

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
[General Manager]



CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

(Rancho Cucamonga, CA)

General Manager

ROBERTS CONSULTING GROUP INC



CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

[General Manager]

THE ORGANIZATION

The Chino Basin is one of the largest groundwater basins in Southern California, containing approximately 5 million acre-feet of water, with an unused storage capacity of about 1 million acre-feet. The Chino Basin overlies about 235 square miles of the upper Santa Ana River watershed, with approximately 80% in San Bernardino County, 15% in Riverside County and 5% in Los Angeles County. With a population of 1.2 million and an expectation that the area will continue to grow, water supply is crucial to meeting future water demands. The safe yield from over 800 active wells is more than 140,000 acre-feet per year. While recent average pumping has been 170,000 to 180,000 acre-feet per year, it has been somewhat less this year.

The Chino Basin Watermaster is a consensus-based organization acting pursuant to continuing jurisdiction of the Superior Court regarding utilization of the Chino Groundwater Basin. Water resource strategies include storm water capture, recycled water direct re-use and recharge, desalter expansion, salt balance, water quality issues and general management of the Basin. The Watermaster consists of various entities pumping water from the Basin including cities, water districts, water companies, agricultural, commercial, industrial and other private concerns. Parties to the Judgment include:

- * Overlying Agricultural Pool
 - Numerous dairies
 - Numerous field farms
 - State of California
- * Overlying Non-Agricultural Pool
 - California Steel Industries
 - Auto Club Speedway
 - Genon
 - Ontario City Non-Agricultural
 - Agua Capital Management
 - San Bernardino County (Chino Airport)
 - General Electric Company
- * Municipal Water Districts (MWD Member Agencies)
 - Inland Empire Utilities Agency
 - Western Municipal Water District
 - Three Valleys Municipal Water District
- * Appropriative Pool
 - City of Chino
 - City of Chino Hills
 - Cucamonga Valley Water District
 - Fontana Union Water Company
 - Fontana Water Company
 - Jurupa Community Services District
 - Marygold Mutual Water Company
 - Monte Vista Water District
 - City of Norco
 - City of Ontario
 - City of Pomona
 - City of Upland
 - San Antonio Water Company
 - Santa Ana River Water Company
 - Golden State Water Company
 - West End Consolidated Water Company
 - West Valley Water District

Chino Basin Watermaster's mission is "To manage the Chino Groundwater Basin in the most beneficial manner and to equitably administer and enforce the provisions of the Chino Basin Watermaster Judgment."

In 1978, the San Bernardino County Superior Court entered a judgment establishing the Chino Basin Watermaster. It is comprised of three stakeholder groups, called Pools, represented by separate Pool Committees: 1) Overlying Agricultural Pool Committee (representing dairymen, farmers and the State of California); 2) Overlying Non-Agricultural Pool Committee (representing area industries); and 3) Appropriative Pool Committee (representing local cities, public water districts and private water companies).



Engineering, legal and other working committees were formed within Watermaster to define specific problem areas in the Basin. Safe yield and socio-economic studies were carried out to develop an agreement on the allocation of producer water rights.

The Judgment also establishes an Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from the three Pools to oversee the activities of the Watermaster. The Pool Committees handle business affecting their own Pool members and make recommendations to the Advisory Committee; the Advisory Committee then makes recommendations to the Board. In 1998, at the request of the Advisory Committee, the Court appointed a new nine-member Watermaster Board, and also ordered a significant new step – development and implementation of a comprehensive Optimum Basin Management Plan (OBMP), with reports of progress and annual reports to be submitted to the Court.

A Peace Agreement was reached in 2000, establishing a detailed arrangement for managing and financing the OBMP. The Court approved the Agreement and received and filed the environmental document covering the entire arrangement. A refinement and deepening of the original Agreement, called the Peace II Agreement, has received court approval and is currently in progress.

Watermaster administration is based on day-to-day operations and extensive communication to meet requirements of the judgment and the court. Staff and consultant resources are used to support the Watermaster Board, Advisory Committee, Non-Agricultural Pool, Appropriative Pool and Agricultural Pool. In an effort to build and develop a strong administrative foundation, Watermaster facilitates the appropriate supporting documentation referencing all water activities involving Watermaster.

The FY 2011-12 approved budget is almost \$6.9 million with ten staff.

