyond the traditional education and certification mission priorities. While these remain fundamental to CWEA, it is a more holistic approach to a whole water environment encompassing not only our valuable

water resources but also: benefits to the public and strategic partnerships with employers, fellow non-profits, and regulators. It is a progressive path for CWEA that embraces evolving regulations, new technology, and new learning techniques and paths.

I do go back to the need to build enthusiasm for the next generation in our workforce as being a key element for the future direction of CWEA.

ATTRIBUTES YOU BRING TO THE BOARD

CWEA looks for the following attributes in CWEA Board members. Please briefly tell us about experiences you have had that demonstrate the following attributes:

- **Your ability to think strategically and analytically and to effectively communicate your thoughts and the reasons for them.**
- **Your possession of earned respect of key stakeholder groups and members.**
- **Your ability to work well with others as a member of a collaborative group with group decision-making authority and an understanding of the fiduciary duties of loyalty, care, and obedience.**
- **Your understanding of the differences between “oversight” and “supervision” as a Board member.**
- **Your reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty.**
- **Your familiarity with the body of knowledge/subject areas for which CWEA is responsible and within which decisions and choices will have to be made.**

I have tried to build my entire career around having a big picture view and approaching both engineering and volunteer activities with integrity, sincerity, and a strategic and calculated approach. I follow a similar approach to communication, I have found that it doesn't really matter how smart or technically competent you are, if you cannot effectively communicate orally or in writing then you can't be a successful leader.

Outside of my experience working with CWEA on strategic planning, I have managed project teams working across remote offices and lead numerous large stakeholder consensus building and technical review workshops and outreach efforts for major infrastructure projects involving significant public impacts. These projects include subject areas that fall under the traditional sphere of CWEA influence, including sanitation collections systems maintenance and rehabilitation and treatment and biosolids management, as well as topics that are under emerging trends for CWEA such as in-direct potable reuse and stormwater quality.

The role of the CWEA Board is to set strategic direction and provide oversight of the Association activities. The Board is and should continue to be focused on outcomes and whether they are achieved, setting and monitoring the progress of goal achievement and initiating change if progress is not occurring or if revised goals are required. The focus on what

and how things are being done falls in the supervisor role that we rely on staff as well as on our additional volunteer pool to accomplish.

Personal History/Involvement with CWEA

Please attach a resume of CWEA leadership positions/activities along with a digital photo.

See attached resume and photo.

Complete and return by **May 20, 2022** to:

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

c/o CWEA

7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030

Oakland, CA 94621

vthornton@cwea.org

DUTIES of the Board of Directors (Section 11 of the CWEA Constitution)

11.6. Duties of the Board

11.6.1. Shall be the representative of the Association and shall manage its affairs and establish policies subject to the conditions and limitations prescribed in the Constitution.

11.6.2. Shall receive all Committee reports and take appropriate action on recommendations made in these reports where required.

11.6.3. Shall direct investments and care of the funds of the Association.

11.6.4. Shall make funds available for regular operation of the Association and for specific purpose. The Board, individually and collectively, shall not incur any unauthorized liability on behalf of the Association.

Job Descriptions for the Board of Directors

As part of service on the board, each director is a member of a board committee. Details of the assignment of board committee membership and the responsibility of each board position can be found in the Board Bylaws. A copy of the bylaws can be obtained by contacting Victoria Thornton at the CWEA office or online at:

<https://cweawebstorage1.blob.core.windows.net/cwea-website/governance/constitution/Bylaws.pdf>

Charles Greely, PE, LEED AP
Principal Engineer
DUDEK
78075 Main Street, Suite G203
La Quinta, CA 92253
760-601-3411
cgreely@dudek.com

Education

University of Washington – Bachelor of Science Civil Engineering

Certifications

Professional Civil Engineer – CA No. 69056

Professional Civil Engineer – WA No. 40823

LEED AP – US Green Building Council

CWEA Membership Activities

Current member of Colorado River Basin Sections (CORBS)

Active volunteer with CWEA and CORBS since 2007:

2007

Volunteer, serving as communication and member outreach coordinator. Renovated the CORBS membership newsletter, provided assistance preparing meeting and event flyers, distributing to members, etc.

2008

Volunteer, serving as communication and member outreach coordinator. Renovated the CORBS membership newsletter, provided assistance preparing meeting and event flyers, distributing to members, etc.

2009

CORBS Board Secretary

Volunteer @ AC in Palm Springs – Technical Tour Chaperone

2010

CORBS Board Secretary

2011

CORBS Board Vice President

Created Facebook page for CORBS to assist in member outreach and communication

2012

CORBS Board President

AC 2013 Planning Committee – Technical Tour & Transportation

2013

CORBS Board Past-President

CORBS Awards Committee Chair

2013 - 2016

CWEA State Board of Directors – Director at Large from the South

2016 - 2019

CWEA State Board of Directors – Director at Large from the South

CWEA Treasurer – 2019

Tri-State Seminar – Board of Managers – 2017/2018

AC 2017 Volunteer – session moderator, technical tours, golf tournament

Technical Tour Chair for AC 2019

2020 - 2021

AC 2020 Volunteer – virtual icebreaker session host

5S Committee Volunteer

Kirt Brooks Scholarship Committee Volunteer



NOMINATION LETTER

NOMINATING GILBERT G BARELA AS CWEA VICE-PRESIDENT

DUE May 20, 2022

Send by mail or email

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

California Water Environment Association
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030
Oakland, CA 94621
vthornton@cwea.org

Dear President Akela:

I am a member in good standing with **CWEA** and I hereby nominate:

Gilbert G. Barela

_____ who is a member in good standing with **CWEA** and WEF for the position of (check one):

- Vice President from the South (will be President in third year of four-year service);
- Director at-large from the North (three-year term);
- Director at-large from the South (Treasurer in third year of three-year term);
- Water Environment Federation Delegate Director from the South (three-year term, serving April 2022 to October 2025, voting privilege begins October 2022).

A brief bio of the nominee is attached. I have informed the nominee of this nomination and the requirement to complete the questionnaire and provide a photo by **May 20, 2022**.

Thank you for your consideration of this candidate.

