

# Ventura County Special Districts Association

July/August 2022

Offering quality of life services through direct representation

## President's Message by Bruce Dandy

HOT TIME IN THE CITY

Loving Spoonful performed "Summer in the City" a "few" years ago. It came to mind as I was hearing about high temperatures around the country and the low water levels in much of the Southwest. As a Board Member of a water agency, I believe it is critical that we plan for the future, as this truly is impacting everyone.



At CSDA Legislative Days I attended a program which discussed the rise of seawater. Specifically, the discussion was about the Bay Area (San Francisco) project to create natural levies to prevent Apple Headquarters from flooding (and more). The discussion was really directed at getting "ALL" of the government regulators working together to get a massive project approved. (Unfortunately, no clear answers.)

And while the debate continues as to whether it is climate change or just periodic adjustments, I know each of us are impacted by the current drought. In addition to water agencies' worries, what must Recreation and Parks Districts' do to protect their investments? And consider the concerns of Fire Districts, who are literally just one spark away from battling another hellfire. We are all impacted. Oops...well at least Port Districts can still float their boats. Despite my attempt at humor, this just reinforces why Special Districts are important to our communities. Thank you for your hard work.

And speaking of a "Hot Time," the November elections are rapidly approaching. Did you know the filing dates open July 18th for those whose terms end in 2022? So, as you can see, we have Michelle Ascencion, winner of the June primary election for Ventura County Clerk-Recorder, joining us on August 2nd to provide all the details we need to know about the November Elections. She may even explain the importance of filing those Form 440s and 700s. Michelle's background is excellent for her new position and I know she is missed as Oxnard's City Clerk.

See you soon,

*Bruce E. Dandy*

Please join us at  
**United Water Conservation District**  
1701 N. Lombard St., Oxnard CA 93030  
or via Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82815724536?pwd=dDVZTERiZDUxOHYwMVFIc1B6cG5WQT09>

**Meeting ID: 828 1572 4536**

**Passcode: VCSDA**

**For the  
AUGUST 2, 2022 VCSDA meeting  
when we welcome GUEST SPEAKER  
Assistant County Clerk-Recorder and  
Ventura County Clerk-Recorder Elect**



**MICHELLE ASCENCION**

With the certification of the June 7 Primary Election, Michelle Ascencion made history by becoming the first woman elected as Ventura County Clerk & Recorder and the second African American (first AA woman) elected to Ventura County office. Ms. Ascencion will be sharing her presentation: "*What to Expect for the November 2022 General Election: Candidacy, Voting, and Canvass*" a popular topic as many VCSDA members will be up for re-election.

Ms. Ascencion joined the County of Ventura as Assistant County Clerk-Recorder in January of 2021, after 15 years of local government service which began in 2006 when she began working for the City of Port Hueneme as an Executive Specialist in the City Manager's office. Following eight years as the Deputy/City Clerk of Port Hueneme and one year as Clerk of the Board for the Ventura Regional Sanitation District, Ms. Ascencion was elected as the City Clerk of her hometown, Oxnard, CA, in November 2016, where she served for four years before joining the County of Ventura.

Continues...

**MICHELLE ASCENCION**, continued.

Ms. Ascencion holds an Associate's Degree in General Liberal Arts and Sciences from Oxnard College and a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She has been a Certified Municipal Clerk since 2009 and earned her Master Municipal Clerk certification in 2020.



From June 7th's VSDA Meeting at Port Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District.

Before and after (pink hats!)- PVRP's Elaine Magner, CSDA's Megan Hemming and Charlotte Holifield and



Port Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District's MaryAnne Rooney.

(LEFT) CSDA's Megan Hemming & Charlotte Holifield were happy to accept the VCSDA's \$2,000 scholarship donation.



(RIGHT) CSDA's Megan Hemming with Kara Ralston of Camarillo Health Dist. and Ventura Port District GM & VCSDA Treasurer Brian Pendleton.



Below: Cindy & Al Fox



**VCSDA Board Members**



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Bruce Dandy  
United Water  
Conversation Dist.



Vice President  
Al Fox  
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