

Sam Bologna

South San Joaquin Irrigation District Board Director- Division 3

Occupation: Retired Engineering Department Manager My

Education and qualifications are:

I retired from South San Joaquin Irrigation District on April 1, 2018, after nearly 47 years with the District. During my tenure, I have been responsible for the completion of numerous capital improvement projects, at substantial savings to the District, and have authored many of the standards and policies that are in place today. I played an essential role in the development of the successful water conservation incentive program. Additionally, I was responsible for the design, project management and implementation of the award-winning state-of-the-art Division 9 Irrigation Enhancement Project. The project involved utilizing a reservoir and pump station to provide pressurized water to the growers that met all their water demand needs. This project was designed to maximize water efficiency by allowing customers to order their water on-line. I was extremely grateful that the District named the reservoir in my honor, upon my retirement.

In the past, it was widely viewed that the District's function was to only provide water service to the farmers. That perception has changed significantly with delivery of treated water to the cities, use of facilities for stormwater, joint groundwater issues, water rights issues, and the potential to provide retail electric services. Being a resident of the City of Manteca for the past 64 years coupled with my institutional knowledge and experience with the District provides me with a unique and diverse perspective that will be beneficial to both urban and rural constituents. I believe strongly that we are all in this together and need to work together toward a common goal. I nurtured and maintained good working relationships with all the public agencies to accomplish those common goals. I also represented the District at the Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Authority dealing with development of a regional groundwater sustainability plan.

The District is at a major turning point and there are many critical challenges ahead such as providing retail electric service, long-range facility improvements, preservation of water rights for a reliable supply for rural and urban use, groundwater sustainability, and adherence to a long range fiscal plan. I am running for this office not because I feel that the District is headed in the wrong direction in those areas but because I feel that my experience and input of new ideas could help shape that direction. I am up to that challenge and respectfully ask for your support.

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