Regards,

Cesar Corral

Cesar Corral

CWEA Member/Santa Margarita Mechanical Crew Chief

cesarc@smwd.com (949) 301-5441

NOMINEE FOR CWEA STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name **Gilbert G. Barela**

Title **Mechanical Maintenance Mechanic**

Employer **Santa Margarita Water District**

Street Address personal— **3970 Obsidian Rd**

City, State, Zip **San Bernardino, CA 92407**

Email gilbertgbarela@gmail.com

Phone **(909) 532-2161**

gilbertb@smwd.com

Personal Interest

Why are you interested in being nominated for CWEA Board of Directors?
Commitment and Support (Please review the job descriptions in the Board Bylaws)

I feel that CWEA needs strong leadership support, responsible stewardship, and a clear vision. I believe that I have what it takes to keep CWEA moving in the right direction, as well as help it remain a top organization in our industry. I have served the past few years as CWEA's liaison for 5S, the Laboratory vocation, and the Golden Empire section. I also served as the Technical Certification Program-Executive Committee's Southern Regional liaison, Vice Chair II, Vice Chair I, and ultimately the Executive Chair. I would like to continue serving and adding value to the whole of CWEA by taking on the next step in sensible progression, the Vice-President position.

What do you feel are the most critical duties of this position, and how will you perform them?

I feel that the most critical duties of this position are to assist the President and the Board with managing the Association's many programs in all aspects and vocations, as well as to assist in the preparation, planning, conducting, steering, and implementation. I plan to carry out these duties by efficiently leading and collaborating with the Executive Board, drawing upon the experience and intellect that each member brings with them, all while working hand-in-hand with CWEA Staff.

Fulfilling the requirements of the position takes a significant amount of time. Discuss your personal time commitment to this position.

There is no doubt that this position does require a large amount of personal time. I am committed and prepared to put forth the time required. My children are grown, and I have completed my schooling. Looking ahead, I am in a great position to take on this role and should have no issue with dedicating the personal time necessary.

Do you have the support of your employer to fulfill the economic and time commitments of this position?

I do have the support of my employer regarding time commitments. This being secondary to my core job functions, please understand that my employer's stance is to be reasonably accommodating. My employer has been very understanding with CWEA commitments and has been extremely accommodating to me thus far. I do not have their support economically, but plan to cover any cost(s) on my own.

What do you expect of other board members and staff to ensure your experience on the board is satisfying?

My expectations are simple, I expect all members and staff to carry themselves as professionals, to work together to collaborate as a team, and to always display respect to the membership that we represent.

FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Please review more about CWEA at <https://www.cwea.org/about-cwea/>.

If elected to this position, what would you do to assist CWEA's function and purpose?

I intend to help foster teamwork within and across the boards and committees. I would position myself as an approachable resource to staff and membership alike. I would resolve to make sound decisions only after examining all the facts and

bear in mind that membership is greatly impacted by the decisions that CWEA's boards and committees make.

What areas of the Association can be improved? What abilities do you bring to assist in these improvements?

I think the area of Mechanical Technologist Certification could be improved. I am a certified Grade IV Mechanical Technologist and Mechanical Maintenance has been my forte for quite some time. I see the field of Maintenance changing and becoming much more than turning wrenches. I feel I bring a passion to improve this area and can help better match the certification to the advanced technologies that the industry is now seeing.

What do you feel the Board has defined to be the future direction of CWEA? Do you have other suggestions for objectives that you would like to see considered?

I perceive the Board has defined the future direction of CWEA to be more of collaboration with other certifying agencies. In example, the new Advanced Water Treatment Certification is a joint effort between Cal-Nevada AWWA and CWEA. I feel these joint ventures are great ideas. I would love to see some collaboration between CWEA and ABC, Association of Boards of Certification, or the State Water Resources Control Board

ATTRIBUTES YOU BRING TO THE BOARD

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Your ability to think strategically and analytically and to effectively communicate your thoughts and the reasons for them.

I demonstrate my effective communication daily at work and I am often praised on it by my supervision. I am innately a strategic and analytical thinker. I took a Clifton's Strengths test recently while at a leadership training and Analytical was my number two strength, ranking with Discipline, Harmony, Communicative, and number one as Achiever.

Your possession of earned respect of key stakeholder groups and members.

I work hard to give respect where it is due and once I have the respect of stakeholders and members, I nurture that relationship to build upon it, growing an unbreakable bond. I am a firm believer in the Platinum Rule, which is to treat others as they want to be treated.

Your ability to work well with others as a member of a collaborative group with group decision-making authority and an understanding of the fiduciary duties of loyalty, care, and obedience.

Whether it is negotiating across the table with members of management while in union contract talks, collaborating with the Building Leaders, Abilities, and Skills for Tomorrow Team on the next presentation, or training/teaching, coaching, and mentoring junior staff; I have a proven track record for working well with others. Not only have these groups taught me fiduciary responsibility, but they have also instilled in me the loyalty, care, and obedience necessary to serve on a high functioning team.

Your understanding of the differences between “oversight” and “supervision” as a Board member.

My understanding of the difference between oversight and supervision is clear. If I am focused on the outcomes to be achieved, whether they are achieved, and initiating a change to occur if I am unsatisfied with progress, I am involved in oversight. If I am focused on what’s being done and how it is being done, then I am involved in supervision.

Your reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty.

My reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty are recognized daily by the people I work alongside and by those appointed above me. I try my very best to live and work in a morally correct, honorable, and ethical way.

Your familiarity with the body of knowledge/subject areas for which CWEA is responsible and within which decisions and choices will have to be made.

I am very familiar with the body of knowledge/subject area for which CWEA is responsible. I keep these at the forefront of thought while deciding on appeals and decisions that will impact membership.

Personal History/Involvement with CWEA

Please attach a resume of CWEA leadership positions/activities along with a digital photo.

Attached

Complete and return by **May 20, 2022** to:

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

c/o CWEA

7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030

Oakland, CA 94621

vthornton@cwea.org



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Gilbert has 17 years of experience in maintenance with a background in Industrial Mechanics. He holds an Associates in Auto Tech, a Bachelor's in Business Management, an MSML, and an MBA. He holds a Mech Tech Grade IV, Collection System Maintenance II, and Electrical and Instrumentation I CWEA certifications, Water Distribution/Treatment licenses, certifications in Vibration, Oil, Project Management, and holds a CMRP. Gilbert has been a Union Shop Steward Lead and is involved in many leadership development teams. Gilbert is a 5S inductee, a past Chair for the TCP, and was a Director for the Executive Board. He is the SARBS 2014 and 2018 Mechanic of the Year. He served as a Liaison for CWEA's 5S and the Golden Empire Section. He is also a past TCP Vice Chair, Vice Chair II, and Southern Region Liaison. He has served as a Certification Test Prep Moderator and SME for the Mechanical Technologies vocation. He has been featured as a Guest Speaker for CWEA Certification Information Webinars and has worked on the Study Guide & Exam Revalidation efforts for the Lab, CSM, and Mech Tech.

