

**From:** [Richard Silver](#)  
**To:** [Arlene Tavani](#)  
**Subject:** Kate Daniels Kurz/MPWMD  
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Chair Clarke and Members of the Board of Directors:

I understand that you will consider the appointment of a new director to an open seat on Monday. I write in support of Ms. Daniels and to encourage the Board's favorable consideration of her to that appointment.

As many of you may know I was honored to serve as a Superior Court Judge in our County from 1977 to 2002. During this time I was involved in many of the legal issues involving our water supply, both on the Peninsula and the Salinas Valley, and with the unique environmental issues that make this County such a wonderful place to live but which also need our continual vigilance to preserve and protect. In that regard I presided over the first case brought by the State relative to the Carmel Valley River and signed the Settlement Agreement that provided the time and incentive to develop other critical water projects. We all know the issues and delays that followed and the present critical need to act now or jeopardize the water supply to the Peninsula. Over the years I continued to be involved in those issues. In addition I presided over the water related issues in the Salinas Valley and the problems of salt water intrusion. Suffice it to say "water" and "the environment" were a major part of "my life" on the Bench and, since my retirement, have been a continued focus of my concerns whether privately or in various cases that I have assisted in mediating. All of us living on the Peninsula and in the County must work together to seek and analyze solutions that meet the very Mission of MPWMD and to offer our cooperative support to the Board. I believe my background has provided me a unique insight into these issues.

So, why do I support Ms. Daniels?

I have known her since she was born at Community Hospital many years ago. I have watched her grow, mature, and develop into an extremely bright, caring, and concerned member of our community.

Kate has always approached all issues in her life with energy, a "problem solving attitude", and an abundant concern for the area in which we all live whether it be the "human needs" or the importance of the plant and animal life that thrive in our County. Continuing the progress that the Board has made in the last years and understanding the dynamics and responsibilities moving forward both with the passage of Measure J and separately needs leadership with that energy, cooperative spirit, willingness to listen to all solutions, and a knowledge base upon which to build viable solutions.

I firmly believe that Kate will bring all of these attributes to the Board. She has lived in District 5 all of her life. Her work with Supervisor Adams over the last few years had provided her with the knowledge base to understand not only the needs of District 5 but all areas within the MPWMD area of concern. I know from my many discussions with her that she is not wedded to a particular result but to the best result for the district and County. She has a unique ability to listen to all positions and, just as importantly, help to guide and build consensus for fiscally and environmentally appropriate solutions.

Finally, she will never be just a “sit back” and let others do the hard work type of person. She has always “rolled up her sleeves” and been willing to get down into the trenches to do what is necessary to find solutions that work for all of us. Whatever it may be, she takes her responsibilities seriously.

I trust in her judgment. I hope that you will also. For these reasons I strongly urge your favorable consideration of her for the vacant seat.

Thank you.

Richard Silver, Judge (ret.)

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"Grief can take care of itself, but to get the full value of a joy you must have somebody to divide it with."

- Mark Twain