Zone 7 Swears in Board Members

One newcomer, three re-elected directors pledge to ensure water quality and reliability, and enhance flood protection

Livermore – Three incumbents and one new member were sworn inWednesday night to the Zone 7 Board of Directors following their elections by Livermore-Amador Valley voters on June 6.

The agency is the water wholesaler for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and provides flood protection to all of eastern Alameda County.

New to the board is Sarah Palmer, a biochemist who teaches high school environmental science with the Tri-Valley Regional Occupational Program.

She took her oath of office along with re-elected board members John Greci and Steve Kalthoff, who have served on the board since 1994; and another incumbent, Bill Stevens, who has served since 1998.

The Zone 7 board has a total of seven members and the terms of three -- Jim Concannon, Jim Kohnen and Dick Quigley -- won't expire for another two years.

Also on Wednesday, the board elected Concannon its president for the 2006-07 fiscal year that started June 30, and Stevens its vice president.

Palmer serves on the boards of both Environmental Health and Safety at Las Positas College and Tri-Valley Educational Collaborative Science Symposium. She has taught in Lawrence Livermore Laboratory's environmental science academy.

"I am excited about working with such a group of high-caliber people, and am happy to bring some additional scientific perspective to the board," Palmer said. "I'll do my best to live up to the trust shown by the people who elected me."

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Zone 7 Water Agency is one of the 10 active zones of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The District was established by the State Legislature in October 1949 to solve problems of flooding, drainage, channel erosion and water supply and conservation in Alameda County. In 1957, by popular vote, Zone 7 became a special district governed by a seven-member board of directors. Along with flood protection, Zone 7 supplies water to all of eastern Alameda County and a population of more than 190,000. Treated water is sold wholesale to local retailers, including the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, the Dublin San Ramon Services District, and the California Water Service Company. Zone 7 also distributes untreated water to local agriculture operations and golf courses.