

North Edwards Water District

Public Meeting

November 9, 2020

6:00 p.m.



Welcome

Karen Nishimoto, P.E.
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer
Division of Drinking Water, SAFER



Water Board's Mission Statement

Preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Meeting Logistics

Marina Pérez
Staff Services Manager
Office of Public Participation

Participation Instructions

Technical or Language Assistance:

- Email the following to DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov
 - Indicate if you need assistance with technical or language support
 - Subject: “Helpdesk”

Public Comment:

- Email the following to DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov
 - Your name,
 - Affiliation,
 - Last 3 digits of your phone number,
 - Indicate if you’d like to read your comment yourself,
 - Subject: “North Edwards Public Comment”

Meeting Guidelines

- Mute yourself when not speaking
- Take breaks as needed
- Comment to DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov

Instrucciones de la Reunión

- Silenciarte cuando no estés hablando
- Toma descansos cuando sea necesario
- Envíe comentarios a DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov

What is the SAFER Drinking Water Program?

SAFER = Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience



Division of
Drinking Water

systems



Division of
Financial Assistance

funding



Office of
Public Participation

communities



SAFER
Advisory Group

local expertise

Meeting Agenda and Community Involvement

Vanessa Baiz Soto
Office of Public Participation

Meeting Agenda

- Community Involvement
- Background of North Edwards Water District
- Overview of Administrator
- Potential Administrator and Scope of Work
- Public Comments/Questions





North Edwards Community

- Challenges facing community
- Need for safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water
- Community participation in meetings

