

SJW CORP

Form DEF 14A

March 04, 2016

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

PROXY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(A)

OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

(AMENDMENT NO. )

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Under § 240.14a-12

SJW Corp.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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No fee required.

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SJW CORP.

Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders

To Be Held On April 27, 2016

To Our Shareholders:

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of shareholders of SJW Corp. will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 9:00 AM Pacific Time at the principal offices of SJW Corp., 110 W. Taylor Street, San Jose, California, for the following purposes, as more fully described in the proxy statement accompanying this Notice:

1. To elect nine directors to serve on the Board of Directors of SJW Corp.;
2. To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of SJW Corp. for fiscal year 2016; and
3. To act upon such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The Board of Directors has set the close of business on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 as the record date for determining the shareholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting and at any adjournment or postponement thereof. You are cordially invited to attend the meeting in person. You may call our offices at (408) 918-7231 for directions to our principal offices in order to attend the meeting in person. Your vote is important. Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, please vote as soon as possible. You may vote by telephone, via the Internet or by mailing a completed proxy card. For detailed information regarding voting instructions, please refer to the section entitled "Voting Procedure" on page 2 of the proxy statement. You may revoke a previously delivered proxy at any time prior to the meeting. If you attend the meeting and wish to change your proxy vote, you may do so automatically by voting in person.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE SHAREHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON APRIL 27, 2016: A COPY OF THE PROXY STATEMENT, THE FORM OF PROXY, AND THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON DECEMBER 31, 2015 ARE AVAILABLE AT <http://www.rrdezproxy.com/2016/sjwcorp>.**

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W. Richard Roth

President, Chief Executive Officer  
and Chairman of the Board

San Jose, California

March 4, 2016

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>PURPOSE OF MEETING</u>	1
<u>VOTING RIGHTS AND SOLICITATION</u>	1
<u>Voting</u>	1
<u>Quorum and Votes Required</u>	2
<u>Voting Procedure</u>	2
<u>Proxy Solicitation Costs</u>	3
<u>PROPOSAL 1-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS</u>	4
<u>General</u>	4
<u>Business Experience of Nominees</u>	5
<u>Experience, Qualifications, Attributes and Skills of Board Members</u>	6
<u>Independent Directors</u>	9
<u>Board Leadership Structure</u>	9
<u>Board's Role in Risk Oversight</u>	10
<u>Board Committees</u>	10
<u>Communications with the Board</u>	12
<u>Code of Ethical Business Conduct</u>	12
<u>Board Meetings</u>	13
<u>Compensation of Directors</u>	13
<u>Recommendation of the Board of Directors</u>	19
<u>PROPOSAL 2-RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED ACCOUNTING FIRM</u>	20
<u>General</u>	20
<u>Principal Independent Accountants' Fees and Services</u>	20
<u>Recommendation of the Board of Directors</u>	20
<u>OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES</u>	21
<u>Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>	21
<u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management</u>	21
<u>EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND RELATED INFORMATION</u>	25
<u>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</u>	25
<u>Summary Compensation Table</u>	40
<u>Grants of Plan-Based Awards</u>	43
<u>Risk Assessment of Compensation Policies and Practices</u>	45
<u>Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End</u>	48
<u>Option Exercises and Stock Vested</u>	50
<u>Pension Benefits</u>	51
<u>Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation</u>	55
<u>Employment Agreements, Termination of Employment and Change in Control Arrangements</u>	56
<u>Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans</u>	62
<u>Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation</u>	62
<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>	63
<u>Annual Report of the Audit Committee</u>	63
<u>Annual Report of the Executive Compensation Committee</u>	63
<u>CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS</u>	64
<u>SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS</u>	64
<u>FORM 10-K</u>	65
<u>OTHER MATTERS</u>	65



SJW CORP.

110 W. Taylor Street  
San Jose, California 95110

Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders  
To Be Held on April 27, 2016

The enclosed proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors of SJW Corp., a California corporation ("SJW Corp." or the "Corporation"), for use at SJW Corp.'s annual meeting of shareholders to be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 9:00 AM Pacific Time and at any adjournment or postponement thereof. The annual meeting will be held at the principal offices of the Corporation, 110 W. Taylor Street in San Jose, California.

These proxy solicitation materials are being mailed on or about March 16, 2016 to all shareholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting of shareholders. SJW Corp.'s 2015 Annual Report, which includes its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, accompanies these proxy solicitation materials.

#### PURPOSE OF MEETING

The Board of Directors has called the annual meeting of shareholders for the following purposes:

1. To elect nine directors to serve on the Board of Directors of SJW Corp.;
2. To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of SJW Corp. for fiscal year 2016; and
3. To act upon such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The Board of Directors asks for your proxy for each of the foregoing proposals.

#### VOTING RIGHTS AND SOLICITATION

##### Voting

Only shareholders of record on March 1, 2016, the record date, will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting. As of the close of business on March 1, 2016, there were 20,418,127 shares of common stock issued and outstanding.

Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote on each matter presented at the meeting, except in connection with the election of directors where shareholders are entitled to cumulate votes. When shareholders are entitled to cumulate votes, every shareholder, or his or her proxy, may cumulate his or her votes and give one candidate a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected multiplied by the number of shares owned by such shareholder.

Alternately, a shareholder may distribute his or her votes on the same principle among as many candidates as he or she thinks fit. For example, assume you have 100 shares. There are nine directors to be elected at the annual meeting so you have a total of  $9 \times 100 = 900$  votes. You could give all 900 votes to one nominee, or 300 votes to each of three nominees, or 100 votes to each of the nine nominees. No shareholder or proxy, however, shall be entitled to cumulate votes unless: (1) the candidate(s) has been placed in nomination prior to the voting, and (2) the shareholder has given written notice to the chairman at the meeting prior to any voting that the shareholder intends to cumulate the shareholder's votes. If any one shareholder has given such notice, all shareholders may cumulate their votes for candidates in nomination. The Board of Directors seeks, by your proxy, the authority to cumulate votes among the directors listed in Proposal 1 in the manner determined by the proxy holder in his or her discretion in the event that any shareholder invokes cumulative voting. The nine nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected directors.

### Quorum and Votes Required

A majority of the Corporation's outstanding shares of common stock must be present in person or represented by proxy at the annual meeting in order to constitute a quorum. Abstentions and broker non-votes (shares held of record by brokers for which the required voting instructions are not provided by the beneficial owners of those shares) are included in the number of shares present for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present for the transaction of business. If a broker or other nominee holds shares in its name on behalf of a shareholder, the broker or nominee is not permitted to vote those shares on Proposal 1 in the absence of voting instructions from that shareholder. The broker or nominee is permitted to vote on Proposal 2 in the absence of voting instructions from the shareholders, therefore the Corporation does not expect any broker non-votes for Proposal 2.

For Proposal 1, directors are elected by a plurality of votes, therefore the nine director nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes will be elected. Broker non-votes will have no effect on Proposal 1.

Proposal 2 requires for approval the affirmative vote of (i) a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or represented by proxy and voting at the annual meeting and (ii) a majority of the shares of common stock required to constitute a quorum. Abstentions will have no effect on determining whether the affirmative vote constitutes a majority of the shares present or represented by proxy and voting at the annual meeting. However, approval of Proposal 2 also requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares necessary to constitute a quorum, and therefore abstentions could prevent the approval of Proposal 2 because they do not count as affirmative votes.

### Voting Procedure

Shareholders of record may vote via the Internet, by telephone, by mailing a completed proxy card prior to the annual meeting, by delivering a completed proxy card at the annual meeting, or by voting in person at the annual meeting. Instructions for voting via the Internet or by telephone are set forth on the enclosed proxy card. The Internet and telephone voting facilities will close at 11:59 PM Eastern Time on April 26, 2016. If the enclosed form of proxy is properly signed, dated and returned, the shares represented thereby will be voted at the annual meeting in accordance with the instructions specified thereon. If voting instructions are not specified on the proxy, the shares represented by that proxy (if that proxy is not revoked) will be voted at the annual meeting FOR the election of the director nominees listed in Proposal 1 and FOR the ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm as described in Proposal 2, and as the proxy holder may determine in his or her discretion with respect to any other matter that properly comes before the annual meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE ACCOMPANYING PROXY CARD WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE MEETING IN PERSON.**

You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is actually voted at the meeting by:

• Delivering written notice of revocation to the Corporate Secretary at SJW Corp., 110 W. Taylor Street, San Jose, California 95110;

• Submitting a later dated proxy; or

• Attending the meeting and voting in person.

Your attendance at the meeting will not, by itself, constitute a revocation of your proxy.

You may also be represented by another person present at the meeting by executing a form of proxy designating that person to act on your behalf. Shares may only be voted by or on behalf of the record holder of shares as indicated in the stock transfer records of the Corporation. If you are a beneficial owner of shares, but those shares are held of record by another person such as a stock brokerage firm or bank, then you must provide voting instructions to the appropriate record holder so that such person can vote those shares. In the absence of such voting instructions from you, the record holder may not be entitled to vote those shares.

**Proxy Solicitation Costs**

The Corporation will bear the entire cost of this solicitation of proxies, including the preparation, assembly, printing, and mailing of this proxy statement, the proxy, and any additional solicitation materials that the Corporation may provide to shareholders. Copies of solicitation materials will be provided to brokerage firms, fiduciaries and custodians holding shares in their names that are beneficially owned by others so that they may forward the solicitation material to such beneficial owners. The Corporation will reimburse the brokerage firms, fiduciaries and custodians holding shares in their names for reasonable expenses incurred by them in sending solicitation materials to its beneficial shareholders. The solicitation of proxies will be made by regular or first class mail and may also be made by telephone, telegraph, facsimile, electronic mail or personally by directors, officers and employees of the Corporation who will receive no extra compensation for such services.

