

# Ventura County Special Districts Association

January/February 2020

Offering quality of life services through direct representation

## President's Message by Thom Slosson



Happy New Year VCSDA members!

2020 is already shaping up to be an exciting year—and we kick it off with our Annual Meeting at the Sterling Hills Country Club.

I am pleased to introduce Joseph Edmiston, Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, as the next guest speaker. We welcome Joe's perspective on the County's wildland to urban interface and strengthening connections with nature. Our relationship with open space continues to evolve as the County's population grows and the climate grows hotter.

Recently, the Board of Supervisors announced their intention to investigate a Climate Change Sales Tax. A poll of voters will be conducted in the coming weeks to gauge support for the tax. Proceeds from the tax could be directed toward controlling vegetation that worsens the effect of wildfires. Interestingly, it may require the creation of another special district to administer such funding! It is very important that our members track this issue.

**Award Nominations:** please remember to turn any nominations for Director of the Year, General Manager of the Year, and the Shirley Turner Award for Outstanding Service to VCSDA-Elaine Magner [elmagner@aol.com](mailto:elmagner@aol.com) by: **January 21, 2020**



## Joseph T. Edmiston Executive Director

State of California-Natural Resources Agency  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

Joseph Edmiston was appointed Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy by Governor Jerry Brown in 1979. Under his leadership, the Conservancy has preserved over 72,000 acres of public parkland within and surrounding the Los Angeles Metropolitan region, in a zone extending from the edge of the Mojave Desert to the Pacific Ocean.

Joe has lectured extensively on environmental planning, park development, and urban land use. He and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, have been the recipient of numerous national awards including the highest honor of the American Planning Association, the Daniel Burnham Award. He also received the American Society of Landscape Architects' La Gasse Medal, awarded for notable contributions to the management of natural resources and public lands.

***When:*** Tuesday, February 4, 2020 Registration 5:00 pm, dinner 6:00 pm

***Where:*** Sterling Hills Country Club - 901 Sterling Hills, Camarillo, CA 93010

***Who:*** RSVP to Kara Wade at [kwade@calleguas.com](mailto:kwade@calleguas.com) \$55/person payable by check, cash at the door or mailed to:

**\*\*NEW ADDRESS FOR PAYMENTS\*\***  
**VCSDA c/o Camarillo Health Care District**  
**Attn: Rod Brown**  
**1200 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 250**  
**Camarillo, CA 93010**

## Scenes from VCSDA's December 10th meeting at United Water Conservation District



## VCSDA Board Members



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Thom Slosson  
Calleguas MWD



Vice President  
Al Fox  
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Rod Brown  
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