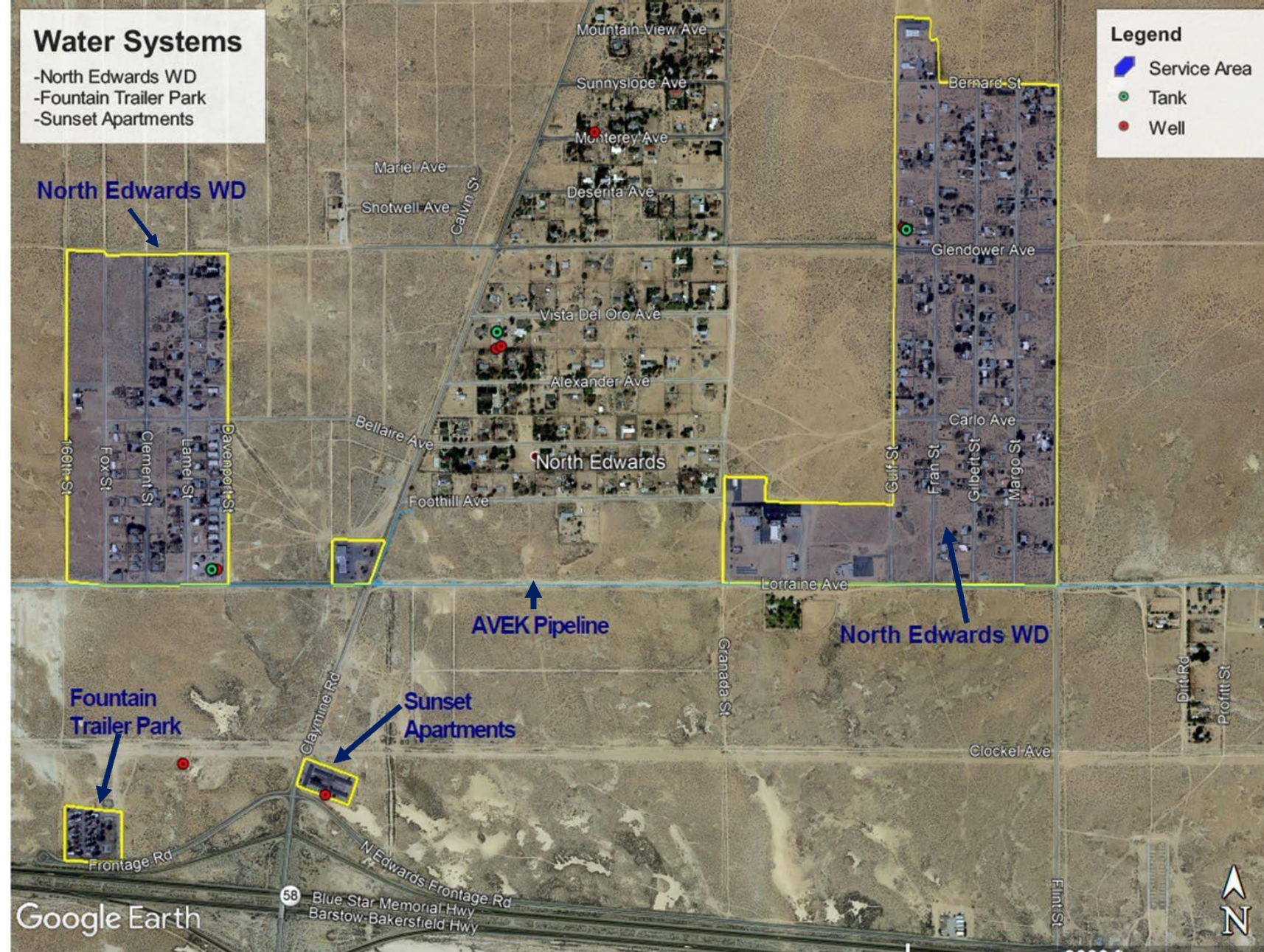



Background North Edwards Water District

Jesse Dhaliwal, P.E.
Tehachapi District Engineer
Division of Drinking Water

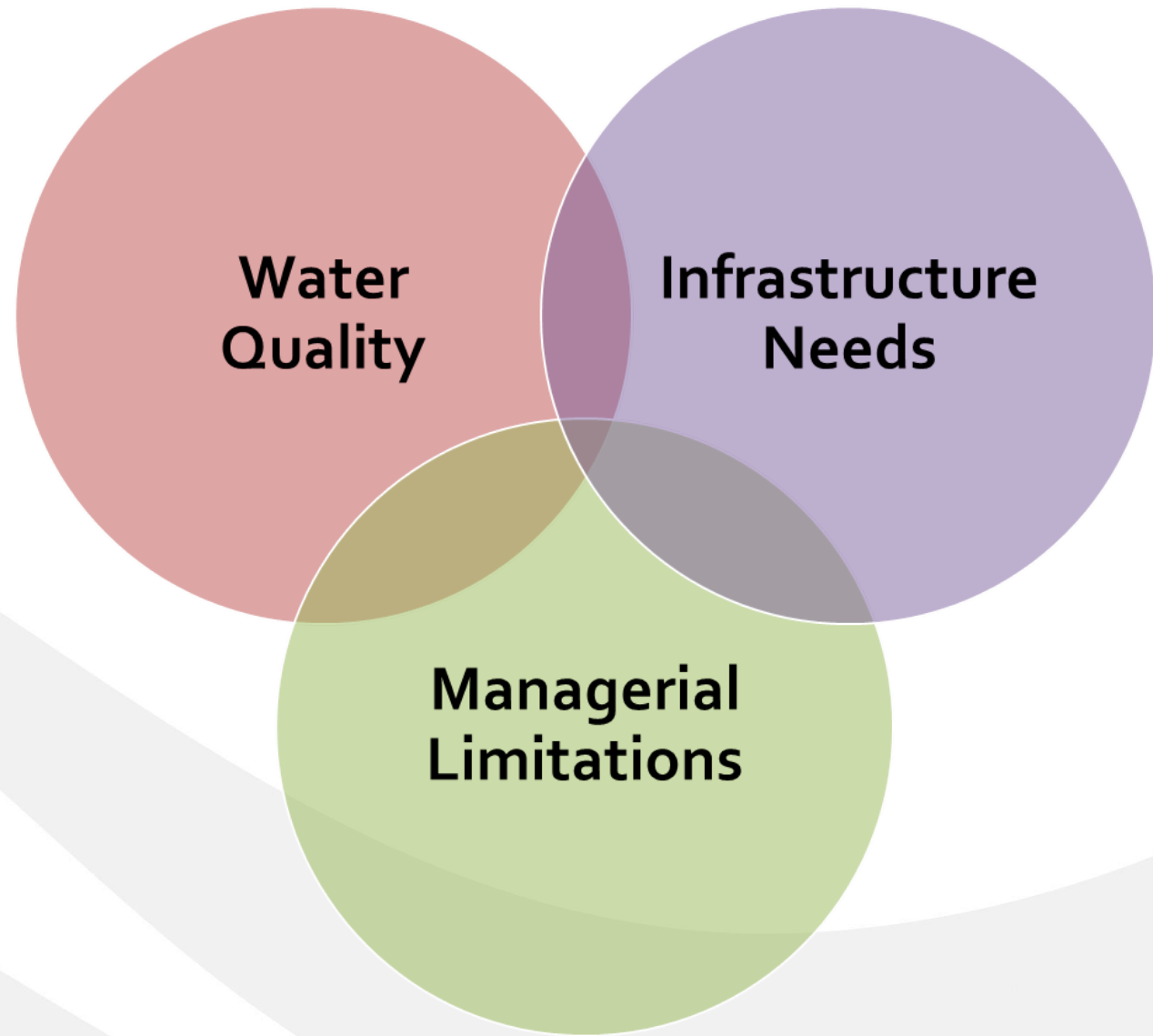
North Edwards Water District

- Population: 944
- Service Connections: 217



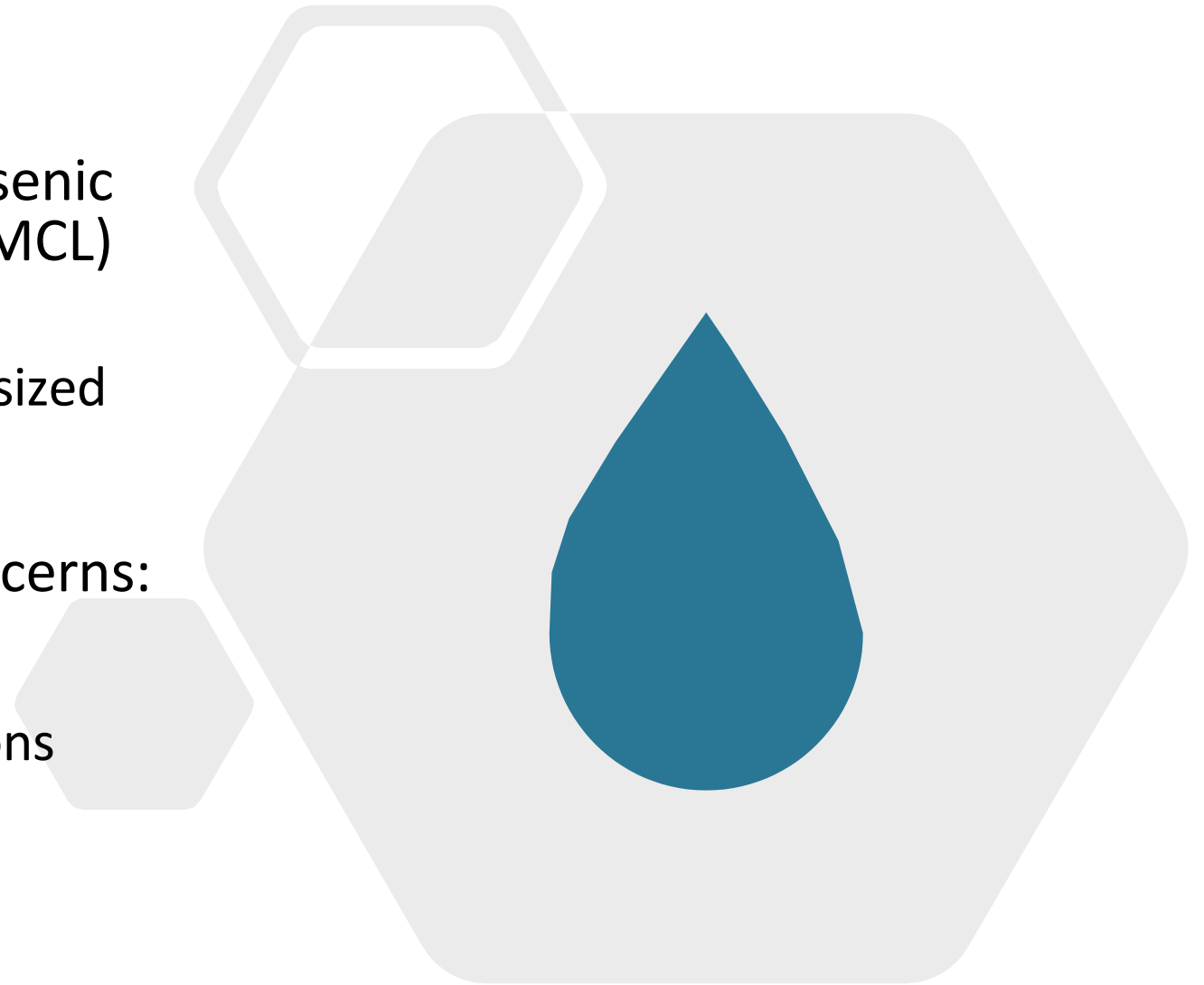


Water System Issues