PROPOSAL 1  
ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

General

Nine directors, which will constitute the entire Board of Directors following the annual meeting, are to be elected at the annual meeting, to hold office until the next annual meeting and until a successor for such director is elected and qualified, or until the death, resignation or removal of such director. Mr. Mark Cali, a current member of the Board of Directors, is not standing for reelection as a nominee for director at the annual meeting, and Debra Man is a new board nominee.

Unless individual shareholders specify otherwise, each returned proxy will be voted FOR the election of the nine nominees who are listed below, each of whom has been nominated by the existing Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the Nominating & Governance Committee. Debra Man was recommended as a nominee by Walter J. Bishop. All other nominees are current directors of SJW Corp., San Jose Water Company, a wholly owned subsidiary, and SJW Land Company, another wholly owned subsidiary of SJW Corp. SJW Corp. intends to appoint all persons elected as directors of SJW Corp. at the annual meeting to be the directors of San Jose Water Company and SJW Land Company for a concurrent term. It is anticipated that five of the individuals elected as directors of SJW Corp. at the annual meeting will also be appointed as directors of SJWTX, Inc. and Texas Water Alliance Limited, two wholly owned subsidiaries of SJW Corp., for a concurrent term.

In the unanticipated event that a nominee is unable or declines to serve as a director at the time of the annual meeting, proxies will be voted for any nominee named by the present Board of Directors to fill the vacancy. As of the date of this proxy statement, SJW Corp. is not aware of any nominee who is unable or will decline to serve as a director.

The following sets forth certain information concerning the nominees for directors of SJW Corp.:

Name	Age	Director Since	Position with the Corporation	Committee Membership
Katharine Armstrong	63	2009	Director	Executive Compensation Committee Nominating & Governance Committee (Chair) Audit Committee
Walter J. Bishop	64	2012	Director	Nominating & Governance Committee Real Estate Committee Audit Committee (Chair)
Douglas R. King	73	2003	Director	Nominating & Governance Committee
Debra Man	62	N/A	Nominee for Director	N/A
Daniel B. More	59	2015	Director	Audit Committee
Ronald B. Moskovitz	72	2010	Director	Audit Committee Executive Compensation Committee (Chair)
George E. Moss	84	2009 (1)	Director	Nominating & Governance Committee
W. Richard Roth	63	1994	President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board	Real Estate Committee
Robert A. Van Valer	66	2006	Director	Nominating & Governance Committee

(1) Mr. Moss was a Board member of the Corporation from 1985 until April 30, 2008 and was re-elected on May 6, 2009.



#### Business Experience of Nominees

Katharine Armstrong, President of Natural Resources Solutions ("NRS") since 2008. Ms. Armstrong was the President of Katharine Armstrong, Inc. from 2003 until 2014. Ms. Armstrong founded NRS in 2008, an Austin, Texas based company that works in partnership with universities, agencies of state and federal government, stakeholder groups and others to identify and implement positive solutions to environmental challenges created by regulatory mandates. Ms. Armstrong also served as a director of Uranium Energy Corp. from June 2012 until June 2014.

Walter J. Bishop, Principal in Walter Bishop Consulting, a firm dedicated to utility management, leadership development, and strategic and business planning since 2010. Mr. Bishop was the General Manager and acted as the Chief Executive Officer of the Contra Costa Water District (the "District") from September 1992 until 2010. The District serves 600,000 customers in Northern California's Contra Costa County. From 1983 until 1992, he worked for the East Bay Municipal Utility District in Northern California, including serving as its General Manager. Mr. Bishop has served as a Board Member, Chairman and Officer of numerous water industry organizations dedicated to water supply and utility management. Mr. Bishop is a registered civil engineer in the State of California, and holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Duke University and a Masters in Public Administration from Pepperdine University.

Douglas R. King, Retired as an audit partner of Ernst & Young LLP in 2002. During his career, Mr. King was the audit partner on large, complex public registrants, he managed Ernst & Young's San Francisco office, and had regional managing responsibilities. He also serves as a director of Adaptive Spectrum & Signal Alignment, Inc. and Silicon Graphics International Corp. He served as a director of Marvell Technology Group, Ltd. from April 2004 until October 2007, Fuel Systems Solutions, Inc. from April 2006 until July 2010, and Westport Innovations Inc. from January 2012 until November 2015. Mr. King is a Certified Public Accountant with a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas.

Debra Man, Assistant General Manager and Chief Operating Officer at The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California ("Metropolitan") since December 2003. Metropolitan is a wholesale water utility that provides water to a six-county service area in which over 19 million people reside. She is responsible for managing the operational business functions of Metropolitan, including operations, engineering, water resource management, and budget and regulatory compliance. Ms. Man has been with Metropolitan since 1986. Ms. Man is a registered engineer in California and Hawaii and holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from University of Hawaii and a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from Stanford University.

Daniel B. More, Retired as a Managing Director and Global Head of Utility Mergers & Acquisitions of the Investment Banking Division of Morgan Stanley in 2014. He held such position since 1996. Mr. More has been an investment banker since 1978 and has specialized in the utility sector since 1986. He serves as a director of Saeta Yield since February 2015 and served as a director of the New York Independent System Operator from April 2014 until February 2016. Mr. More received his B.A. in economics from Colby College in 1978 and his Master of Business Administration in Finance from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1983.

Ronald B. Moskovitz, Counsel to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP since October 2008. He was a partner at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP from 2003 until October 2008. Prior to 2003, he was a partner at Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison LLP, where at various times he was a member of its management committee and headed its Corporate Group and its Mergers and Acquisitions Group. Mr. Moskovitz's practice has emphasized on mergers, acquisitions and corporate finance. Mr. Moskovitz received his J.D., magna cum laude, from Harvard University in 1968, and his B.A., cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa, from Williams College in 1965.

George E. Moss, Chairman of Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company, manufacturer of water well casing and screen and water transmission pipe, since May 2010 and Vice Chairman from 1990 to May 2010. Mr. Moss was formerly President of the Roscoe Moss Company until 1990. Mr. Moss was a Board member of the Corporation from 1985 until April 30, 2008 and was re-elected on May 6, 2009.

W. Richard Roth, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of the Corporation, San Jose Water Company, SJW Land Company, and SJW TX, Inc. Mr. Roth is also the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Texas Water Alliance Limited. Mr. Roth was appointed Chief Executive Officer of SJW Corp. in



1999 and President in 1996. Prior to becoming President, he was Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Corporation from 1990 to 1996 and Vice President from April 1992 until October 1996.

Robert A. Van Valer, President of Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company, manufacturer of water well casing and screen and water transmission pipe, since 1990. Mr. Van Valer served as Vice President from 1984 until 1990 and previously managed domestic and international water well construction projects since joining Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company in 1977.

No nominee or current director has any family relationship with any other current director, nominee or with any executive officer. Other than Mr. Roth, whose employment relationships with SJW Corp. and its subsidiaries are described above, no nominee is or has been employed by SJW Corp. or its subsidiaries during the past five years.

Experience, Qualifications, Attributes and Skills of Board Members

The biographies included above and the following table describe the particular experience, qualifications, attributes or skills that led the Board of Directors to conclude that each continuing director and nominee should serve as a director of SJW Corp. at this time, in light of its business and structure (in addition to any past experience on the Board of Directors of SJW Corp. and its subsidiaries):

Name	Particular Experience, Qualifications, Attributes or Skills
Katharine Armstrong	<p>The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Ms. Armstrong brings to the Board of Directors contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's operations in a heavily-regulated industry, its management of its water supply, its administration of executive officer compensation programs through the Executive Compensation Committee, and its commitment to community involvement. In addition to the items listed in the biographical data above, such experience, qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:</p>

- Chairman of the Armstrong Center for Energy and the Environment, a Texas public policy foundation
- President of Natural Resources Solutions since 2008, an environmental consulting company based in Austin, Texas
- Former Chairman of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, 2<sup>nd</sup> largest wildlife agency in the United States
- Extensive experience in a wide variety of natural resource regulatory policy, including water
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Watershed Management Foundation
- Participated in the formulation of a Land and Water Resources Conservation Plan, a strategic plan mandated by the Texas Legislature
- Past President of Texan by Nature, a state-wide conservation initiative founded by Laura Bush, former First Lady of the United States
- Active in the State of Texas where the Corporation conducts business operations through its wholly owned subsidiary, SJWTX, Inc.

