



Michael Saunders, MD

Quick Bio:

Dr. Michael Saunders is serving his second term on the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District. Michael is also an Alternate Special District Commissioner on El Dorado LAFCO. Dr. Saunders sits on the Executive Committees for the Regional Water Authority as the Vice-Chair, and the Association of California Water Agencies as the Vice-Chair of Region 3. Other community Boards of note - Marshall Foundation for Community Health, Trustee; Pilot Hill Grange No. 1, Treasurer.

Dr. Saunders has continued to play an active role in working on legislation and guidelines at the State workgroup level through DWR and working with legislative groups and advocacy through GDPUD, MCWRA, RWA, CSDA, and ACWA.

I have been a Region 3 Board member since 2022 and I am Vice-Chair this term. As a Regional Board member, I have been a strong advocate for our Region's issues and needs. I outreached with the agencies in our Region and worked with our Legislative committees, staff, and legislators on bills and regulations. I have worked on presentations for ACWA to inform, educate, and advocate to ACWA, Legislators, and Regulators on our Region 3 issues and needs. I have worked with the Region Board to bring regulators to answer questions and get input from us directly at conferences or Region presentations.

Association of California Water Agencies, Board Member

Special Committees:

- Strategic Plan Task Force
- Executive Director Selection
- ACWA Officers Election

Workgroups:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Headwaters
- Water Use Efficiency
- State Infrastructure
- LIRA
- Climate Bond

Committees:

- Membership Committee
- Energy Committee
- Finance Committee, Investment Subcommittee
- Local Government Committee, City and County Nexus Subcommittee: Co-Chair
- Outreach Ambassador

ACWA Region 3

- ACWA Region 3 Board Member (2022 - 2023), Vice-Chair (2024-2025)
- ACWA Region 3 Regional Issue Forum Planning workgroup
 - *"Protecting Communities in the New Era of Wildfire: The Important Role of Water Purveyors"* (2022)
 - Before the Fire: Emergency Operations Best Practices for Wildfire Preparedness from California's Sierra Nevada Region (Moderator) (2023)
 - Forum on WUE with panelists including DWR Staff and selected SWRCB Board members (2024)
 - Region 3 and 4 Region Event - Guardians of the Source - Strengthening Watershed Resilience for Future Generations (conjunctive use, groundwater storage, groundwater ASR wells) Moderator (2024)
 - DWR's Watershed Resilience Initiative: Charting a New Path for California's Water Future (Spring 2025)
 - Grant Presentation (2025)

State Level Workgroups - Department of Water Resources

DWR Workgroup Member for Water Use Efficiency Workgroup, Water Loss Workgroup, Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment Workgroup

DWR Stakeholder participant

- County Drought Advisory Group. Water Use Studies (LAM, Variances; Indoor, Outdoor, CII budgets)