The main source of revenue for the Watermaster is assessments on pumping. The Watermaster levies and collects Administrative Assessments, OBMP Assessments and Replenishment Assessments. Administrative Assessments are general administrative and special project expenses incurred by Watermaster. These administrative expenses are allocated and assessed to the respective pools based on allocations made by Watermaster.

OBMP Assessments are allocated by Watermaster to the Pools to implement the OBMP. The Peace Agreement states that the OBMP is categorized as Administrative Assessments under the Judgment.

Special project expenses are allocated to the specific Pool by express assent and findings of benefits by the applicable pool committee, or pursuant written order of the court.

The Watermaster levies Replenishment Assessments to purchase replenishment water to replace production by any Appropriative or Non-Agricultural Pool member during the preceding year which exceeds that party's allocated safe yield.

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

[General Manager]

Watermaster continues to develop the OBMP. Upon completion of the OBMP, specific tasks and activities were assigned to the Watermaster's legal and engineering staff to support Watermaster in the implementation of the OBMP. The OBMP consists of nine key elements covering a wide range of water activity in the Basin. These elements are:

- * **Comprehensive Monitoring** (Program Element 1) - Annual monitoring efforts to collect water quality data from production and monitoring wells. This multi-task effort includes groundwater level monitoring; groundwater quality monitoring; production monitoring; surface water quality and quantity monitoring; and well construction, abandonment and destruction monitoring.
- * **Comprehensive Recharge** (Program Element 2) - This involves the planning, design, construction and operation of ground water recharge facilities, such as pipeline and channel turnouts, recharge basins and SCADA monitoring systems. The facilities are intended to balance long-term groundwater production with recharge of storm, imported and recycled water.
- * **Water Supply Plan for Impaired Areas of the Basin** (Program Element 3) **and Regional Supplemental Water Program** (Program Element 5) - These elements have been combined since the plan is to expand the capacities of the Chino I and Chino II Desalters and their associated well fields so as to increase potable supplies, maintain groundwater production in an area of rapid urbanization, and remediate legacy contaminant plumes. The desalter plant expansions will continue to discharge brine through the SARI line, thereby removing salt from the basin and enabling the recharge basins to accept recycled water.
- * **Groundwater Management Plan** (Program Element 4) - The purpose of this element is to develop a long-term management plan to minimize land subsidence and ground fissuring.
- * **Cooperative Programs to Improve Basin Management** (Program Element 6) **and a Salt Management Program** (Program Element 7) - Program Element 6 has evolved into a cooperative effort with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board - Santa Ana Region (RWQCB-SAR) to investigate and/or remediate the legacy plumes found in the Chino Basin. Program Element 7 consists of TDS and nitrogen monitoring of both groundwater and surface water pursuant to the 2004 Basin Plan Amendment.
- * **Groundwater Storage Management Program** (Program Element 8) **and Storage and Recovery Program** (Program Element 9) - The planned facilities required to produce groundwater pursuant to an MWDSC Dry Year Yield program have been completed, however there are opportunities for other storage and recovery programs, local or regional.



THE AREA

Watermaster offices are located in Rancho Cucamonga in western San Bernardino County. The San Bernardino Valley and mountains provide a unique climate, from Mediterranean to alpine, within just a few miles and a few thousand feet in elevation. This landscape contains recreational and cultural activities, and a heritage of agricultural living, which has drawn tourists and residents since the late 1800s.

San Bernardino County, with a population over 2 million, is part of the Inland Empire, and is a place where one can find reasonable housing prices near good schools, parks and other attractions and amenities. The County stretches from the greater Los Angeles area to Nevada, encapsulating the Mojave National Preserve, Death Valley, Joshua Tree National Park, Lake Arrowhead and Big Bear Lake. It is the largest county in the contiguous United States by area.

Ontario International Airport is located in the Basin, as is Chino Airport which is known for hosting several well-publicized air shows.

There are numerous four-year colleges and universities, junior colleges and training institutions in the three county area, including California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; University of California, Riverside; California State University, San Bernardino; Loma Linda University & Medical Center; and University of Redlands.

The area offers amenities for everyone to enjoy. These include Auto Club Speedway (a world-class NASCAR race venue), Citizens Business Bank Arena, San Manuel Pavilion, wine tasting, evening entertainment, Las Vegas style gaming, mountain resort activities such as hiking and skiing, proximity to the Palm Springs area and Orange County beaches, many local sports, dining and entertainment venues, and event activities.