Walter J. Bishop	<p>The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Mr. Bishop brings to the Board of Directors contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's operations in a heavily-regulated industry, its management of its water supply, and its commitment to community involvement. In addition to the items listed in the biographical data above,</p>
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such experience, qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:

- Extensive experience leading and managing major water utilities in the United States with over one million customers
  
- Nationally recognized leader and engineer in the water and wastewater industry for over 40 years and received awards from numerous organizations for his commitment to water issues and policy

Name	Particular Experience, Qualifications, Attributes or Skills
Douglas R. King	<p>Member of the American Water Works Association's ("AWWA") Board of Directors and Executive Committee and served on the Water Utility Council, International Council and Strategic Planning Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Past Chair of the Water Research Foundation and member of the Board of Trustees for 12 years</li><li>- Two-term member of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council which is chartered by Congress to advise the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on national drinking water policy</li><li>- Member of Aspen Institute expert panel on Water Infrastructure Sustainability</li></ul> <p>The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Mr. King brings to the Board of Directors contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's financial reporting requirements and corporate governance. In addition to the items listed in the biographical data above, such experience, qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Accounting, finance and audit experience, including his experience at Ernst &amp; Young LLP from 1970 until 2002</li><li>- Serves as the Corporation's "audit committee financial expert" as defined in Securities and Exchange Commission rules</li><li>- Experience serving on the Board and Audit Committee of various publicly-traded companies</li><li>- Experience in managing 400 employees at Ernst &amp; Young LLP from 1998 until 2002</li></ul>
Debra Man	<p>The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Ms. Man would bring to the Board of Directors would contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's operations in a heavily-regulated industry and its management of its water supply. In addition to the items listed in the biographical data above, such experience, qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Experience in managing utility operations and capital investments, including managing an annual budget of over \$1.4 billion</li><li>- Experience as an executive officer responsible for compliance with federal and state drinking water quality regulations and workforce safety laws</li><li>- Experience negotiating labor contracts</li><li>- Experience maintaining over 100,000 acres of properties for operational use by a utility</li></ul>
Daniel B. More	<p>The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Mr. More brings to the Board of Directors contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's financial reporting requirements and consideration of potential acquisitions and dispositions by the Corporation. In addition to the items listed in the biographical data above, such experience,</p>

qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:

- Over 30 years of experience in investment banking, including capital raising, privatizations, and mergers and acquisitions with specialization in the utility sector since 1986
- Experience and knowledge in business strategy, strategic initiatives, corporate governance, and executive recruiting
- Experience and knowledge of utility regulation, cost of capital proceedings and the rate making process

Name Particular Experience, Qualifications, Attributes or Skills  
The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Mr. Moskowitz brings to the Board of Directors contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's financial reporting requirements, corporate governance, its administration of executive officer compensation programs through the Executive Compensation Committee, and consideration of potential acquisitions and dispositions by the Corporation. In addition to the items listed in the biographical data above, such experience, qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:

Ronald B. Moskowitz

- Extensive experience in corporate legal practice for over 40 years with major law firms in Northern California, including work in corporate finance, public company reporting and transactional work
- Experience on the Corporation's Audit Committee and Executive Compensation Committee
- Familiarity with the business and affairs of the Corporation based on many years of legal representation prior to his retirement from active practice in 2008
- Law firm management experience

George E. Moss

The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Mr. Moss brings to the Board of Directors relate primarily to his long years of experience in the water industry that allow him to contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's operations, through its wholly owned subsidiaries San Jose Water Company and SJWTX, Inc., in that heavily-regulated industry. In addition to the items listed in the biographical data above, such experience, qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:

- Over 60 years experience in groundwater development, water well design, water treatment, and sustainability
- Over 30 years experience in the water utility industry
- Experience and knowledge in executive compensation, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic initiatives
- Recipient of the Oliver Award from the National Groundwater Association for lifetime contributions to the field of groundwater development

Mr. Moss has a substantial economic interest in the Corporation through his beneficial ownership of approximately 9.3 percent of the outstanding shares of the Corporation's common stock.

W. Richard Roth

The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Mr. Roth brings to the Board of Directors contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's operations in a heavily-regulated industry, its management of its water supply, and the Corporation's execution of its overall strategy. Such experience, qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:

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Current President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of the Corporation and has been an officer of the Corporation since 1990

- Former President of the National Association of Water Companies and Trustee of the Water Research Foundation
- Certified public accountant with over 10 years of experience with KPMG LLP, a registered public accounting firm
- Significant experience and knowledge in strategic initiatives, real estate, and corporate governance

Mr. Roth is also active in the San Jose community and contributes to the Board's goal of establishing significant relationships between the Corporation and the leaders of local communities.



Name	Particular Experience, Qualifications, Attributes or Skills
Robert A. Van Valer	The principal experience, qualifications and skills that Mr. Van Valer brings to the Board of Directors relate primarily to his substantial experience in the water industry that allows him to contribute to the Board's oversight of the Corporation's operations, through its wholly owned subsidiaries San Jose Water Company and SJWTX, Inc., in that heavily-regulated industry. In addition to the items listed in the biographical data above, such experience, qualifications and skills may be summarized as follows:

- Over 38 years of water industry experience, including water well construction, domestic and foreign, and manufacturing operations and management for water well casing and screen and water transmission pipe
- President since 1990 of Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company, supplier to municipal, state and federal water projects and investor owned utilities in the western United States
- Participation in several industry non-profit and educational organizations and groundwater associations

#### Independent Directors

The Board of Directors has affirmatively determined that each of its directors who served during the 2015 fiscal year, current directors and nominees, other than W. Richard Roth, SJW Corp.'s Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer, is independent within the meaning of the New York Stock Exchange director independence standards, as currently in effect.

In connection with the determination of independence for Robert A. Van Valer and George E. Moss, the Board of Directors considered the Corporation's relationship with Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company, an intermittent supplier of the Corporation and its subsidiaries. Mr. Moss is Chairman of the Board and a significant shareholder and Mr. Van Valer is the President and a shareholder of Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company. Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company sold Rossum Sand Tester equipment and associated repair parts to San Jose Water Company, the Corporation's wholly owned subsidiary, for an aggregate price of approximately \$6,029 in 2013, \$3,840 in 2014 and \$1,596 in 2015. In addition, Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company sold conductor casing, well casing and screen and gravel and sounding pipe for water wells with an aggregate price of approximately \$927,162 in 2013 and approximately \$450,606 in 2014 to contractors for use in San Jose Water Company well replacement construction projects. The Board of Directors concluded that the Corporation's relationship with Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company is not a material relationship and therefore would not impair the independence of Mr. Van Valer and Mr. Moss in light of the fact that the aggregate sales of Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company to the Corporation and contractors for use in San Jose Water Company construction projects were equal to or less than one and a half percent of Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company's gross revenues in 2013, 2014, and 2015, and Mr. Van Valer and Mr. Moss expect that direct and indirect purchases of products from Roscoe Moss Manufacturing Company will be less than two percent of its revenue in future years.

The Board of Directors has determined that the members of the Audit Committee and the members of the Executive Compensation Committee also meet the additional independence criteria promulgated by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and the New York Stock Exchange for audit committee membership and executive compensation committee membership, respectively.

#### Board Leadership Structure

Board structures vary greatly among U.S. public corporations, and the Board does not believe that any one leadership structure is more effective at creating long-term stockholder value. The Board believes that an effective leadership structure could be achieved either by combining or separating the Chair and Chief Executive Officer positions, so long as the structure encourages the free and open dialogue of competing views and provides for strong checks and balances.

The positions of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer are held by W. Richard Roth. The Board also appointed Robert A. Van Valer, an independent director, as the lead independent director of the Board. The Board of Directors believes that combining the Chair and Chief Executive Officer positions and having a lead independent

director is the appropriate leadership structure for the Corporation at this time. Combining the Chair and Chief Executive Officer roles fosters clear accountability, effective decision-making, and alignment on corporate strategy and value creation. The Board believes that Mr. Roth is in an optimal position to identify and to lead Board discussions on important matters related to business operations. The Board believes this leadership structure is particularly appropriate for the Corporation at this time given Mr. Roth's long tenure with the Corporation, his many years of experience in managing the Corporation in the regulated water utility industry and his familiarity with the challenges and intricacies of such regulatory environment.

As the lead independent director, Mr. Van Valer assumes the following duties and responsibilities: (i) advise and consult with the Chair regarding the information provided to directors in connection with Board meetings, (ii) ensure that independent directors have adequate opportunities to meet and discuss issues in executive sessions or at separate meetings without management being present and preside at such executive sessions and meetings, (iii) serve as principal liaison between the independent directors and the Chair, (iv) chair the meetings of the Board when the Chair is not present, and (v) respond directly to shareholders and other stakeholder questions and comments that are directed to the lead independent director or to the independent directors as a group. The Board believes that this leadership structure provides strong, unified leadership of the Corporation while maintaining effective and independent oversight of management. Nevertheless, the Board will continue to consider from time to time whether the new leadership structure should be maintained or modified.

#### Board's Role in Risk Oversight

The Corporation has implemented an internal risk assessment process that focuses on the principal risks that have been identified for the Corporation, including risks associated with the Corporation's regulatory environment, business operations and continuity, compliance requirements, its information technology and data storage and retrieval facilities, insurance coverage, liquidity, credit and other financial risks, internal controls over financial reporting, risks related to potential fraudulent activities and any material risks posed by the Corporation's compensation policies. Potential risks are reviewed and discussed by the Board of Directors on a regular basis. The Audit Committee, pursuant to its charter, meets periodically with employees to discuss the identified risks and the measures taken to control, manage and mitigate those risks. On the basis of these meetings and discussions, the Chairman of the Audit Committee reports periodically to the full Board. In addition, the Executive Compensation Committee oversees risk management as it relates to the compensation plans, policies and practices for all employees, including executive officers, particularly whether the compensation programs may create incentives for employees to take excessive or inappropriate risks which could have a material adverse effect on the Company. The Nominating and Governance Committee monitors the effectiveness of the corporate governance guidelines and policies and manages risks associated with the independence of the Board of Directors and qualification of directors and nominees for directors.

#### Board Committees

The Board of Directors has a standing Audit Committee, Executive Compensation Committee, Nominating & Governance Committee, and Real Estate Committee. The Board has the authority to form additional committees, and has done so from time to time, to address matters specifically identified by the Board.

#### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee was established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"). The Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in its oversight of the integrity of the financial reports and other financial information provided by the Corporation to any governmental body or the public, the Corporation's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the Corporation's systems of internal controls, the qualifications and independence of the independent accountants, and the quality of the Corporation's accounting and financial reporting processes generally. Messrs. King, Bishop, More and Moskovitz are the current Audit Committee members. These members are independent as such term is defined pursuant to the Exchange Act and the corporate governance listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange with respect to audit committee members. The Board of Directors has determined that Mr. King is an "audit committee financial expert" as defined in Securities and Exchange Commission rules. The Audit Committee held eight meetings during fiscal year 2015. The Audit Committee has a written charter which may be found at the Corporation's website at [www.sjwcorp.com](http://www.sjwcorp.com).



#### Executive Compensation Committee

The Executive Compensation Committee assists the Board of Directors in its responsibilities with respect to the compensation of the Corporation's executive officers and other key employees, and administers all employee benefit plans, including the Corporation's Long-Term Incentive Plan, Executive Officer Short-Term Incentive Plan and other incentive plans that may be adopted by the Corporation. The Executive Compensation Committee is also authorized to approve the compensation payable to the Corporation's executive officers and other key employees, approve all perquisites, equity incentive awards and special cash payments made or paid to executive officers and other key employees, and approve severance packages with cash and/or equity components for the executive officers and other key employees. Additionally, the Executive Compensation Committee reviews and recommends to the Board of Directors appropriate director compensation programs.

The Executive Compensation Committee retained Mercer (US) Inc. to serve as the committee's independent compensation consultant and provide advice on executive officer and director compensation for the 2015 fiscal year. The role of such consultant, the nature and scope of the consultant's assignments and the material elements of the instructions or directions given to the consultant with respect to the performance of its duties are more fully set forth below in the section entitled "Compensation Discussion and Analysis." The consultant only provided advice or recommendations on executive officer and director compensation matters in 2015. No additional services were provided by the consultant or any affiliate to SJW Corp. or its subsidiaries in 2015.

Ms. Armstrong and Messrs. Cali and Moskovitz are the current members of the Executive Compensation Committee. These members are independent as such term is defined pursuant to the Exchange Act and the corporate governance listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange with respect to compensation committee members. The Executive Compensation Committee held five meetings during fiscal year 2015. The Executive Compensation Committee has a written charter which may be found at the Corporation's website at [www.sjwcorp.com](http://www.sjwcorp.com).

#### Nominating & Governance Committee

The Nominating & Governance Committee is charged by the Board of Directors with reviewing and proposing changes to the Corporation's corporate governance policies, developing criteria for evaluating performance of the Board of Directors, determining the requirements and qualifications for members of the Board of Directors and proposing to the Board of Directors nominees for the position of director of the Corporation. Ms. Armstrong and Messrs. Bishop, King, Moss, and Van Valer are the current Nominating & Governance Committee members. The Board of Directors has determined that all of the members of the Nominating & Governance Committee are independent as defined under the independence standards for nominating committee members in the listing standards for the New York Stock Exchange. The Nominating & Governance Committee held four meetings during fiscal year 2015. The Nominating & Governance Committee has a written charter and Corporate Governance Policies, which may be found at the Corporation's website at [www.sjwcorp.com](http://www.sjwcorp.com).

The Board of Directors has approved the "Policies and Procedures of the Nominating & Governance Committee for Nomination for Directors" (as amended the "Policies and Procedures"). The Policies and Procedures specify director selection criteria for the Nominating & Governance Committee to consider, and procedures for identifying and evaluating director candidates for the Nominating & Governance Committee to follow, when executing its duty to recommend director nominees at the annual meeting of shareholders. The Policies and Procedures also specify steps a shareholder must take in order to properly recommend director candidates which the Nominating & Governance Committee will consider. All candidates for director must generally meet the criteria set forth in the Policies and Procedures, a copy of which can be found at the Corporation's website at [www.sjwcorp.com](http://www.sjwcorp.com).

The criteria address the specific qualifications that the Nominating & Governance Committee believes must be met by each nominee prior to recommendation by the committee for a position on the Corporation's Board of Directors. In particular, the criteria address the specific qualities or skills that the Nominating & Governance Committee believes are necessary for one or more of the Corporation's directors to possess in order to fill Board, committee chair and other positions, and to provide the best combination of experience and knowledge on the Board and its committees. These criteria include: highest professional and personal ethical standards; absence of any interests that would materially impair his or her ability to exercise judgment or otherwise discharge the fiduciary duties; ability to contribute insight and direction to achieve the Corporation's goals; skills and expertise relative to the entire make-up of the Board; experience in effective oversight and decision-making, including experience on



other boards; ability and willingness to serve a full term with consistent attendance; first-hand business experience and achievement in the industry; and independence as determined under the New York Stock Exchange and SEC rules and regulations. The Nominating & Governance Committee and the Board of Directors do take diversity into account when considering potential nominees for directors, such as differences of viewpoint, varied professional or governmental experience, education and advanced degrees, skill set and other individual qualities and attributes that are likely to contribute to board heterogeneity. However, SJW Corp. does not have a formal or other established policy in which one or more diversity factors have been specifically identified for application as a matter of ordinary course in the director nominee process.

The steps a shareholder must take in order to properly recommend director candidates which the Committee will consider include submission via mail to the attention of the Nominating & Governance Committee at the address of the Corporate Secretary, SJW Corp., 110 W. Taylor Street, San Jose, California 95110, of a completed "Shareholder Recommendation of Candidate for Director" form which can be found at the Corporation's website at [www.sjwcorp.com](http://www.sjwcorp.com) or may be obtained by mailing a request for a copy of the form to the Corporate Secretary of the Corporation at the above address. Forms must be submitted not earlier than 210 days prior and not later than 120 days prior to the one-year anniversary of the date the proxy statement for the preceding annual meeting was mailed to shareholders. In addition to or in lieu of making a director candidate recommendation via the completed recommendation form, shareholders may nominate directly a person for election as a director at the annual meeting by following the procedures set out in the Corporation's By-Laws, as amended on January 28, 2015 (the "By-Laws"). Under the By-Laws, a nominating shareholder must provide the Corporation with advance written notice of a proposed nomination no later than 90 days and no earlier than 120 days prior to the one-year anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting. Such advance notice must include certain information and materials relating to the shareholder and the proposed nominee as prescribed under the By-Laws, including without limitation the name and qualification of the proposed nominee and other information typically required in a proxy statement filed under proxy rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. For more information on the procedure and advance notice requirement for nominating a director, see Section 10.14 of the Corporation's By-Laws, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 3.1 to a current report on Form 8-K filed on January 30, 2015.

#### Real Estate Committee

The Real Estate Committee is charged with the review of significant potential acquisitions or dispositions involving the real property interests of the Corporation and its subsidiaries and makes recommendations thereon to the Chief Executive Officer and the full Board. Messrs. Cali, Bishop and Roth are the members of the Real Estate Committee. The Real Estate Committee did not meet during fiscal year 2015.

#### Communications with the Board

Communications to the Board of Directors may be submitted by email to [boardofdirectors@sjwater.com](mailto:boardofdirectors@sjwater.com) or by writing to SJW Corp., Attention: Corporate Secretary, 110 W. Taylor Street, San Jose, California 95110. The Board of Directors relies upon the Corporate Secretary to forward written questions or comments to named directors or committees or the Lead Independent Director, as appropriate. General comments or inquiries from shareholders are forwarded to the appropriate individual within the Corporation, including the President, as appropriate.

Interested parties may make their concerns known to non-management directors or independent directors on a confidential and anonymous basis by calling the Corporation's toll free hotline, 1-888-883-1499.

#### Code of Ethical Business Conduct

The Corporation has adopted a Code of Ethical Business Conduct (the "Code") that applies to the directors, officers and employees of the Corporation. A copy of the Code can be found at the Corporation's website at [www.sjwcorp.com](http://www.sjwcorp.com). In the event that we make any amendments to or grant any waivers of, a provision of the Code of Ethics that applies to the principal executive officer, principal financial officer, or principal accounting officer that requires disclosure under applicable SEC rules, we intend to disclose such amendment or waiver and the reasons therefore, on our website at [www.sjwcorp.com](http://www.sjwcorp.com).

### Board Meetings

During 2015, there were four regular meetings and four special meetings (including two strategic planning meetings) of the Board of Directors of SJW Corp. Each director attended or participated in 75 percent or more of the aggregate of: (i) the total number of regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors of SJW Corp. and (ii) the total number of meetings held by all committees of the Board on which such director served during the 2015 fiscal year. George E. Moss was chosen to preside at all executive sessions of non-management directors or independent directors until the 2015 Annual Shareholder meeting and Robert A. Van Valer was chosen to preside at all such executive sessions held thereafter.

Pursuant to the Corporation's Corporate Governance Policies, each member of the Board of Directors is strongly encouraged to attend the annual meetings of shareholders. All current members of the Board attended the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders.

### Compensation of Directors

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the compensation of each non-employee member of the Board of Directors of SJW Corp. for the 2015 fiscal year.

