

## Westlands Water District

3130 N. Fresno Street, P.O. Box 6056, Fresno, California 93703-6056, (559) 224-1523, FAX (559) 241-6277

PRESS RELEASE June 24, 2016 For Immediate Release Contact: Gayle Holman (559) 241-6233

## Statement by Don Peracchi, President of the Board of Directors of the Westlands Water District

**FRESNO, CA** - The Westlands Water District Board of Directors decided to separate the role of General Manager and General Counsel in order to improve the District's decision-making processes and provide an additional layer of review for the District. The Legal Affairs Committee of the Board will immediately begin a search to hire a new General Counsel.

The Board concluded that the complexities involved in securing water supply, groundwater management, and other challenges facing the District require the full attention of the General Manager. The new General Counsel will have the responsibility of providing legal advice on proposed changes to existing policies, new policies, personnel matters, and any other matters requested by the Board.

The Board believes the new organizational structure will promote more transparency and good government practices, and represents the beginning of a process to improve the decision-making and operations of the District.

The new General Counsel will report directly to the Board, and will begin by reviewing current policies and working with the Board to implement changes directed by the Board.