



JIM BECK VICE PRESIDENT

Jim has over 30 years of expertise implementing initiatives to meet California's water needs. Formerly the General Manager of the Kern County Water Agency, Mr. Beck oversaw operation and administration, and held broad water-supply management responsibilities within Kern County. He has been instrumental in many programs that have placed the agency at the forefront of water management statewide. These programs include coordinating local participation in the State Water Project, developing and operating groundwater banking programs, operating the Cross Valley Canal, and overseeing the Henry C. Garnett Water Purification Plant.

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Water Quality Analyst – Grade IV – American Water Works Association Water Treatment Plant Operator – Grade III – State of California

Water Distribution Operator – Grade II – State of California

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Water Quality, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health

Bachelor of Science, Biological Sciences and History (dual) with special emphasis in environmental biology. Minor in chemistry.

ASSOCIATIONS

American Water Works Association

INDUSTRY TENURE

30+ years

SELECT RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

California WaterFix (\$16B)

Jim's 30 years of California water policy leadership are reflected by the efficacy of his work with the California WaterFix (formerly the Bay Delta Conservation Plan), a \$15.5 billion program to provide a more reliable water supply to over 25 million California residents. Jim worked with stakeholders to provide project updates and to develop a Kern County implementation strategy. He also contributed to the negotiation of state and local funding agreements that identified not only the costs borne by Kern County, but also the terms and conditions for Kern County's participation in the planning effort.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (\$2.9M)

Jim serves as the Executive Director for the Cuyama Basing Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) that was formed by a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) by multiple agencies and districts under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The Cuyama Groundwater Basin has been identified by the California Department of Water Resources as a medium priority Basin and subject to conditions of critical overdraft. The Agency must develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan with identified actions and projects to determine sustainability levels and how the Basin will implement and monitor them to maintain sustainability.

Hallmark Group was selected to lead the agency in 2017 and provides Executive Director services. Within a very short timeframe, Jim directed the proposal review and selection of key consultants for the program, developed annual and program-level budgets, developed and facilitated negotiations for program cost allocation among participants, developed the program schedule, and implemented executive-level Board reporting.

Kern County Local Mediation

Jim managed the effort in Kern County to resolve numerous local water-management issues with stakeholders. As the lead spokesperson for the KCWA, he addressed issues including local State Water Project (SWP) contract issues, groundwater issues and development, use and assignment of facilities, rights, and other KCWA assets. The effort involved over 50 stakeholder representatives which realized key advances in several areas: technical workgroups reached a consensus on draft guidelines for calculating hydrologic balances for agricultural and urban water districts, and preliminary discussions on asset allocation provided the foundation for formal agreements on allocating KCWA assets.

ID4 (\$80M) and Cross Valley Canal Expansion (\$100M)

Jim managed KCWA's urban water district, which provides a supplemental water supply for the metropolitan Bakersfield area, and has led agency staff in two major capital improvement projects: the expansion of Improvement District No. 4's treated-water operations and the expansion of the Cross Valley Canal.