



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

George Lane Returns to Serve as AVEK Director AVEK Directors approve the appointment of George Lane

Palmdale, CA – March 10, 2021 – Former Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency Director George Lane accepted an appointment to fill AVEK’s Division 4 seat, a vacancy created following the untimely death of his 34-year-old son Justin Lane, who was involved in a fatal traffic accident on January 1, 2021.

AVEK Directors, in a 6-0 vote, approved the appointment during their Feb. 9, 2021 Board Meeting, with Board Vice President Frank Donato making the motion to fill the vacancy and Director Robert Parris seconding that motion.

Prior to the vote, AVEK Attorney Tilden Kim recapped the events leading up to the appointment, saying that Directors on an Ad Hoc Committee considered their options on January 4, after consulting with the law firm regarding the direction to take. AVEK officials notified Los Angeles County of the vacancy on January 5, then released a public notice on January 13, seeking Applicants for the Division 4 seat.

Lane, a third-generation Valley resident, submitted his application shortly after the vacancy announcement.

Board President Keith Dyas asked his colleagues if they had any questions for George. Director Shelley Sorsabal, who like her colleagues attended via Zoom, asked “What could you bring to the Agency?”

“Forty years of experience,” George replied. That’s how long he served as the Division 4 Director before stepping down four years ago. “Driving up here brought back memories. I’ll use my experience to help with cost savings.”

Board Vice President Frank Donato asked George. “Are you going to have time to put in? You did a heck of a job when I was working with you.”

George replied “Yes I have the time, I have less commitments than before and I don’t foresee taking on any other commitments,”

Comments to George from other AVEK Directors included: “you would be an incredible addition” and “thank you for serving again.”

In addition to his decades of experience serving AVEK, Lane is President of Monte Vista Company, a local business founded in 1953. He also co-operates Lane Ranch & Co with his wife Charlene, which supplies livestock and equipment to the motion picture industry of which George is a member of the Screen Actors Guild.

Tilden Kim, on Zoom, administered the oath of office to George.

ABOUT AVEK

3rd largest State Water Contractor in California - In 1959, AVEK received its charter as a regional water Agency from the State Legislature. In 1962 AVEK's Board of Directors signed a contract with the state to secure the delivery of water supplies intended to supplement the local groundwater. AVEK became the 3rd largest State Water Contractor with an entitlement of 144,844 acre-feet. Through the optimization of water resources and development of groundwater storage, the Agency maintains a reliable, sustainable and affordable water supply. Serving over 20 municipal users along with Edwards Air Force Base, Plant 42 and U.S. Borax within a 2300 mile territory that includes portions Los Angeles, Kern and Ventura Counties, the agency plays a vital role in supporting future regional economic development and national defense programs.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Dwayne Chisam
General Manager, AVEK

661-234-7645

dchisam@avek.org

###