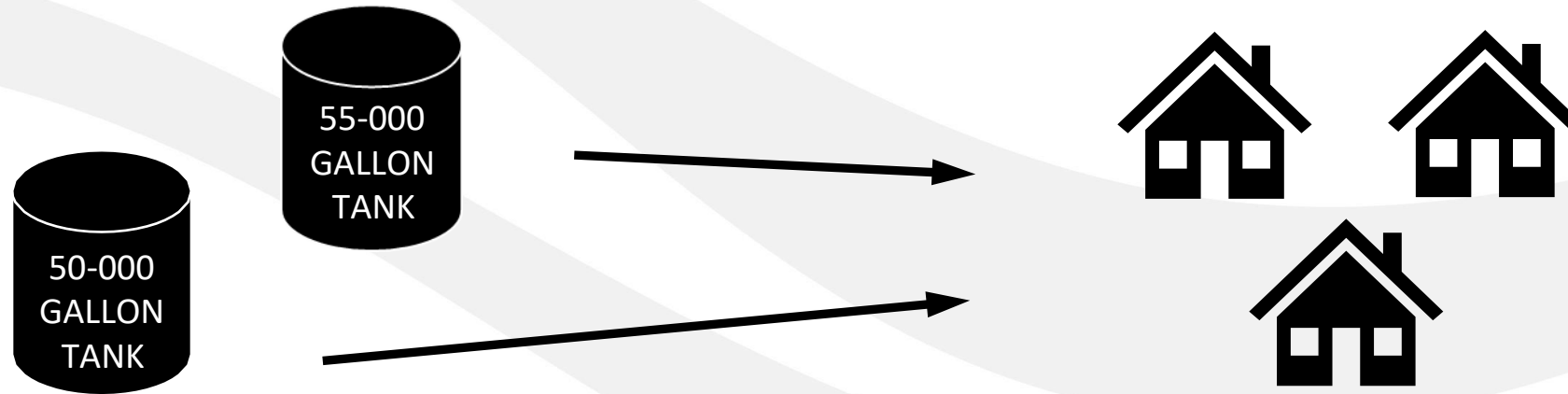
Water Quality

- Out-of-compliance with the arsenic maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 10 micrograms/liter
 - 10 drops of water in Olympic sized pool
- Long-term exposure health concerns:
 - Skin damage
 - Circulatory system complications
 - Increased cancer risk



Infrastructure Needs

- Current storage capacity is 105,000 gallons
- The highest total daily water usage demand of the water system is approximately 200,000 gallons



Managerial Limitations

- Lack of administrative staff
- Lack of financial capacity to implement solutions



Administrator Overview

Reyna Rodriguez
Water Resource Control Engineer
Division of Drinking Water, SAFER