Gilbert G. Barela

CWEA Involvement and Activity

***2022; Mechanical Technologies Grade III Standard Setting Assistance**

***2020-2021; Mechanical Technologies Grade I-IV Study Guide & Exam Revalidation Assistance**

***2019-2020; CWEA Technical Certification Program, Executive Committee Chair/Board Director**

***2018; Mechanical Technologies Person of the Year 3rd Place, State level**

***2018; Mechanical Technologies Person of the Year 1st place, CWEA Santa Ana River Basin Section**

***April 2017 to April 2019; CWEA Technical Certification Program, Executive Committee, Vice Chair**

***January 2017 to April 2017; CWEA Technical Certification Program, Exec. Committee, Vice Chair II**

***November 2017; CWEA Certification Information Webinar, Guest Speaker**

***May 2015 to January 2017; CWEA Technical Certification Program, Exec. Committee, Southern Region Liaison**

***January 2015 to Present; Subject Matter Expert for Mechanical Technologies**

***January 2015 to March 2015; Mechanical Technologist Grade I-IV Study Guide & Exam Revalidation Effort**

***2014; Mechanical Technologies Certification Test Prep Moderator**

***2014; Mechanical Technologies Person of the Year Nominee, CWEA Santa Ana River Basin Section**

***Six-time CWEA Training/Learning Event Attendee**

***Three-time CWEA Annual Conference Attendee and Four-time CWEA Tri-State Seminar Attendee**

Gilbert G. Barela

3970 Obsidian Rd, San Bernardino, California 92407 | 909.532.2161 | gilbertgbarela@gmail.com

Objective

To continue my career exercising leadership in the Maintenance field with an organization that will utilize my experience, education, and certifications; coupled with my knowledge, skill, and ability to benefit organizational growth and success.

Education

MASTER OF SCIENCE | JULY 2020 | WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

Business Administration

MASTER OF SCIENCE | SEPTEMBER 2019 | WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

Management and Leadership

CERTIFICATE | MAY 2017 | CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Leadership Development for Public Agencies

Ethics in Public Leadership

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE | APRIL 2017 | WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

Business Management

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS | OCTOBER 1998 | CHAFFEY COLLEGE

Automotive Technology

Certifications

- Society of Maintenance Reliability Professionals, Certified Maintenance Reliability Professional Certification
- State Water Resources Control Board, Water Treatment T1 License
- State Water Resources Control Board, Water Distribution D1 License
- California Water Environment Association, Mechanical Technologies Grade 4 Certification
- California Water Environment Association, Electrical and Instrumentation Grade 1 Certification
- California Water Environment Association, Collection System Maintenance Grade 2 Certification
- International Council of Machine Lubrication, Lubrication Analyst MLT 1
- Technical Associates of Charlotte, Vibration Analyst ISO Category 1
- CompTiA Project+ Project Management Certification

Leadership

- California Water Environment Association, Executive Board Director (2019/2020)
- California Water Environment Association, Technical Certification Program Exec. Committee Chair (2019/2020)
- Orange County Sanitation District BLAST Leadership Team Lead
- Orange County Sanitation District Medical Response Team Supervisor
- Local 501 International Union of Operating Engineers Lead Steward
- US Army Veteran, Infantry Squad and Team Leader

Experience

UTILITY MAINTENANCE MECHANIC | SANTA MARGARITA WATER DISTRICT | 07/2021 - PRESENT

Performed preventative, corrective, and predictive maintenance on wastewater equipment and facilities. Lift stations, Pump stations and well sites for Reclaim, Waste, and Potable waters.

LD./SR. MAINTENANCE MECHANIC | ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT | 02/2013 - 12/2020

Supervised preventative, corrective, and predictive maintenance on wastewater equipment and facilities.

24/7 response to treatment plant and facility emergencies to protect public health and the environment.

LEAD/MECHANIC II | INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY | 05/2008 - 02/2013

Supervised and performed preventative, corrective, and predictive maintenance on reclaimed, city water, and wastewater equipment.

Performed reliability maintenance to include daily duties and analysis of high valued equipment and facilities.

Assist the Operations Department in solutions to improve plant processes and engineering input.

MAINTENANCE FOREMAN | BLUE HERON PAPER COMPANY | 07/2006 - 05/2008

Supervised and led Mechanical Maintenance crews in industrial based mechanical repair of facilities, grounds, landscape, manufacturing hydraulics, pneumatics, steam systems, water systems, and gear/belt conveyances.

MECHANICAL LEAD | POMONA PAPER COMPANY | 07/2003 - 07/2006

Supervised and performed industrial based mechanical repair of hydraulics, pneumatics, steam systems, water systems, and gear/belt conveyances.

Accolades

California Water Environment Association, SARBS Mechanic of the Year (2018 & 2014)

Orange County Sanitation District, awarded with 13 Core Value awards and 6 Engineering-Cost Saving Idea awards.



NOMINATION LETTER

DUE May 20, 2022

Send by mail or email

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

California Water Environment Association
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030
Oakland, CA 94621
vthornton@cwea.org

Dear Arvind:

I am a member in good standing with **CWEA** and I hereby nominate:

___Stephanie Prescott___ who is a member in good standing with **CWEA** and WEF for the position of (check one):

- ☐ Vice President from the South (will be President in third year of four-year service);
- ☐ Director at-large from the North (three-year term);
- ☒ Director at-large from the South (Treasurer in third year of three-year term);
- ☐ Water Environment Federation Delegate Director from the South (three-year term, serving April 2022 to October 2025, voting privilege begins October 2022).

A brief bio of the nominee is attached. I have informed the nominee of this nomination and the requirement to complete the questionnaire and provide a photo by **May 20, 2022**.

Thank you for your consideration of this candidate.

Regards,

Shawn Nesgis

CWEA 22/23 Board Treasurer

NOMINEE FOR CWEA STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name Stephanie Prescott

Title Sales Rep, Product specialist

Employer Jack Doheny Company

Street Address 31765 Rocking Horse rd

City, State, Zip Escondido Ca 92026

Phone 760-644-5148

Email

Personal Interest

Why are you interested in being nominated for CWEA Board of Directors?
Commitment and Support (Please review the job descriptions in the Board Bylaws)

As a local section leader, I believe this is the next step for me and because I travel throughout the whole state of CA working with CWEA members all over I think moving into a role statewide is the perfect fit for me. Being involved with the local section is great and I'm very passionate about San Diego, but with my career and increasing travel I find myself in almost every county of our great state. My office is in the Bay area (and at home in Escondido). Having a director-at-large who already connects with many different sections and members is a huge advantage and I think I am the perfect fit for this job.

What do you feel are the most critical duties of this position, and how will you perform them?

I think being there and showing up for our members will be the most critical duty. Having already served as a local section 1st and 2nd year director I understand it's a support role, so just being there to lend a hand and step in when needed. Also, to take annotative and make sure everything gets done. I am currently serving as local section treasurer so that is helping me learn as I go and prepping me for the future. One other critical duty is having a great attitude and working as team, volunteering is very fulfilling and I am just excited to have this opportunity.

Fulfilling the requirements of the position takes a significant amount of time. Discuss your personal time commitment to this position.

Luckily, I get to travel all over the state right now and if I have ample notice, I can schedule my month around meetings and events. I have many local section commitments at this time as well and would like to continue at least some of those if possible, but would likely step down from some local committee assignments if I get the State board positions.

Do you have the support of your employer to fulfill the economic and time commitments of this position?

Absolutely, again my office is in the Bay area, and I travel all over the state now. For my employer they would rather me have a broader role within CWEA than just my local commitments.

What do you expect of other board members and staff to ensure your experience on the board is satisfying?

I expect inclusiveness and respect, but mostly I expect to be around others who enjoy volunteering and being a part of this wonderful organization.

FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Please review more about CWEA at <https://www.cwea.org/about-cwea/>.

If elected to this position, what would you do to assist CWEA's function and purpose?

I bring with me my strategic planning skills and can -do attitude ! I try to start each day with a positive attitude and overall good outlook on life. I love wastewater and have worked with municipal sewer depts in CA for 16 years now (mostly all CWEA members) as a collections system equipment supplier. I think this brings a different perspective than your typical board member and I plan to use my skills to lend support wherever needed.

What areas of the Association can be improved? What abilities do you bring to assist in these improvements?

I think communication with members and local sections is key. During my time with San Diego Section we have only had one liaison report, ONE! One visit from a State board member to a monthly meeting and I think that needs to change. It often feels like we are separate. If I was in this role I would try to go to as many meetings as possible and connect with as many sections as possible. I want the members to know who the state board is, and we are here to support them!

(I am not sure if other sections experience this or not so I can only speak for my local)

What do you feel the Board has defined to be the future direction of CWEA? Do you have other suggestions for objectives that you would like to see considered?

I think the future of CWEA is moving to connect the whole organization as one inclusive group, all working together for the future of California's water infrastructure

I know that state has moved recently to make it "one CWEA" merging the websites and I think that's great.

The flip side is I would like to see some additional options for local sections to have a say in some of their own website content. As the communications and publications chair for San Diego I do the social post and used to maintain the website. While I'm happy not to maintain the website anymore, It would be nice to allow the sections to post photos or have a drop down showcasing "local section news" on their websites to link current info, post pictures from events and share links to their social media pages.

ATTRIBUTES YOU BRING TO THE BOARD

CWEA looks for the following attributes in CWEA Board members. Please briefly tell us about experiences you have had that demonstrate the following attributes:

Your ability to think strategically and analytically and to effectively communicate your thoughts and the reasons for them.

Strategic planning is one of my top skills, as an award-winning sales rep (Two-time North American dealer sales rep of the year) one of my highlighted skills is planning with organization and communication following close behind. I am a hard worker with the ability to work around obstacles and pivot in ever changing fluid situations.

Your possession of earned respect of key stakeholder groups and members.

I am an asset with my local section and anyone who works with me would attest to my strong work ethic and positive attitude. I understand respect is earned and not given and my character and long-standing relationship in the CA wastewater industry speak for themselves.

Your ability to work well with others as a member of a collaborative group with group decision-making authority and an understanding of the fiduciary duties of loyalty, care, and obedience.

I love being a part of my local section and as I local section leader, I learned to work with so many different personalities. I think the best part is having a group consisting of members with so many different backgrounds. From Engineers to operators from sales reps to scientist. That is

what is so great about CWEA, all different backgrounds and all different education levels coming together for a greater purpose.

Your understanding of the differences between "oversight" and "supervision" as a Board member.

I believe in checking someone's work not watching them do it. People need to be free to work without the threat of micro-management. We have such a great group in San Diego in we all step up when a task needs to be done and all work together and celebrate our success when we accomplish it. At the end of the day, we are all here volunteering because we want to be here.

Your reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty.

I think these are all very important characteristics, I strive on personal integrity and my reputation speaks for itself. One of my many other attributes is compassion, I always believe in looking for the human aspect in all my affairs.

Your familiarity with the body of knowledge/subject areas for which CWEA is responsible and within which decisions and choices will have to be made.

Being a vendor for municipal equipment I am most familiar with Sewer line cleaning and Pipeline inspection. I am a sewer camera product specialist by trade and have work with collections systems operators for 16 years.

I am best suited for committee roles within collections systems group but also have knowledge in confined space safety.

Personal History/Involvement with CWEA

Please attach a resume of CWEA leadership positions/activities along with a digital photo.

Complete and return by **December 24, 2021** to:

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

c/o CWEA

7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030

Oakland, CA 94621

vthornton@cwea.org

DUTIES of the Board of Directors (Section 11 of the CWEA Constitution)

11.6. Duties of the Board

11.6.1. Shall be the representative of the Association and shall manage its affairs and establish policies subject to the conditions and limitations prescribed in the Constitution.

11.6.2. Shall receive all Committee reports and take appropriate action on recommendations made in these reports where required.

11.6.3. Shall direct investments and care of the funds of the Association.

11.6.4. Shall make funds available for regular operation of the Association and for specific purpose. The Board, individually and collectively, shall not incur any unauthorized liability on behalf of the Association.

Job Descriptions for the Board of Directors

As part of service on the board, each director is a member of a board committee. Details of the assignment of board committee membership and the responsibility of each board position can be found in the Board Bylaws. A copy of the bylaws can be obtained by contacting Victoria Thornton at the CWEA office or online at:

<https://cweawebstorage1.blob.core.windows.net/cwea-website/governance/constitution/Bylaws.pdf>



DUE May 20, 2022

Send by mail or email

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

California Water Environment Association
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030
Oakland, CA 94621
vthornton@cwea.org

Dear Arvind:

I am a member in good standing with **CWEA** and I hereby nominate:

Garry Parker who is a member in good standing with **CWEA** and WEF for the position of (check one):

- ☐ Vice President from the South (to be President-Elect).
- ☐ Vice President from the South (will be President in third year of four-year service).
- ☐ Director at-large from the North (three-year term).
- ☐ Director at-large from the South (Treasurer in third year of three-year term).

☒ Water Environment Federation Delegate Director from the South (three-year term, serving July 2022 to October 2025, voting privilege begins October 2022).

A brief bio of the nominee is attached. I have informed the nominee of this nomination and the requirement to complete the questionnaire and provide a photo by **May 20, 2022**.

Thank you for your consideration of this candidate.

Regards,



Garry J. Parker,
SS Chair, O&M Vice Chair
760-801-9117
gparker@valleycollege.edu

NOMINEE FOR CWEA STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name: Garry J. Parker

Title: Professor of Water Supply Engineering

Employer: San Bernardino Valley College

Street Address: 701 S Mt Vernon Ave

City, State, Zip: San Bernardino, CA 92410

Phone: (909) 384-4400

Email: gparker@valleycollege.edu

Personal Interest

Why are you interested in being nominated for CWEA Board of Directors?

Commitment and Support (Please review the job descriptions in the Board Bylaws)

I have always enjoyed my time with CWEA in the presidential track. I believe and am passionate about the industry and, frankly, this position allows me to make a great and lasting impact on the industry.

What do you feel are the most critical duties of this position, and how will you perform them?

Duties include keeping the association informed of the activities and actions of WEF. I would perform this by attending meetings and sharing with the board the results of those meetings.

Fulfilling the requirements of the position takes a significant amount of time. Discuss your personal time commitment to this position.

I do not see any reason why I could not perform this position. My teaching schedule is virtual and as such follows me wherever there is an internet connection.

Do you have the support of your employer to fulfill the economic and time commitments of this position?

Yes

What do you expect of other board members and staff to ensure your experience on the board is satisfying?

I expect an honest team effort to improve the training and condition of our membership.

FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Please review CWEA's Strategic Plan & Strategy Map at: <https://CWEA.org/strategy>
Check out our most recent CWEA Dashboard.

If elected to this position, what would you do to assist CWEA's function and purpose?

I would represent CWEA and my employer in the highest standard. I would share the benefits of membership with those students and faculty that are interested in the water industry.

What areas of the Association can be improved? What abilities do you bring to assist in these improvements?

All areas can be improved. Especially ones that involve diversity, equity, and inclusion. I bring a willingness to embrace diversity, equity, and inclusion. There is strength with diversity.

What do you feel the Board has defined to be the future direction of CWEA? Do you have other suggestions for objectives that you would like to see considered?

A standard of training staying abreast of changes in water technology. I would only suggest that CWA begin partnerships with colleges throughout the state that have water programs.

ATTRIBUTES YOU BRING TO THE BOARD

CWEA looks for the following attributes in CWEA Board members. Please briefly tell us about experiences you have had that demonstrate the following attributes:

Your ability to think strategically and analytically and to effectively communicate your thoughts and the reasons for them.

I am a college professor and have drafted water courses that build upon each other. Various water concepts are shared in formats that benefit the student. I have never had a student that put forth an honest effort...fail. So, I believe I can communicate well enough to convey my thoughts.

Your possession of earned respect of key stakeholder groups and members.

During my presidency and as an educator now, respect is not only taken but given as well. I do believe I have the respect of members, vendors, agencies, and others from/on the board that know me.

Your ability to work well with others as a member of a collaborative group with group decision-making authority and an understanding of the fiduciary duties of loyalty, care, and obedience.

I play very well in the sand box.

Your understanding of the differences between “oversight” and “supervision” as a Board member.

A board does not supervise. Our function is to define policy and secure actions for the betterment of the association and its members.

Your reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty.

I believe my past involvement with CWEA speaks for itself.

Your familiarity with the body of knowledge/subject areas for which CWEA is responsible and within which decisions and choices will have to be made.

I am capable and know a great deal about what CWEA is responsible for...

Personal History/Involvement with CWEA

Please attach a resume of CWEA leadership positions/activities along with a digital photo.

Complete and return by **May 20, 2022** to:

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

c/o CWEA

7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030

Oakland, CA 94621

vthornton@cwea.org

DUTIES of the Board of Directors (Section 11 of the CWEA Constitution)

11.6. Duties of the Board

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<https://cweawebstorage1.blob.core.windows.net/cwea-website/governance/constitution/Bylaws.pdf>

Garry J. Parker
1154 Watwood Road
San Diego, CA 92114
(760) 801-9117 • gparker@valleycollege.edu

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Held various positions in the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) including the President track (2014 – 2018), Executive Committee (2015-2017), Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Committee Chair (2018-2019), Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers (5S) Chair (2018 – present).
- Developed curriculum, approved by SBVC, for *Introduction to Electrical Instrumentation* for Operators and Maintenance Personnel that are interested, specifically, in the Water Industry.
- Completed instructor training for Distance Education:
Distance Education Online Training Level One - San Bernardino Valley College Distance Education
Effective Teaching Practices Credential - Association of College and University Educators (ACUE)
Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Online Learning Environment - ACUE
- Assisted with the study, design, and implementation of Control and Mechanical Systems for a \$40 Million dollar construction upgrade at Encina Wastewater Authority
- Managed various Capital Improvement Projects in excess of \$2,750,000 (phone system replacement, technology upgrade, variable frequency drive installation, UPS Installation, etc.) to complete on time and without any loss of operational readiness.
- Developed departmental budgets and analyzed to identify areas in which reductions could be made without compromising equipment readiness.
- Managed Management Information Systems (MIS), Phone and Communications, Electrical Systems, Telemetry, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), and Programmable Logic Controller systems serving an area of over 123 square miles and 410,000 residents.
- Established departmental strategic goals and developed training plans for department and support personnel to achieve significant improvements in productivity.

CAREER PROGRESSION:

Professor – Water Supply Engineering
San Bernardino Valley College

8/2018 to Present

The courses taught prepare students for licensing examinations and certifications from the California Department of Public Health, the California State Water Resource Control Board, the American Water Works Association, and the California Water Environment Association. These courses also prepare students for entry-level jobs in water treatment, water distribution, and wastewater reclamation industries. I have had the pleasure of teaching the following courses at SBVC and Eisenhower High School – Principles of Water Resources, Water Distribution, Water/Wastewater Math, and Intro to Electrical Instrumentation.

