



# Ventura County Chapter of the California Special Districts Association

First Tuesday, every other month:  
Feb 7, April 4, June 6, Aug 1, Oct 3, Dec 5  
Camarillo Health Care District  
3615 E Las Posas Road Bldg F, Sequoia Rooms 1 & 2, Camarillo  
(unless otherwise noted)

October/November 2023

public service since 1974



## From the Vice-Chair: Jacquelyn McMillan

### Water Is Life!

Thank you for this opportunity to share in the newsletter! Boiling down my recent experience to fit here is impossible but perhaps the relevant (if not obvious!) news is that water is precious, water is life, and excellent, dedicated people continue to protect, conserve and build for the future.

I had the recent opportunity to participate in a 3-day tour of State Water Project facilities (SWPs), including Lake Oroville, Feather River Fish Hatchery Raceway, the future Sites Reservoir, and others. Here are some interesting stats:

- Lake Oroville is the 2nd largest reservoir in CA; 3.5million acre-ft capacity
- San Luis Reservoir is 5th largest in CA; 2million acre-ft capacity
- One acre-foot is 326,000 gallons and serves three typical CA households
- Salmon spawning is mid-Sept to mid-Nov; Steelhead spawning is mid-Dec to mid-Feb
- When completed, Sites Reservoir will pump up to 640,000 acre-ft of Northern Sierra Mountains runoff

I share this info not only to convey the invaluable role water districts play in communities, but to also convey a small measure of the immense pride I feel in serving the public with each of you. May the Fall season bring rain, in manageable and beneficial amounts, for the continued prosperity of our California!

Does your District have a fab story to tell? A picture that says a thousand words? Send your thoughts and photos to [kralston@camhealth.com](mailto:kralston@camhealth.com) for the VCSDA newsletter.

Respectfully, *Jackie*



## VENTURA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Gardner brings extensive managerial and administrative experience in fire protection over a 23-year career with Ventura County Fire. Most recently serving as the Deputy Fire Chief, he has been responsible for the department's daily operations supervising all five bureaus. His experience also encompasses large-scale incident command and regional coordination for numerous large-scale incidents, including the Thomas Fire, Easy Fire, Maria Fire, Borderline response, Woolsey Fire and Hill Fire. His budgeting background encompasses the planning and management of fire's \$200 million dollar budget and the creation of Fire's ten-year capital plan.



**GUEST  
SPEAKER**  
Oct 3, 2023

**Dustin  
Gardner**  
Fire Chief  
Ventura  
County Fire  
Department  
(Protection  
District)

"I am deeply honored to be appointed as the next Ventura County Fire Chief. I believe the dedicated people that serve the Ventura County Fire Department are among the most talented in today's fire service. We will continue to value strong relationships with our local and regional partners with an unwavering commitment to improving and enhancing our services. We will remain dedicated to creating an environment that cultivates trust, honor, and dedication with the diverse communities of Ventura County that we are proud to serve and where we call home," said Chief Gardner.

# Photos from Jackie's SWP Tour; photos from CSDA Conference



## VCSDA Board Members



President  
Kara Ralston  
Camarillo Health  
Care District



Vice President  
Jacque McMillan  
Calleguas Municipal  
Water District



Treasurer  
Brian Pendleton  
Ventura Harbor  
District



Secretary  
Brandie Thomas  
Camarillo Health  
Care District