ADMINISTRATORS



Administrator Authority

- **Applicability:**
 - A public water system or state small water system that serves a disadvantaged community and that the state board finds consistently fails to provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water.
- **Full-Scope Administrator:**
 - Person or entity who is appointed and/or authorized to exercise total and complete managerial control over a designated water system.
- **Policy Handbook:**
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/agendas/2019/sept/091719_6_cs1_cleanversion.pdf

Outreach for Administrators



COUNTIES & CITIES



EXISTING TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE
PROVIDERS



REQUEST FOR
QUALIFICATIONS



North Edwards Community

- Administrator designation
- Change in managerial control
- Safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water

North Edwards Community Involvement

- An administrator is not a permanent solution
- Community involvement
- Participation in administrator meetings and providing comments



Administrator Appointment Process



Potential Administrator for North Edwards Water District

Karen Nishimoto, P.E.
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer
Division of Drinking Water, SAFER

Potential Administrator for North Edwards Water District

California Rural Water Association (CRWA)

Qualifications:

- Staff has combined 150 years of experience in water system management and operation
- Currently provides operational and management services to eight communities
- Experience planning solutions for water quality problems



Potential Administrator for North Edwards Water District

California Rural Water Association (CRWA)

Dan DeMoss, Executive Director

Qualifications:

- California Certified Water Operator, Treatment Grade 2
- California Certified Water Operator, Distribution Grade 2
- Certified National Rural Water Association Circuit Rider
- Certified in Association Management from the Institute of Association of Management
- 33 years of experience
- Conflict of Interest: None Identified



Administrator: Scope of Work



- Full-scope Administrator as defined by the Administrator Policy Handbook
- Antelope Valley-East Kern (AVEK) Water Agency Connection
- Infrastructure Improvements
- Community Accountability and Engagement Plan
- Post-Administrator Drinking Water Service Plan
- Additional Considerations

Antelope Valley-East Kern Connection (AVEK)

- AVEK is a wholesale water provider
 - Serves parts of Los Angeles, Kern, and Ventura Counties
 - Treats, stores, and distributes water
 - In-compliance with water quality standards
- North Edwards is approximately 500 feet from AVEK pipeline
- Long-term sustainability



Infrastructure Improvements

- Additional storage
- Evaluation of infrastructure needs
- Rate analysis



Community Accountability and Engagement Plan

- Administrator develops within 90 days
- Public meetings at least once every three (3) months
 - Provide 10-day notice
 - Opportunity for public comment
- Community involvement
- Public access to records



Post-Administrator Drinking Water Service Plan

- Evaluate long-term solutions
- Examples could include:
 - Managerial consolidation
 - Board member recruitment
 - Full office staff





Potential Consolidation


Additional Considerations

- Consolidate Fountain Trailer Park
 - Out-of-compliance with arsenic MCL
 - Population: 68
- Consolidate Sunset Apartments
 - Out-of-compliance with arsenic MCL
 - Population: 37





Goals

- Safe and reliable drinking water
 - Complete necessary improvements:
 - Purchased water connection
 - Storage capacity
 - Infrastructure improvements
 - Maintain public engagement
 - Evaluate long-term solutions
- 