KEY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Key challenges and opportunities facing the organization include:

- * Coordinating numerous agencies with divergent needs and views.
- * Maintaining compliance with the court and the Peace Agreements.
- * Financing and implementation of the Recharge Master Plan.
- * Continuing the implementation of desalting and hydraulic control.
- * Dealing with several groundwater contamination plumes (two of specific concern are the Chino Airport and the South Archibald plumes).
- * Overseeing the work of consultants.

THE POSITION

The General Manager provides day-to-day leadership for the Chino Basin Watermaster. He/She receives direction from and is responsible to the Watermaster Board of Directors on all matters pertaining to the administration and operations of the Basin under the provisions of the OBMP. This person is directly responsible for overseeing all other employees of the Watermaster.

The General Manager must keep the Watermaster Board, the Advisory Committee and Pools apprised of all applicable federal, state, regional and local policies regulating Watermaster activities, including but not limited to:

- * Ensuring compliance with the judgment, the Peace Agreements, and the procedures, rules and regulations established by the Watermaster to implement the OBMP and any other court mandates prescribed.

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

[General Manager]

- * Developing and managing the Watermaster budget; understanding and explaining budgetary issues to the Watermaster Board, the Advisory Committee, staff and the community.
- * Providing a motivating work climate for Watermaster employees; building positive and cooperative relationships with staff and Chino Basin producers.
- * Promoting good customer service, ensuring Watermaster employees and contractors accomplish activities in a safe, efficient, friendly and courteous manner; resolving all public and employee complaints quickly and reasonably while encouraging citizen participation.
- * Developing and administering personnel policies and procedures including recruitment, selection, termination, employee relations, training, evaluation and compensation programs.
- * Successfully working in regional and inter-agency affairs.
- * Successfully working on Basin-wide and Statewide water issues.
- * Analyzing conjunctive use, storage and recovery program proposals with other agencies and private industry.
- * Remaining current on legislative issues related to water industry activities and continually educating the Board and staff on developing issues.
- * Carrying out policies set by the Board.

THE CANDIDATE

Education and Experience

- * Desire a bachelor's degree, from an accredited college or university, in business administration, public administration, engineering or a related field. An advanced degree in public/business administration, engineering or a related field is desirable.
- * Requires at least five years of successful progression in a senior management capacity with a public agency or a private organization, including staff supervision. Must have several years of experience in the water industry.
- * Requires knowledge of California water policies and issues, as well as demonstrated experience in inter-agency and Statewide issues.
- * Prefer experience and/or knowledge of the Chino Basin area, although candidates with experience from all areas of California will be considered. A stable employment history is important.
- * Requires possession of or the ability to obtain a valid California driver's license, as well as automobile liability insurance covering all personal vehicles that are operated in connection with the performance of services as General Manager.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

The selected candidate must have excellent project management skills, written and oral communication skills, and interpersonal skills, as well as knowledge of:

- * Business and management principles involved in strategic planning, resource allocation, human resources modeling, leadership technique, production methods, and coordination of people and resources.
- * Finance and budgeting.

- * The impact of adjudication.
- * Principles of groundwater resource management. Principles and practices of effective consultant and human resource management.

In addition, he/she should be able to:

- * Keep the Board, Advisory Committee and Pools fully informed, in a timely and complete manner.
- * Stay abreast of legislation that might impact Chino Basin Watermaster.
- * Contain and solve problems.
- * Exercise tact and diplomacy in dealing with sensitive and complex issues and situations.

Management Style and Personal Traits

The ideal candidate will operate in a transparent manner, build consensus and promote collaboration. He/She should understand and support the "bottom up" nature of the organization and its constituency. In addition, this person should be a mature leader who is self confident, energetic and a facilitator. Finally, he/she should be trustworthy and politically astute.

COMPENSATION

The salary for this position is open, with hiring dependent upon the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate. Typical benefits include: vacation, holidays, sick leave and administrative leave; a cafeteria amount to pay for medical/vision, dental and additional life insurance; retirement through CalPERS (2.5% @ 55) with the employee's portion paid by the employer; Medicare; 457 Deferred Compensation Plan; workers compensation; and insurance programs.

HOW TO APPLY

Send resumes (email preferred) by June 11, 2012 to:

ROBERTS CONSULTING GROUP INC

PO Box 16692
Beverly Hills, CA 90209
Phone: (818) 783-7752
Fax: (818) 783-6377
Email: robertsrcg@msn.com

Equal Opportunity/ADA Employer

Additional information about Chino Basin Watermaster can be found on their website at www.cbwm.org.