Encina Wastewater Authority
Director of General Services

10/2011 to 5/2018

The Director of General Services is an executive level position and is responsible for all facets of organizational readiness in its ability to process wastewater, create energy through cogeneration, and perform other business applications. This executive level position coordinates activities related to the repair, maintenance and replacement of mechanical and electrical equipment, control instruments, buildings, and structures; exercises significant authority and independence in implementing a broad range of services and programs and provides technical and professional support to the Authority Board of Directors and its subcommittees, some of my responsibilities include:

- Prepare goods and services procurement contracts and related documents in support of Department programs including: scopes of work, requests for bids (RFB) and proposals (RFP); evaluate bids and proposals; chair selection panels, negotiate contracts; ensure compliance with applicable Authority policies and procedures, monitor contract performance; and review payment requests.
- Act as the technical point of contact on maintenance, systems, and purchasing issues providing information and assistance to the Authority Board of Directors and its subcommittees, General Manager and other interested parties as appropriate.
- Responsible for the development of the Departmental Operating and Capital budgets including forecasting capital improvement projects.
- Provide day-to-day leadership to a staff of 20, ensuring a safe, high performance, customer-oriented work environment that supports the Authority's mission, vision, and values.
- Develops, implements and monitors tactical plan objectives that support the organization's

Strategic Plan and Mission.

Encina Wastewater Authority
Systems Department Manager

3/2006 to 10/2011

The Systems Manager manages the Management Information Systems (MIS) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems at Encina Wastewater Authority. The Systems Manager also: (a) supervises Electrical/Instrumentation and Systems Specialist staff, (b) coordinates inspections, tests, services, routine maintenance, repairs and rebuilds to motors, instruments, motor controls, electrical switchgear and related system components:

- Coordinate inspections, tests, and services to Electrical Instrumentation, Management Information Systems (MIS), Computerized Maintenance Management Systems (CMMS), and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) equipment and interfaces. Supervise staff and assign personnel to perform maintenance services.
- Directs and schedules activities of assigned personnel to perform maintenance services, repairs and tests on switch gear, programmable controller and related process instruments, lighting systems, electrical equipment controls for plant and pump station electrical equipment.
- Supervises network operations of Local Area Networks (LANs), Wide Area Networks, telecommunications, server platforms, security, remote access and end-user support.

Encina Wastewater Authority
Electrical Instrumentation Specialist

5/2003 to 3/2006

Supervise the maintenance, installation, overhaul, and repair of plant electrical equipment. Also supervises staff and strategic plant contracts. Conduct staff training and develop written preventive maintenance procedures. Maintain records, prepare reports and work with staff in annual budget preparation. Provide direct oversight to projects in progress, ensure safety protocols are followed, inspect work for quality assurance, and provide detailed job completion feedback. Tasked with, repairing, and installing electrical wiring and instrumentation circuitry. Calibrated pH, ORP, flow meters, gas monitors, other monitoring and alarming equipment.

EDUCATION:	Webster University	St Louis, Missouri
	<i>Masters of Business Administration</i>	2008
	Webster University	St Louis, Missouri
	<i>Bachelor of Arts Business Management</i>	2005

San Diego Mesa College
Associate of Science in Water/Wastewater Technology

San Diego, California
2004

San Diego Mesa College
Associate of Science in Physical Sciences

San Diego, California
1999

ADDITIONAL TRAINING:

Distance Education Online Training Level One - San Bernardino Valley College Distance Education
Effective Teaching Practices Credential - Association of College and University Educators (ACUE)
Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Online Learning Environment - ACUE
Operations Management / Project Management - Webster University

AFFILIATIONS:

California Water Environment Association (CWEA) – State Executive
Water Environment Federation (WEF)

CERTIFICATIONS:

California Driver's License
Certified CWEA Grade 4 Plant Maintenance Technologist
Certified CWEA Grade 3 Electrical/Instrumentation Technologist

CWEA Achievements:

SAN DIEGO SECTION

- Secretary
- Vice President
- President Elect
- President
- Past President

CWEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- VP – 2014-2015
- President Elect – 2015-2016
- President – 2016-2017
- Past President – 2017-2018

Also assisted in negotiations for Tri-State to become an LLC ...Signed the conversion document as CWEA President

Committee Responsibilities

Select Society (5S) Vice Chair 3 years

Select Society (5S) Chair last 3 years

Chair - O&M Committee 3 years

Vice Chair – O&M Committee 3 years



December 21, 2021

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

California Water Environment Association
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030
Oakland, CA 94621
vthornton@cwea.org

Dear Arvind:

I am a member in good standing with **CWEA** and I hereby nominate:

Michael Walkowiak who is a member in good standing with **CWEA** and WEF for the position of (check one):

- ☐ Vice President from the South (will be President in third year of four-year service);
- ☒ Director at-large from the North (three-year term);
- ☐ Director at-large from the South (Treasurer in third year of three-year term);
- ☐ Water Environment Federation Delegate Director from the South (three-year term, serving April 2022 to October 2025, voting privilege begins October 2022).

A brief bio of the nominee is attached. I have also attached the questionnaire and a photo.

Thank you for your consideration of this candidate.

Regards,

Debi Lewis

WEF Delegate
Past President



NOMINEE FOR CWEA STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name: Michael Walkowiak

Title: Managing Principal

Employer: Brown and Caldwell

Street Address: 201 N. Civic Drive, Suite 300

City, State, Zip: Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Phone: 925-210-2261

Email: mwalkowiak@brwncald.com

Personal Interest

Why are you interested in being nominated for CWEA Board of Directors?

Commitment and Support (Please review the job descriptions in the Board Bylaws)

I share CWEA's vision of creating a sustainable clean water environment in California and beyond, and I am fortunate to have a job that allows me to work toward that vision. I've found that participation in CWEA is a great way to support the vision while at the same time allowing me to give back to the clean water profession as a new generation takes the reins. As a board member, I will strive to support CWEA members through educational, training, and networking opportunities and by providing guidance to new volunteers and staff based on my experience as a long-time CWEA volunteer.

What do you feel are the most critical duties of this position, and how will you perform them?

As Director-at-Large from the North, a critical duty would involve supporting local sections as they strive to serve their constituents' education, training, and professional development needs. I would serve as a conduit for communicating important policies and initiatives from the state. I would also serve as a conduit for communicating needs and activities of the local sections back to the state board. I understand that this duty would be completed by acting as an assigned liaison to certain sections and attending their board meetings. I would also participate in periodic CWEA Board meetings to communicate and advocate for the needs of frontline CWEA members.

Fulfilling the requirements of the position takes a significant amount of time. Discuss your personal time commitment to this position.

Through my previous involvement in CWEA at the local level as SFBS Board President and Chair of the Professional Development Committee and at the state level through participation in the Engineering and Research Committee and conferences, I understand the time commitments associated with this position. I am committed to fulfilling this requirement.

Do you have the support of your employer to fulfill the economic and time commitments of this position?

My employer is committed to supporting the time and cost required for this position.

What do you expect of other board members and staff to ensure your experience on the board is satisfying?

I've always enjoyed the camaraderie and commitment to service demonstrated by CWEA volunteers and staff. This attitude has enabled CWEA to fulfill its mission efficiently and effectively while having fun. I'm confident that current and future volunteers will continue that tradition.

FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Please review CWEA's Strategic Plan & Strategy Map at: <https://CWEA.org/strategy>
Check out our most recent CWEA Dashboard.

If elected to this position, what would you do to assist CWEA's function and purpose?

CWEA's stated mission of empowering, educating and connecting water professionals to protect public health and the environment is powerful and important. To support this objective, I would offer guidance to local sections and the state organization based on my experiences in organizing, executing, and participating in events, initiatives, and conferences at all levels of CWEA. For example, while serving as President of the SFBS, I worked with the Student and Young Professional Committee and CWEA staff to conduct virtual career fairs and can be used as a model for future similar events.

What areas of the Association can be improved? What abilities do you bring to assist in these improvements?

I have observed that membership and active participation in CWEA varies significantly from organization to organization. Some organizations fully support membership and participation by their employees, but not all do so. As a board member, I would advocate for wider participation by all organizations in the clean water business.

What do you feel the Board has defined to be the future direction of CWEA? Do you have other suggestions for objectives that you would like to see considered?

CWEA has undergone a major rebranding effort over the past year, and it has a well-defined mission and vision that provide a clear direction. In the future, I hope CWEA will grow its membership to include underrepresented clean water organizations (both public and private). In addition, CWEA would benefit from converting more of its existing passive membership into active participants at the state and local levels.

ATTRIBUTES YOU BRING TO THE BOARD

CWEA looks for the following attributes in CWEA Board members. Please briefly tell us about experiences you have had that demonstrate the following attributes:

Your ability to think strategically and analytically and to effectively communicate your thoughts and the reasons for them.

My volunteer efforts for CWEA at the state and local levels have given me insight into how CWEA brings value to its members. That fundamental background will serve as a foundation for assessing the value of proposed initiatives and events, including the critical details required for success. By communicating successful approaches and potential challenges I've experienced over two+ decades as a CWEA volunteer, I will collaborate with CWEA to achieve its mission effectively.

Your possession of earned respect of key stakeholder groups and members.

I've collaborated with many dedicated CWEA volunteers and staff for over 20 years, including serving as President of SFBS, chair of the SFBS PDC, and membership in the CWEA engineering and research committee. In that time, I've developed solid relationships with many CWEA volunteers and staff and the general CWEA membership. I hope to build on these relationships as a board member.

Your ability to work well with others as a member of a collaborative group with group decision-making authority and an understanding of the fiduciary duties of loyalty, care, and obedience.

My years on SFBS board have given me a deep understanding of the workings of CWEA that I will apply as a CWEA board member, including collaborative work with other board members and committee chairs and proactive budget management with the SFBS treasurer.

Your understanding of the differences between “oversight” and “supervision” as a Board member.

Supervision entails hands-on management of a team tasked with completing a specific job or mission, while oversight involves observation from an outsider's perspective and not necessarily direct involvement in the job or mission. The key differentiator is level of involvement and ownership. As a board member, it will be important to strike the right balance depending on the nature of the task and the needs, capabilities, and experience of the team. Ultimately, my goal is to achieve success as a team.

Your reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty.

Emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty are fundamental attributes of an effective leader. Over my 30+ year career, including 20+ years as a CWEA volunteer, I have always strived to exemplify these attributes through my professional work as a manager and my leadership as a CWEA volunteer.

Your familiarity with the body of knowledge/subject areas for which CWEA is responsible and within which decisions and choices will have to be made.

I've spent over 30 years as a clean water professional, including managing, planning, design, constructing, commissioning, and optimizing many wastewater collection and treatment facilities that are directly relevant to CWEA's subject areas. In that time, I've learned how engineering principles can be applied to recover valuable water, biosolids, and energy resources in a manner that protects human health and the environment. I'm dedicated to applying my technical and managerial experience as a board member to help CWEA achieve its mission and vision.

Personal History/Involvement with CWEA

Please attach a resume of CWEA leadership positions/activities along with a digital photo.

Complete and return by **December 17, 2021**, to:

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT

c/o CWEA

7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1030

Oakland, CA 94621

vthornton@cwea.org

Name: Michael Walkowiak, PE

Title: Managing Principal

Employer: Brown and Caldwell

Address: 201 N Civic Dr STE 300

Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Phone: 925.210.2261

Email: mwalkowiak@brwnclald.com

Brief Bio

Mike's 32 years of experience covers all aspects of wastewater infrastructure and treatment projects—from initial planning, permitting, and pilot testing through design, construction commissioning, and optimization. He has held positions of increasing responsibility, including management of large multidisciplinary teams on high-profile and award-winning water resource recovery, biosolids, and recycled water projects. Through management of major projects, Mike has developed collaboration skills that to build consensus among large teams while controlling schedules and budgets. Mike is currently a managing principal at Brown and Caldwell, and he holds a master's degree in environmental engineering from UC Berkeley and a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from San Diego State University. He has professional registrations in both civil and mechanical engineering. In addition, Mike has served as a CWEA volunteer for over 20 years, including acting as the current President of the San Francisco Bay Section.



NOMINEE FOR CWEA STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name: Chathu Abeyrathna

Title: Associate Engineer

Employer: Central Contra Costa Sanitary District

Street Address: 5019 Imhoff Place, Martinez

City, State, Zip: CA 94553

Phone: 925-335-7764

Email: cabey@centralsan.org

Personal Interest

Why are you interested in being nominated for CWEA Board of Directors?

Commitment and Support (Please review the job descriptions in the Board Bylaws)

I have had an extremely rewarding experience serving on the PDC and SYPC of SF Bay Section and being on the Board of the SF Bay Section. I would like to get more involved with CWEA at the state level. I believe in CWEA's mission and believe that CWEA has a positive impact on the wastewater industry, locally and statewide. I would like to be a part of that positive impact and believe my passion and experience would be an asset to the Board.

What do you feel are the most critical duties of this position, and how will you perform them?

- **Coordinate among different local sections to avoid schedule conflicts.**
- **Act as the Board liaison to the local sections – provide direction, and communication**
- **Inform CWEA Board about local section challenges and act to find solutions.**
- **Provide as-needed support and resources for local sections to plan and conduct successful events.**

Fulfilling the requirements of the position takes a significant amount of time. Discuss your personal time commitment to this position.

I will conduct quarterly NRC meetings and attend the CWEA Annual Conference. I will prepare NRC meeting Agendas before each meeting and coordinate with Secretary to distribute timely minutes. I will periodically join local section meetings from direct local sections in NR to get to know each of the local sections. CWEA is the only professional organization that I will have a leadership role in, and therefore I will be able to dedicate my full attention and time to this position.

Do you have the support of your employer to fulfill the economic and time commitments of this position?

Yes

What do you expect of other board members and staff to ensure your experience on the board is satisfying?

- **Communication support**
- **Assistance and timely decisions to resolve local section challenges as they occur**

FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

**Please review CWEA's Strategic Plan & Strategy Map at: <https://CWEA.org/strategy>
Check out our most recent CWEA Dashboard.**

If elected to this position, what would you do to assist CWEA's function and purpose?

I am excited to act as a liaison to maintain effective communications with local sections and the State Level CWEA Board. I will provide resources and guidance for local sections to conduct successful training events.

What areas of the Association can be improved? What abilities do you bring to assist in these improvements?

I believe the Association could strive to increase diversity and participation in the organization. One way we could work on this goal would be to plan events that appeal to a wide audience, and also focus on reaching groups that have historically not been as well represented. I have experience at the local level working with others to create and host a variety of types of events on engaging topics.

What do you feel the Board has defined to be the future direction of CWEA? Do you have other suggestions for objectives that you would like to see considered?

Working towards a resilient workforce is more important than ever due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. CWEA provides essential technical trainings that provide much needed technical skills to the wastewater workforce. A soft-skills, or supervisory skills training could help create well-rounded future leaders.

ATTRIBUTES YOU BRING TO THE BOARD

CWEA looks for the following attributes in CWEA Board members. Please briefly tell us about experiences you have had that demonstrate the following attributes:

Your ability to think strategically and analytically and to effectively communicate your thoughts and the reasons for them.

As a Capital Project Manager at Central San, I have to think strategically to determine the best method for project delivery. On every project, I have to determine schedule constraints, and construction constraints for projects to make sure there is an appropriate balance for the operations department to carry out their daily operations successfully while allowing contractors to successfully complete contract work. My role requires me to communicate effectively with internal and external stakeholders at all levels to successfully execute project deliverables.

Your possession of earned respect of key stakeholder groups and members.

I have been with the Capital Projects group of Central San for 10 years. Over that time, I have earned the respect of maintenance and operations personnel, which can be difficult for someone coming from a different department. As a result, I have gotten the opportunity to work on more and more complex and challenging projects. My last project was replacing Headworks Screens involving challenging shutdowns.

At CWEA, I have had to opportunity to volunteer with roles of increasing responsibility. In 2012, I first got involved with PDC and SYPC of the SF Bay section. Since then, I have been the chair of those committees, and completed a term as a Board member of the SF Bay Section.

Your ability to work well with others as a member of a collaborative group with group decision-making authority and an understanding of the fiduciary duties of loyalty, care, and obedience.

I have been able to show my team work abilities through my involvement at CWEA as well as at work. I have been involved in multiple teams at CWEA such as the Professional Development Committee(PDC), Students and Young Professionals Committee (SYPC), San Francisco Bay Section Board of Directors, and CWEA AC Education Planning Team. On all those team involvements, I have had the opportunity to work in a team environment. When I was the chair of the PDC, and SYPC, I led those committees to achieve yearly goals. I incorporated input from other members and comments from past event attendees to improve upcoming events. I estimated the yearly budget and planned yearly events to stay within the budget.

As a Board member of SFBS, I made fiduciary decisions that aligned with goals and mission of the CWEA. SF Bay Section organized monthly dinner meetings and provided oversight to several subcommittees. SF Board made sure that the sub-committees follow the CWEA guidelines and rules for accounting practices.

As a Capital Projects manager at Central San, I lead a group of consultant engineers, operation liaisons, construction managers and contractors to successfully complete very large projects. I often have to make decisions on which process alternatives to select based on benefit to end user. I incorporate stakeholder input into the design to make sure that new systems are easily operable and maintained. On every project, I lead several design reviews to obtain buy-in from stakeholders before bidding.

During the construction phase I work with operations department, maintenance department, consultants, and equipment vendors to start-up, test, and commission new systems.

Your understanding of the differences between "oversight" and "supervision" as a Board member.

As a Board Member I will let the local sections carry out their business without getting involved. However, I will aid when requested. I will also ask local sections to provide information and updates to the state level if it is missed or forgotten. I believe our role as the Board is to offer support and guidance to the local levels without micromanaging.

Your reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty.

Throughout my almost ten years at Central San, I have built up a strong reputation as an honest, hard-working and dedicated project manager. My experience working with a dynamic group of internal and external players on multi-million dollar projects with tight deadlines has helped me develop emotional maturity when dealing with complex situations and relationships. I am known for my attention to detail and safety, and am not afraid to speak up to voice my concerns, resulting in meaningful discussions with the team and leadership.

Your familiarity with the body of knowledge/subject areas for which CWEA is responsible and within which decisions and choices will have to be made.

I have ten years of experience at Central San, and nine years of experience with CWEA, including multiple local leadership positions. I am also a registered Professional Engineer with the State of California, and hold a master's degree in environmental engineering from Johns Hopkins University as well as a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

Personal History/Involvement with CWEA

Please attach a resume of CWEA leadership positions/activities along with a digital photo.

Professional Development Committee – 2012 to Present

Students and Young Professionals – 2012 to 2017

SF Bay Section Board of Directors – 2015 – 2019

CWEA AC 2019 – Education Planning Team

CWEA Engineering and Research Committee – 2019 - Present

NRC Vice Chair 2020 - 2022

Complete and return by **December 17, 2021**, to:

ARVIND AKELA | CWEA PRESIDENT
c/o CWEA