North Edwards Water District

Public Comments/Questions

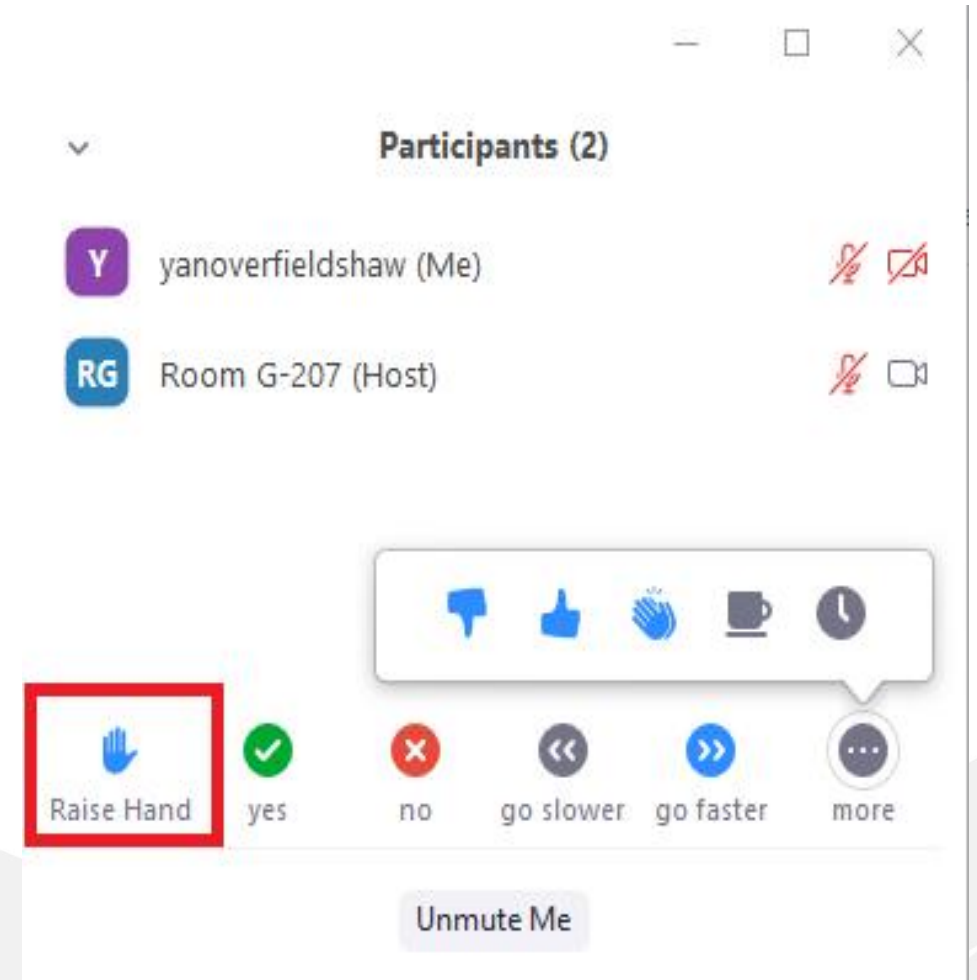
North Edwards Water District

Public Comments/Questions

Vanessa Baiz Soto
Office of Public Participation

How to ask questions and comments?

- **Via Zoom:** Use the 'raise your hand' function at the bottom of the participants window to the right of the Zoom screen. Wait for your name to be called
- **Via telephone:** Press *9 to raise your hand. When your name is called, press *6 to unmute yourself. When you are finished speaking, please press *6 again to mute
- ***3 minutes each for public comment***



Participation Instructions

When your name is called, unmute yourself and share your

- First and last name
- Affiliation
- Where you are calling in from
- Concise question or comment (3 minutes)

Participation Instructions

Public Comment:

- Email the following to DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov
 - Your name,
 - Affiliation,
 - Last 3 digits of your phone number,
 - Indicate if you'd like to read your comment yourself,
 - Subject: "North Edwards: Identification of an Administrator"

Public Comment

Written comments and questions can be mailed or emailed to:

Karen Nishimoto

State Water Resources Control Board

500 N. Central Avenue, Suite 500

Glendale, CA 91203

OR

DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov

OR

(818) 551-2049

Public Comment Deadline: November 16, 2020

Additional Resources

Self-Help Enterprises Regional Bottled Water Program

- Provide income documentation to determine eligibility
- Send application to:

Tami McVay

Assistant Program Director – Partner Services

Self-Help Enterprises

P.O. Box 6520

Visalia, CA 93290

OR

droughtsupport@selfhelpenterprises.org

OR

(559) 651-1000

Next Steps

Marina Pérez
Staff Services Manager
Office of Public Participation

Next Steps

- Public Comment Deadline - November 16, 2020
- Administrator FAQ – visit the Water Board website at:
waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/administrator.html

Closing Remarks

Marina Pérez
Staff Services Manager
Office of Public Participation

Thank you!

Questions or comments please contact us:

DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov