



## Supplement to October 16, 2023 MPWMD Board Packet

Attached are copies of letters sent and/or received between **September 21, 2023** and **October 10, 2023**. These letters are listed in the Monday, October 16, 2023 Board Packet under Letters Received.

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Author	Addressee	Date	Topic
<b>Sandy A. Seifert-Raffelson</b>	Karen Paull	September 21, 2023	No Paid Workers' Compensation Claims in 2022-23
<b>Susan Schiavone</b>	Board of Directors	October 3, 2023	Letter to the Editor published in the September 22, 2023 issue of the Carmel Pine Cone
<b>Melodie Chrislock</b>	Board of Directors	October 4, 2023	Letter to the Editor published in the September 22, 2023 issue of the Carmel Pine Cone
<b>Sandy A. Seifert-Raffelson</b>	Karen Paull	October 3, 2023	No Paid Property/Liability Claims in 2022-23
<b>John L. Varela</b>	Board of Directors	October 4, 2023	Central Coast Water Agency Collaboration Forum

September 21, 2023

Ms. Karen Paull  
Board Chair  
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
Post Office Box 85  
Monterey, California 93942

RECEIVED

SEP 25 2023

MPWMD

**Re: No Paid Workers' Compensation Claims in 2022-23**

Dear Ms. Paull,

This letter is to formally acknowledge the dedicated efforts of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's Governing Body, management and staff towards proactive loss prevention and workplace safety. Your agency's efforts have resulted in no "paid" workers' compensation claims for program year 2022-23. A "paid" claim for the purposes of this recognition represents the first payment on an open claim during the prior program year. This is a great accomplishment!

In addition to this annual recognition, members with no "paid" claims during 2022-23 earned one credit incentive point (CIP) thereby reducing their annual contribution amount. Also, members without claims receive a lower "experience modification factor" (EMOD), which also reduces their annual contribution amount.

As SDRMA is dedicated to serving its members and preventing claims, we would appreciate your agency taking a moment and sharing with us what made your District successful in preventing work-related injuries. Our goal is to incorporate your successful ideas and suggestions into our loss prevention programs to benefit all members of SDRMA. Please forward any ideas or suggestions to us at [memberplus@sdrma.org](mailto:memberplus@sdrma.org).

On behalf of the SDRMA Board of Directors and staff, it is my privilege to congratulate the Governing Body, management, and staff for their commitment to proactive loss prevention and safety in the workplace.

Sincerely,  
Special District Risk Management Authority



Sandy A. Seifert-Raffelson, President  
Board of Directors

**From:** [susan schiavone](#)  
**To:** [Sara Reyes](#)  
**Subject:** Letter for Board Packet  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 9:49:53 AM

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Letter to the editor published in Pine Cone

## **Buyout Brings Lower Cost**

Measure J required the district pursue the take-over of Cal-Am, if feasible, and the feasibility study determined it is.

Cal-Am's experience at running a water company is all about making a profit for investors. It has never been about running our water system in a cost-effective, efficient manner. MPWMD has received national awards for transparency and fiscal management. They have been selling water for years to Pebble Beach.

Cal Am has no transparency and a history of charging Monterey ratepayers much more than any of its other operations in California. Average bills in San Diego, and Sacramento are \$50 and \$38 while Monterey is \$115, highest of any comparable system. We have decades of water shortage and arguably the most expensive water in the country to show for Cal-Am's experience at running a water system.

The cost of the buyout is offset by current Cal-Am profit we already pay. The estimated revenue requirement in the first year of operation under MPWMD is actually projected to be lower than Cal Am. Savings increase after thirty years when acquisition bonds are retired, adding estimated annual savings of \$29 million. Savings also occur by eliminating Cal-Am high corporate overhead.

Cal-Am ratepayers subsidize Cal-Am acquisitions of other water utilities and Cal-Am pushes up rates through excessive surcharges. Cal-Am spends massive amounts of our money for capital projects they abandon or modify, providing little or no benefit.

Investor-owned monopolies like Cal-Am don't have competition. The CPUC was created to remedy this with regulation, but they don't. When Cal Am held our urgently needed new water supply hostage, demanding

another \$20 million before they would buy the water, the CPUC caved to their demand.

Under public ownership, we won't be subject to Cal-Am's defective decision-making or CPUC forcing ratepayers to pay for failed projects. Simply put, public agencies, which make no profit, provide retail water at lower cost.

Susan Schiavone, Seaside

**From:** [mwchrislock@redshift.com](mailto:mwchrislock@redshift.com)  
**To:** [Alvin Edwards](#); [Amy Anderson](#); [George Riley](#); [Karen Paull](#); [District 5](#); [Marc Eisenhart](#); [Ian Oglesby](#); [Dave Stoldt](#); [Sara Reyes](#)  
**Subject:** Letter to the Editor  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 8:43:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Carmel Pine Cone | September 22, 2023

## *'Verifiable facts'*

**Dear Editor,**

There have been a number of misleading and inaccurate facts cited in your recent position statements regarding the potential buyout of Cal Am's water system. To be very brief, here are bullet points of verifiable facts for clarification:

■ When Measure J passed in 2018, it became a mandate to the Monterey Peninsula Water District (MPWD) to determine the feasibility of acquiring Cal Am. Measure J was not a feasibility study and over 24,000 voters passed Measure J by a majority 56%. Actual feasibility was proven in 2019.

■ Still in September of 2023, Monterey County has some of the most expensive water in the USA at a cost of over \$ 150 for approximately 5,000 gallons per month.

■ There have been decades of water shortages.

■ No new water has had the impact of no new housing.

■ Lastly, there has been an over-pumping of our two natural water sources of the Carmel River and the Seaside Basin.

Until the final terms of the transfer can be determined, it is not possible to finalize the potential cost savings but it will surely result in a more transparent, equitable, and non-usurious water company management.

**Kenneth Pelletier,**  
*Carmel*



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Maximizing Protection. Minimizing Risk. \* [www.sdrma.org](http://www.sdrma.org)

October 3, 2023

Ms. Karen Paull  
Board Chair  
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
Post Office Box 85  
Monterey, California 93942

RECEIVED

OCT - 5 2023

MPWMD

**Re: No Paid Property/Liability Claims in 2022-23**

Dear Ms. Paull,

This letter is to formally acknowledge the dedicated efforts of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District’s Governing Body, management, and staff towards proactive risk management and loss prevention training. Your agency’s efforts have resulted in no “paid” property/liability claims for program year 2022-23. A "paid" claim for the purposes of this recognition represents the first payment on an open claim during the prior program year and excludes property claims. This is a great accomplishment!

In addition to this annual recognition, members with no “paid” claims during 2022-23 earned one credit incentive point (CIP), thereby reducing their annual contribution amount.

As SDRMA is dedicated to serving its members and preventing claims, we would appreciate your agency taking a moment and sharing with us what made your District successful in preventing property/liability losses. Our goal is to incorporate your successful ideas and suggestions into our loss prevention programs to benefit all members of SDRMA. Please forward any comments or suggestions to us at [memberplus@sdrma.org](mailto:memberplus@sdrma.org).

On behalf of the SDRMA Board of Directors and staff, it is my honor to congratulate the Governing Body, management, and staff for their commitment to proactive risk management and loss prevention training.

Sincerely,  
Special District Risk Management Authority

Sandy A. Seifert-Raffelson, President  
Board of Directors

October 4, 2023

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**[John L. Varela](#) / Chair (District 1)[Barbara F. Keegan](#) / Vice Chair (District 2)[Richard P. Santos](#) (District 3)[Jim Beall](#) (District 4)[Nai Hsueh](#) (District 5)[Tony Estremera](#) (District 6)[Rebecca Eisenberg](#) (District 7)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**[Rick L. Callender, Esq.](#)**CLERK OF THE BOARD**[Michele L. King, CMC](#)

Subject: Central Coast Water Agency Collaboration Forum.

Dear Members of ACWA Region 5:

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) is gauging interest in starting a collaboration forum for water agencies in California's Central Coast region.

Valley Water, as the primary water provider to Silicon Valley and a vibrant agricultural community, manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, flood protection and stewardship of streams in Santa Clara County. Our success in meeting this mission is often the result of collaborations with other agencies, associations, non-governmental agencies, joint powers authorities, and elected officials.

Water agencies throughout the Central Coast share many similarities, including a responsibility to balance municipal and agricultural interests. Due to our unique geography and climate, we also face many of the same challenges in maintaining water supply reliability in the areas we serve, such as an uncertain regulatory future, a changing climate, and pressure to provide affordable service. These circumstances lend themselves to being creative, perhaps through new partnership opportunities.

Please respond to Ms. Roseryn Bhudsabourg at (408)630-3099 or [rbhudsabourg@valleywater.org](mailto:rbhudsabourg@valleywater.org) if a Central Coast collaboration forum would be of value to you. If there is sufficient interest, we will explore next steps and follow up with you. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



John L. Varela  
Board Chair  
Santa Clara Valley Water District

cc: Board of Directors (7), R. Callender  
ka:sd  
1002a-l