Name (a)	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)(1) (b)	Stock Awards \$(2) (c)	Option Awards \$(3) (d)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensa- tion (\$) (e)	Change in Pension Value and Non-Qualified Deferred Compensa- tion Earnings (f)	All Other Compensa- tion (\$) (g)	Total (\$) (h)
Katharine Armstrong	\$82,500	\$34,100	—	—	—	—	\$116,600
Walter J. Bishop	\$81,500	\$34,100	—	—	—	—	\$115,600
Mark L. Cali	\$70,500	\$34,100	—	—	—	—	\$104,600
Douglas R. King	\$93,500	\$34,100	—	—	—	—	\$127,600
Daniel B. More	\$47,333	\$34,100	—	—	—	—	\$81,433
Ronald B. Moskovitz	\$83,500	\$34,100	—	—	—	—	\$117,600
George E. Moss	\$73,167	\$34,100	—	—	—	—	\$107,267
Robert A. Van Valer	\$78,833	\$34,100	—	—	—	—	\$112,933

Consists of the annual retainer and meeting fees for service as members of the Board of Directors of the Corporation, San Jose Water Company, SJW Land Company, SJW TX, Inc., and Texas Water Alliance Limited, (1)including amounts deferred under the Corporation's Deferral Election Program for Non-Employee Board members. The respective dollar amounts of these fees are set forth in the table below. For further information concerning such fees, see the sections below entitled "Director Annual Retainer" and "Director Meeting Fees."



Name	2015 Retainer	2015 Meeting Fees	Total Annual Service Fees
Katharine Armstrong	\$55,000	\$27,500	\$82,500
Walter J. Bishop	\$55,000	\$26,500	\$81,500
Mark L. Cali	\$50,000	\$20,500	\$70,500
Douglas R. King	\$50,000	\$43,500	\$93,500
Daniel B. More	\$33,333	\$14,000	\$47,333
Ronald B. Moskovitz	\$50,000	\$33,500	\$83,500
George E. Moss	\$56,667	\$16,500	\$73,167
Robert A. Van Valer	\$58,333	\$20,500	\$78,833

Represents the grant-date fair value of the restricted stock unit award for 1,169 shares made to each non-employee director on April 29, 2015. The applicable grant-date fair value of each award was calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 and accordingly determined on the basis of the closing selling price per share of SJW Corp.'s common stock on the award date as appropriately discounted to reflect the lack of dividend equivalent rights. The reported grant-date value does not take into account any estimated forfeitures related to service-vesting conditions. In addition to the restricted stock units, as of December 31, 2015, the following non-employee directors held deferred stock awards covering the following number of shares of SJW Corp.'s common stock with dividend equivalent rights: Ms. Armstrong, 0 shares; Mr. Bishop, 0 shares; Mr. Cali, 15,235 shares; Mr. King, 8,732 shares; Mr. More, 0 shares; Mr. Moskovitz, 0 shares; Mr. Moss, 0 shares; and Mr. Van Valer, 2,542 shares. Any deferred shares so held are attributable to the director's prior participation in certain deferred compensation programs implemented under the Corporation's Long-Term Incentive Plan. For further information concerning those

(2) programs, see the sections below entitled "Deferral Election Program for Non-Employee Board Members" and "Deferred Restricted Stock Program." The phantom dividends that accumulate on those deferred shares pursuant to the dividend equivalent rights are converted annually into additional deferred shares. For further information concerning such dividend equivalent rights, see the section below entitled "Dividend Equivalent Rights." Such dividend equivalent rights were factored into the original grant-date fair value of the deferred shares determined for financial accounting purposes under FASB ASC Topic 718, and accordingly no amounts are reported in this column with respect to the additional deferred shares attributable to the phantom dividends that accumulated during the 2015 fiscal year as a result of those dividend equivalent rights. Those 2015 fiscal year phantom dividends were converted into the following additional deferred shares for the non-employee directors on January 4, 2016: Mr. Cali was credited with 364 shares; Mr. King was credited with 224 shares; and Mr. Van Valer was credited with 65 shares. At the time of such credit, the fair market value per share of the Corporation's common stock was \$29.40, the closing price on January 4, 2016.

(3) No option awards were made to the non-employee directors during the 2015 fiscal year.

## Director Annual Retainer

The following table sets forth the 2015 annual retainer fees for the non-employee Board members of SJW Corp., San Jose Water Company, SJW Land Company, SJWTX, Inc. and Texas Water Alliance Limited:

	Annual Retainer
SJW Corp.	
Chair	\$30,000
Other Board Members	\$5,000
Additional Fee for Lead Independent Director	\$5,000
San Jose Water Company	
Chair	\$60,000
Other Board Members	\$40,000
SJW Land Company	
Chair	\$10,000
Other Board Members	\$5,000
SJWTX, Inc.	
Chair	\$5,000
Other Board Members	\$5,000
Texas Water Alliance Limited	
Chair	\$0
Other Board Members	\$0

## Director Meeting Fees

The following table sets forth the 2015 per meeting Board and Committee fees for the non-employee Board members of SJW Corp., San Jose Water Company, SJW Land Company, SJWTX, Inc. and Texas Water Alliance Limited:

	Per Meeting Fee
SJW Corp.	
Chair	\$1,000
Other Board Members	\$1,000
SJW Corp. Committees	
Audit Committee Chair (for attending audit committee meetings)	\$3,000
Other Committee Chair (for attending their respective committee meetings)	\$2,000
Other Board Members	\$1,000
San Jose Water Company	
Chair	\$1,000
Other Board Members	\$1,000
SJW Land Company	
Chair	\$500
Other Board Members	\$500
SJWTX, Inc.	
Chair	\$2,500
Other Board Members	\$500
Texas Water Alliance Limited	
Chair	\$500
Other Board Members	\$500

The meeting fees are the same for attending Board and Committee meetings held telephonically.

In the event a non-employee director attends an in-person Board or Committee meeting by telephone, he or she will be entitled to receive the applicable per meeting fee for the first meeting attended by telephone in a calendar year, and half of such meeting fee for each subsequent meeting attended by telephone in the same calendar year.

Non-employee directors may also receive fees determined on a case-by-case basis by SJW Corp.'s Executive Compensation Committee and ratified by the Board of Directors for attending additional meetings other than Board or Committee meetings, such as Board retreats, strategic planning meetings, or other programs organized by SJW Corp., San Jose Water Company, SJW Land Company, SJW TX, Inc. or Texas Water Alliance Limited. During fiscal year 2015, each non-employee director was paid \$2,500 for attending each of the two strategic planning meetings.

#### Deferral Election Program for Non-Employee Board Members

Pursuant to the Deferral Election Program, each non-employee member of the Corporation's Board of Directors has the opportunity to defer: (i) either 50 percent or 100 percent of his or her annual retainer fees for serving on the Corporation's Board and the Board of one or more subsidiaries; and (ii) 100 percent of his or her fees for attending pre-scheduled meetings of such Boards or any committees of such Boards on which he or she serves. The deferral election is irrevocable and must be made prior to the start of the year for which the fees are to be earned.

The fees which a non-employee Board member elects to defer under such program for the fiscal year are credited to a deferral election account pursuant to one of the following alternatives selected by the Executive Compensation Committee: (i) in a lump sum on the first business day of that calendar year or as soon as administratively practicable thereafter, or (ii) periodically when the fees would otherwise become due and payable during such calendar year in the absence of his or her deferral election for that calendar year in which case the amounts credited shall be fully vested. In the event of such lump sum credit, the non-employee Board members will vest in the portion of their account attributable to each Board or Board committee on which they serve during a calendar year in a series of 12 equal monthly installments upon their completion of each calendar month of service on that Board or Board committee during such calendar year. For the deferral election accounts established for the 2015 calendar year, the periodic credit alternative was utilized.

The deferral election account will be credited with a fixed rate of interest, compounded semi-annually, set at the start of each calendar year at the lower of (i) the then current 30-year long-term borrowing cost of funds to San Jose Water Company (or the equivalent thereof), as measured as of the start of such calendar year, or (ii) 120 percent of the long-term Applicable Federal Rate determined as of the start of such calendar year and based on semi-annual compounding.

Distribution of the vested balance credited to each Board member's deferral election account will be made or commence on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following his or her cessation of Board service. The cash distribution will be made either in a lump sum or through a series of up to 10 annual installments in accordance with the payment election such Board member made.

Mr. Cali and Ms. Armstrong each elected to defer all of their 2015 annual retainer fees and pre-scheduled 2015 meeting fees, Mr. King elected to defer his 2015 pre-scheduled meeting fees, and Mr. Bishop elected to defer 50 percent of his 2015 annual retainer fees.

#### Deferred Restricted Stock Program

Prior to the 2008 fiscal year, the non-employee directors were able to receive awards of deferred stock, either through the conversion of their deferred Board and Committee fees under the Deferral Election Program into deferred shares of SJW Corp. common stock or through their participation in the Deferred Restricted Stock Program. Both of those deferred stock programs were implemented under the Corporation's Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "LTIP").

The principal features of the Deferred Restricted Stock Program may be summarized as follows:

Each non-employee director who commenced Board service on or after April 29, 2003 was granted: (i) a deferred stock award on the first business day of January following his or her completion of at least six months of service as a Board member; and (ii) annual grants of deferred stock on the first business day of January in each succeeding calendar year through the close of the 2007 calendar year, provided he or she remained a non-employee member of the Board through such date. The number of shares of the Corporation's common stock underlying each annual deferred stock award was determined by dividing (i) the aggregate dollar amount of the annual retainer fees, at the levels in effect as of the date of grant, for service on the Board and for service on the Boards of Directors of the Corporation's subsidiaries for the calendar year in which the grant was made by (ii) the fair market value per share of the Corporation's common stock on the grant date. The shares subject to each deferred stock award are fully vested and will be issued from the LTIP on a distribution commencement date tied to the director's cessation of Board service or other pre-specified date. The shares may be issued either in a single lump sum or in up to 10 annual installments, as elected by the director at the time of his or her initial entry into the Deferred Stock Program or pursuant to the special payment election made available in 2007.

In addition, each non-employee director who commenced Board service prior to April 29, 2003 and participated in the Director Pension Plan was given the opportunity during the 2003 calendar year to elect to convert his or her accumulated benefit under that plan into a deferred stock award. The accumulated benefit of each director who made such an election was converted, on September 1, 2003, into a deferred stock award of comparable value based on the fair market value per share of the Corporation's common stock on such date. The award vested in 36 monthly installments over the director's period of continued Board service measured from the conversion date.

In accordance with the foregoing, Messrs. Cali and Moss elected to have their accumulated Director Pension Plan benefits converted into deferred stock pursuant to the Deferred Restricted Stock Program. As a result, Messrs. Cali and Moss each had \$270,000 in Pension Plan benefits converted into a deferred stock award covering 19,014 shares of the Corporation's common stock. The shares were distributed to Mr. Moss in 2008 and a portion of the shares were distributed to Mr. Cali in January 2014, 2015 and 2016 in accordance with his payment election as described in the section below entitled "Dividend Equivalent Rights."

Each deferred stock award contains dividend equivalent rights, as discussed below. Except for the additional deferred shares that result from those dividend equivalent rights, no further deferred shares are intended to be awarded to the non-employee directors under either the Deferral Election Program or the Deferred Restricted Stock Program.

**Restricted Stock Units and the Formulaic Equity Award Program for Non-Employee Board Members**

In April 2013, the Executive Compensation Committee approved, and the Board of Directors ratified, the award of restricted stock units for each individual elected or re-elected as a non-employee Board member at the 2013 annual shareholder meeting, with each such award to become effective at the close of business on the date of such meeting and covering that number of shares of common stock (rounded up to the next whole share) determined by dividing \$10,000 by the closing price per share on such date. Accordingly, on April 24, 2013, each non-employee Board member received an award of restricted stock units covering 381 shares of common stock. Each restricted stock unit entitled the non-employee Board member to one share of common stock on the vesting date. The units vested in full upon the Board member's continuation in Board service through the day immediately preceding the date of the Corporation's 2014 annual shareholder meeting.

In October 2013, the Executive Compensation Committee approved, and the Board of Directors ratified, the implementation under the LTIP of a Formulaic Equity Award Program for Non-Employee Board Members ("Formulaic Program") which provides that at the close of business on the date of each annual shareholder meeting, beginning with the 2014 annual shareholder meeting, each individual who is elected or re-elected to serve as a non-employee Board member shall automatically be granted restricted stock units covering that number of shares of common stock (rounded up to the next whole share) determined by dividing \$35,000 by the fair market value per share on such date. Each restricted unit awarded shall entitle the non-employee Board member to one share of common stock on the applicable vesting date of that unit. Each restricted stock unit award shall vest in full upon the non-employee Board member's continuation in Board service through the day immediately preceding the date of the first annual shareholder meeting following the annual shareholder meeting at which that restricted stock unit award



was made, subject to accelerated vesting under certain prescribed circumstances. Each non-employee Board member must retain beneficial ownership of at least 50 percent of the shares of common stock issued in connection with the vesting of such restricted stock units until such time as such individual is in compliance with the equity ownership guidelines that the Corporation from time to time establishes for its non-employee Board members.

On April 30, 2014, each non-employee Board member received an award of restricted stock units covering 1,286 shares of common stock in accordance with the Formulaic Program. The units will vest in full upon the Board member's continuation in Board service through the day immediately preceding the date of the Corporation's 2015 annual shareholder meeting, subject to accelerated vesting under certain prescribed circumstances.

On April 29, 2015, each non-employee Board member received an award of restricted stock units covering 1,169 shares of common stock in accordance with the Formulaic Program. The units will vest in full upon the Board member's continuation in Board service through the day immediately preceding the date of the Corporation's 2016 annual shareholder meeting, subject to accelerated vesting under certain prescribed circumstances.

#### Director Pension Plan

Mr. King continues to participate in the Director Pension Plan. Under such plan, Mr. King will receive, following his cessation of service as a director, a benefit equal to one half of the aggregate annual retainer for service on the Board of SJW Corp. and the Boards of San Jose Water Company and SJW Land Company as in effect at the time he ceases to be a director. This benefit will be paid to Mr. King, his beneficiary or his estate, for four years. These payments will be made with the same frequency as the ongoing retainers. Directors who elected to convert their accumulated Director Pension Plan benefits into deferred restricted stock in 2003 and non-employee directors who commenced Board service on or after April 29, 2003 are not eligible to participate in the Director Pension Plan.

#### Dividend Equivalent Rights

Dividend Equivalent Rights ("DERs") are part of the outstanding deferred stock awards currently credited to the non-employee directors as a result of their pre-2008 participation in the Deferral Election and Deferred Restricted Stock Programs. Pursuant to those DERs, each non-employee director's deferred stock account under each program will be credited, each time a dividend is paid on the Corporation's common stock, with a dollar amount equal to the dividend paid per share multiplied by the number of shares at the time credited to the deferred stock account, including shares previously credited to the account by reason of the DERs. As of the first business day in January each year, the cash dividend equivalent amounts so credited in the immediately preceding year will be converted into additional shares of deferred stock by dividing such cash amount by the average of the fair market value of the Corporation's common stock on each of the dates in the immediately preceding year on which dividends were paid. Effective as of January 1, 2008, the Corporation imposed a limitation on the maximum number of years such DERs will continue to remain outstanding. Accordingly, the DERs will terminate with the dividends paid by the Corporation during the 2017 calendar year, with the last DER conversion into deferred stock to occur on the first business day in January 2018. As part of the DER phase-out, each non-employee Board member was given the opportunity to make a special election by December 31, 2007 to receive a distribution from his accounts under the two programs in either (i) a lump sum distribution in any calendar year within the 10-year period from 2009 to 2018 or (ii) an installment distribution over a five or 10-year period within that 10-year period. The amount distributable from each such account would be equal to the number of deferred shares credited to that account as of December 31, 2007 plus the number of additional deferred shares subsequently credited to that account by reason of the dividend equivalent rights existing on those deferred shares during the period prior to their distribution. No further DERs would be paid on the distributed shares, but those shares would be entitled to actual dividends as and when paid to the Corporation's shareholders. In the absence of such special payment election, the distribution of the non-employee Board member's accounts will continue to be deferred until cessation of Board service. Only Mr. Cali made a special payment election and elected to receive his deferred accounts in five annual installments over the five calendar-year period beginning with the 2014 calendar year. The Corporation issued 4,947 shares of common stock, 5,080 shares of common stock and 5,198 shares of common stock to Mr. Cali in January 2014, January 2015 and January 2016 respectively in accordance with his election.

On January 4, 2016, the following current non-employee Board members were credited with additional shares of deferred stock pursuant to their DERs: Mr. Cali, 364 shares; Mr. King, 224 shares; and Mr. Van Valer, 65 shares. A portion of the shares credited to Mr. Cali were distributed to him in January 2016 in accordance with his payment election.

#### Expense Reimbursement Policies

Under the Corporation's Director Compensation and Expense Reimbursement Policies, each non-employee director will be reimbursed for all reasonable expenses incurred in connection with his or her attendance at Board or committee meetings of SJW Corp. or its subsidiaries as well as his or her attendance at certain other meetings held by such companies. Expenses subject to reimbursement include the expense of traveling by non-commercial aircraft if within 1,000 miles of company headquarters and approved by the Chairman of the Board, and the expense of traveling first class for any travel within the United States. A copy of the Director Compensation and Expense Reimbursement Policies, amended and restated as of January 1, 2014, is attached as Exhibit 10.36 to the Form 10-K filed for the year ended December 31, 2013.

#### Recommendation of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that shareholders vote FOR the election of the nine nominees listed on page 4.

PROPOSAL 2  
 RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT  
 REGISTERED ACCOUNTING FIRM

General

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has appointed KPMG LLP as the Corporation's independent registered public accounting firm (the "independent accountants") for fiscal year 2016. At the annual meeting, shareholders are being asked to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as the Corporation's independent accountants for fiscal year 2016. In the event the shareholders fail to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP, the Audit Committee will reconsider its selection.

Representatives of KPMG LLP are expected to be present at the annual meeting. They have been offered the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

Principal Independent Accountants' Fees and Services

The following table sets forth the approximate aggregate fees billed to the Corporation during or for fiscal years 2014 and 2015:

	2015	2014
Audit Fees (1)	\$810,000	\$801,000
Audit-Related Fees (2)	—	—
Tax Fees (3)	—	\$5,225
All Other Fees (4)	—	—
Total Fees	\$810,000	\$806,225

(1) Audit Fees: This category consists of the fees billed for those fiscal years for the audit of annual financial statements, review of the financial statements included in quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and services that are normally provided by the independent accountants in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements for those fiscal years.

(2) Audit-Related Fees: This category consists of fees billed in those fiscal years with respect to assurance and related services by the independent accountants that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit and review of financial statements and are not reported under "Audit Fees."

(3) Tax Fees: This category consists of fees billed in those fiscal years with respect to professional services rendered by the independent accountants for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning. All tax fees were pre-approved by the Audit Committee.

(4) All Other Fees: This category consists of fees billed in those fiscal years which are not covered by "Audit Fees," "Audit-Related Fees" and "Tax Fees."

The Audit Committee has considered and concluded that the provision of services described above is compatible with maintaining the independence of KPMG LLP.

The Audit Committee has adopted a pre-approval policy regarding the rendering of audit, audit-related and non-audit services by KPMG LLP. In general, audit fees are reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee annually.

Audit-related and non-audit services are pre-approved by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee has delegated authority to its Chairman to pre-approve specific services to be rendered by KPMG LLP subject to ratification by the Audit Committee when it next convenes a meeting.

Recommendation of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote FOR the adoption of the proposal to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as SJW Corp.'s independent accountants for fiscal year 2016. Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy holders named in each proxy will vote the shares represented thereby FOR this Proposal.



## OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

### Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires the executive officers and directors of the Corporation, and persons who own more than 10 percent of a registered class of the Corporation's equity securities, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and the New York Stock Exchange. These persons are required to furnish SJW Corp. with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file. Based solely on its review of the copies of such reports received by it, and written representations from certain reporting persons that no other reports were required during 2015, SJW Corp. believes that all Section 16(a) reporting obligations were met during 2015.

### Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The following table sets forth, as of February 2, 2016, certain information concerning beneficial ownership of shares of SJW Corp. common stock by each director of the Corporation, nominee for director, and the Corporation's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and each of the Corporation's other executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table below (the "named executive officers"), and all directors, nominees and named executive officers as a group and beneficial owners of five percent or more of outstanding shares of common stock of SJW Corp. Unless otherwise indicated, the beneficial ownership consists of sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares indicated, except to the extent that spouses share authority under applicable law. None of the shares reported as beneficially owned have been pledged as security for any loan or indebtedness. Unless otherwise indicated, the principal address of each of the shareholder below is c/o SJW Corp., 110 W. Taylor Street, San Jose, California 95110. The calculations in the table below are based on 20,395,959 shares of common stock issued and outstanding as of February 2, 2016. In addition, shares of common stock that may be acquired by the person shown in the table within 60 days of February 2, 2016 are deemed to be outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of such person, but are not deemed to be outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person shown in the table.

Name	Shares Beneficially Owned	Percent of Class	
Directors and Nominees for Directors:			
Katharine Armstrong (1)	6,217	*	
Walter J. Bishop (2)	6,027	*	
Mark L. Cali (3)	298,485	1.5	%
Douglas R. King (4)	6,167	*	
Debra Man	—	*	
Daniel B. More	—	*	
Ronald B. Moskovitz (5)	6,667	*	
George E. Moss (6)(7)	1,901,490	9.3	%
W. Richard Roth, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board (8)	112,714	*	
Robert A. Van Valer (9)(10)	2,215,154	10.9	%
Executive Officers not listed above:			
Andrew R. Gere, Chief Operating Officer (since April 29, 2015) (11)	7,795	*	
Palle L. Jensen, Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs (12)	14,878	*	
James P. Lynch, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (13)	14,958	*	
Andrew F. Walters, Chief Administrative Officer (14)	2,954	*	
All directors, nominees and executive officers as a group (14 individuals) (15)	4,593,506	22.5	%
Beneficial owners of five percent or more not listed above:			
Nancy O. Moss (16)(17)	1,181,092	5.8	%
Gabelli Funds, LLC, GAMCO Asset Management Inc. and Teton Advisors, Inc. (18)	1,032,580	5.1	%
One Corporate Center, Rye, New York 10580-1435			

\*Represents less than one percent of the outstanding shares of SJW Corp.'s common stock.

(1) Includes (i) 2,550 shares of common stock, (ii) 1,000 shares of common stock held under an IRA account, and (iii) 2,667 shares of common stock held by the Katharine Armstrong Love Exempt Trust U/A/D 6/30/2009 for which Katharine Armstrong is the sole trustee.

(2) Includes 6,027 shares of common stock held by the Bishop Family Trust for which Walter Bishop and his spouse are trustees. Mr. Bishop has shared voting and investment powers with respect to such shares.

(3) Includes (i) 35,203 shares of common stock held by the Mark Cali Revocable Trust for which Mark Cali is the sole trustee, (ii) 170,096 shares of common stock held by the Cali 1994 Living Trust for which Mr. Cali is a co-trustee, (iii) 64,998 shares of common stock held by the Cali Family Gift Trust for which Mr. Cali is the sole trustee, (iv) 26,700 shares of common stock held by Nina Negranti, Mr. Cali's spouse, as trustee of the Nina Negranti Revocable Trust, (v) 1,200 shares of common stock held by Nina Negranti's IRA, and (vi) 288 shares of common stock held by Mr. Cali's son, Clark Cali. Mr. Cali has shared voting and investment powers with respect to the 170,096 shares. Mr. Cali is not standing for reelection at the annual meeting.

(4) Includes 6,167 shares of common stock held by the King Family Trust dated June 6, 2005 of which Mr. King and Melinda King are trustees. Mr. King has shared voting and investment powers with respect to such shares.

(5) Includes 6,667 shares of common stock held by the Moskovitz Family Trust U/A DTD 6/12/2003 of which Mr. Moskovitz and Jessica M. Moskovitz are trustees. Mr. Moskovitz has shared voting and investment powers with respect to such shares.

(6) Includes (i) 1,081,854 shares of common stock held by the George Edward Moss Trust, a living trust of which Mr. Moss is the sole trustee and sole beneficiary, (ii) 6,644 shares of common stock held by his spouse's

revocable trust, (iii) 830 shares of common stock held under his spouse's IRA, (iv) 1,103 shares of common stock held under his spouse's Roth IRA, and (v) 811,059 shares of common stock held by the John Kimberly Moss Trust for which George Moss disclaims beneficial ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest.

(7) The address for George E. Moss is 4360 Worth Street, Los Angeles, California 90063.

Includes (i) 90,269 shares of common stock held by the W. Richard Roth and Viviane L. Roth Community Property Revocable Trust dated December 17, 2004 of which Mr. Roth and Viviane L. Roth are trustees, (ii) 18,300 shares of common stock held by a separate property trust for which Mr. Roth is trustee, and (iii) 4,145 shares of common stock subject to a restricted stock unit award that were issued on February 29, 2016 (which amount is net of shares withheld to cover withholding taxes). Mr. Roth has shared voting and investment powers with respect to the 90,269 shares.

Includes (i) 77,286 shares of common stock, (ii) 1,937,226 shares of common stock held under the Non Exempt Bypass Trust created under the Roscoe Moss Jr Revocable Trust dated March 24, 1982 for which Mr. Van Valer (9) has sole voting and dispositive powers, and (iii) 200,642 shares of common stock held under an Exempt Bypass Trust created under the Roscoe Moss Jr Revocable Trust dated March 24, 1982 for which Mr. Van Valer has sole voting and dispositive powers.

(10) The address for Robert A. Van Valer is 4360 Worth Street, Los Angeles, California 90063.

Includes (i) 7,319 shares of common stock and (ii) 476 shares of common stock subject to a restricted stock unit award that were issued on February 29, 2016 (which amount is net of shares withheld to cover withholding taxes).

(12) Includes (i) 13,915 shares of common stock and (ii) 963 shares of common stock subject to a restricted stock unit award that were issued on February 29, 2016 (which amount is net of shares withheld to cover withholding taxes).

Includes (i) 11,338 shares of common stock, (ii) 2,500 shares of common stock held under a Roth IRA, and (iii) 1,120 shares of common stock subject to a restricted stock unit award that were issued on February 29, 2016 (13) (which amount is net of shares withheld to cover withholding taxes). Mr. Lynch has shared voting and investment powers with respect to the 11,338 shares.

Includes (i) 1,891 shares of common stock, (ii) 100 shares of common stock held by Mr. Walters' spouse, and (iii) (14) 963 shares of common stock subject to a restricted stock unit award that were issued on February 29, 2016 (which amount is net of shares withheld to cover withholding taxes).

Includes 7,667 shares of common stock subject to restricted stock unit awards that were issued to the named (15) executive officers on February 29, 2016 (which amount is net of shares withheld to cover withholding taxes). See footnotes (8) and (11) through (14) above.

Includes (i) 1,180,092 shares of common stock held by the Nancy O. Moss Trust and (ii) 1,000 shares of common (16) stock held under a SEP-IRA account. Ms. Moss has shared voting and investment powers over the shares held in her trust.

(17) The mailing address of Nancy O. Moss is 25 Kewen Place, San Marino, California 91108.

Pursuant to Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on March 3, 2016, by Gabelli Funds, LLC, GAMCO Asset Management Inc. ("GAMCO") and Teton Advisors, Inc. According to this Schedule 13D/A, GAMCO, Gabelli Funds, LLC and Teton Advisors, Inc. had the sole power to vote or direct the vote and sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 311,375 shares of common stock, 609,901 shares of common stock and 111,304 shares of common stock respectively, either for its own benefit or for the benefit of its investment clients or its partners, as the case may be, except that (i) GAMCO did not have the authority to vote 25,100 of the reported shares, (ii) Gabelli Funds, LLC had sole dispositive and voting power with respect to the shares of the Corporation held (18) by the Funds (as defined in the Schedule 13D/A) so long as the aggregate voting interest of all joint filers does not exceed 25% of their total voting interest in the Corporation and, in that event, the Proxy Voting Committee of each Fund would respectively vote that Fund's shares, (iii) at any time, the Proxy Voting Committee of each such Fund could take and exercise in its sole discretion the entire voting power with respect to the shares held by such fund under special circumstances such as regulatory considerations, and (iv) the power of Mario J. Gabelli, Associated Capital Group, Inc., GAMCO Investors, Inc., and GGCP, Inc. were indirect with respect to shares beneficially owned directly by other reporting persons.



In addition to the ownership of the shares reported in the above table, as of February 2, 2016, the following directors, nominees to the Board and named executive officers held deferred stock awards and restricted stock units covering shares of the Corporation's common stock as follows:

Name	Number of Shares*	
Directors and Nominees for Directors:		
Katharine Armstrong	1,169	(1)
Walter J. Bishop	1,169	(1)
Mark L. Cali	11,570	(1)(2)
Douglas R. King	10,125	(1)(2)
Debra Man	—	
Daniel B. More	1,169	(1)
Ronald B. Moskovitz	1,169	(1)
George E. Moss	1,169	(1)
W. Richard Roth, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board	163,261	(3)
Robert A. Van Valer	3,776	(1)(2)
Executive Officers not listed above:		
Andrew R. Gere, Chief Operating Officer (since April 29, 2015)	5,315	(4)
Palle L. Jensen, Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs	6,911	(4)
James P. Lynch, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	7,444	(4)
Andrew F. Walters, Chief Administrative Officer	6,929	(4)

\* The shares reported in this table are not deemed to be beneficially owned by the individuals listed above under applicable SEC rules and regulations.

(1) Includes shares of common stock underlying restricted stock units awarded to the non-employee Board members under the Corporation's Long-Term Incentive Plan. The restricted stock units vest in full upon the non-employee director's continuation in board service through the day immediately preceding the date of the following annual shareholder meeting. The units will vest in full, and the underlying shares will become immediately issuable should such non-employee director cease Board service by reason of death or permanent disability prior to such vesting date.

(2) Includes shares of the Corporation's common stock underlying deferred stock awards which will be issued in one or more installments following the individual's cessation of such Board service or any earlier date that the non-employee Board member has designated pursuant to the special payment election provided to him in 2007.

(3) The 163,261 shares of the Corporation's common stock are issuable pursuant to deferred stock awards and restricted stock units which are subject to various performance vesting and service vesting requirements. The shares that actually vest under those awards will be issued in accordance with the applicable issuance schedule in effect for those shares.

(4) The shares of the Corporation's common stock issuable pursuant to these restricted stock unit awards are subject to various performance vesting and service vesting schedules requirements. The shares that actually vest under those awards will be issued in accordance with the applicable issuance schedule in effect for those shares.

For further information concerning such restricted stock unit and deferred stock awards, please see the following sections of this proxy statement: "Compensation of Directors" and "Executive Compensation and Related Information-Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards."

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND RELATED INFORMATION

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

The Executive Compensation Committee (the "Committee") of the Board of Directors is responsible for reviewing and approving the compensation payable to the Corporation's officers and other key employees. This Compensation Discussion and Analysis discusses the principles underlying the Corporation's policies and decisions relating to executive officer compensation for the 2015 fiscal year. The Corporation's Chief Executive Officer (the "CEO"), the Chief Financial Officer and the other executive officers included in the Summary Compensation Table that appears later in this proxy statement will be referred to as the "named executive officers" for purposes of this discussion.

### Executive Summary

#### Highlights of Compensation Program Changes for 2015

During 2014, the Committee undertook a comprehensive review of the Corporation's compensation philosophy, policies and practices and made significant changes related to 2015 fiscal year compensation that align the compensation programs for the executive officers with the Corporation's objectives and respond to changes in the marketplace:

- The Committee adjusted the peer group used to benchmark executive compensation to ensure that the peer group best represents the market for executive talent among similar size, publicly-traded regulated utility companies.

- The Committee negotiated a new multi-year compensation package for the CEO which includes multi-year equity grants; approximately 70 percent of his target equity awards provided under the new compensation package are in the form of performance-based awards tied to financial performance and total shareholder return.

- A significant portion of the 2015 long-term incentive awards for the other named executive officers are tied to performance-based vesting.

- The corporate level goal included in the short-term incentive program was revised for 2015 so that different performance measures are utilized for the annual bonuses and equity awards.

- The performance-based equity awards granted to our named executive officers in 2015 are subject to clawback to the extent required by law or stock exchange listing requirements.

#### Summary of Executive Compensation Governance

Consistent with our focus on pay for performance, the framework for our compensation governance practices includes the following:

- Performance contingent compensation in the form of the annual short-term incentive and a significant portion of the long-term equity incentive awards.

- Multiple performance metrics between the annual and long-term incentive plans discourage excessive risk-taking by removing any incentive to focus on a single performance goal to the detriment of the Corporation.

- The Committee retains an independent compensation consultant to advise the Committee.

- For purposes of benchmarking, we used a peer group that was developed based on objective criteria recommended by our compensation consultant.

- We have implemented a clawback provision in restricted stock units (RSUs) grants made in 2015.

- We do not allow hedging and pledging of our common stock.

Our executive stock ownership guidelines require stock ownership levels equal to a specified multiple of base salary.

- The ownership levels are two times base salary for our Chief Executive Officer and one time base salary for our other executive officers.

- The Committee annually assesses whether our compensation programs have potential risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Corporation.

### Compensation Objectives and Philosophy

The Committee seeks to maintain an overarching pay-for-performance compensation philosophy through the use of compensation programs for the Corporation's executive officers that are designed to attain the following objectives:

- Recruit, motivate and retain executives capable of meeting the Corporation's strategic objectives;
- Provide incentives to achieve superior executive performance and successful financial results for the Corporation; and
- Align the interests of executives with the long-term interests of shareholders.

The Committee seeks to achieve these objectives by:

- Establishing a compensation structure that is both market competitive and internally fair;
- Linking a substantial portion of compensation to the Corporation's financial performance and the individual's contribution to that performance;
- Maintaining a compensation structure that is designed to provide below-target compensation for underachievement and upward leverage for exceptional performance; and
- Providing long-term equity-based incentives and encouraging direct share ownership by executive officers.

The Committee is not authorized to delegate any of its authority with respect to executive officer compensation, other than with respect to routine administrative functions. However, the Committee may from time to time consult with other independent Board members regarding executive compensation matters and is authorized to hire independent compensation consultants and other professionals to assist in the design, formulation, analysis and implementation of compensation programs for the Corporation's executive officers and other key employees.

### Setting Executive Compensation for 2015

Major compensation decisions for each fiscal year, including base salary adjustments, the determination of target annual bonus opportunities and the determination of the size of long-term equity incentive awards, are generally made by the Committee during the last quarter of the prior year or during the first quarter of the current year. For the 2015 fiscal year, such decisions were made in October 2014 (with respect to establishing base salaries, target annual bonuses and grant of equity awards), January and February 2015 (with respect to setting the performance goals applicable to the annual bonuses and equity awards) and April 2015 (with respect to further adjusting the cash compensation, setting the performance goals to the annual bonus and grant of additional equity awards for one of the named executive officers in connection with his appointment).

The principal factors that the Committee considered when setting the 2015 compensation levels for the named executive officers were as follows:

- Competitive benchmarking;
- Long-term retention;
- Management's recommendations;
- Advice from the Committee's independent compensation consultant and other compensation advisors;
- Results of the last Say-on-Pay Proposal;
- Comparison of the Corporation's performance against certain operational and qualitative goals identified in the Corporation's strategic plan;
- Individual performance as assessed by the Committee, with input from the CEO as to the named executive officers other than himself;
- The cost of living in the San Francisco Bay Area; and
- Tenure, future potential and internal pay equity.

**Impact of 2014 Say-on-Pay Vote:** The most recent shareholder advisory vote on executive officer compensation required under the federal securities laws was held on April 30, 2014. Approximately 73 percent of the votes cast on such proposal were in favor of the compensation of the named executive officers. Following the 2014 annual shareholder meeting, the Committee undertook a review of the Corporation's compensation philosophy, policies and practices and made significant changes as described herein that impacted the compensation of the named executive officers for the 2015 fiscal year and thereafter.

The Committee will continue to take into account future shareholder advisory votes on executive compensation and other relevant market developments affecting executive officer compensation in order to determine whether any subsequent changes to the Corporation's executive compensation programs and policies would be warranted to reflect any shareholder concerns reflected in those advisory votes or to address market developments. Based on the voting preference of the shareholders, the frequency of future Say-on-Pay votes is every three years. Accordingly, the next shareholder advisory vote on executive officer compensation will occur at the 2017 annual meeting and the Committee will take into account the results of such shareholder advisory vote in setting compensation for future years.

**Role of Management:** As in prior years, the CEO provided the Committee with recommendations regarding the 2015 compensation levels for each of the named executive officers other than himself. Such recommendations included base salary adjustments, target bonus amounts and actual payout levels for those bonuses, and the size of long-term incentive awards. The CEO also provided the Committee with his assessment of the individual performance of each of the other named executive officers.

**Role of External Advisors:** The Committee engaged Mercer (US) Inc. ("Mercer"), a global human resource consulting firm with extensive expertise and experience providing executive compensation consulting services, to serve as the Committee's new independent compensation consultant in April 2014. Mercer provided the following services:

- Advised the Committee in selecting a new peer group to be used for benchmarking compensation;
- Conducted a competitive review of CEO and other executive officer compensation levels and practices relative to the revised peer group;
- Advised the Committee in determining the appropriate base salary, annual incentive and equity compensation terms for the CEO under his amended employment agreement;
- Advised the Committee in determining the appropriate base salary, annual incentive and equity compensation terms for the other named executive officers;
- Advised the Committee regarding short and long-term incentive compensation design changes; and
- Conducted a benchmarking assessment of the competitiveness of director compensation relative to the revised peer group.

Representatives of Mercer attended certain Committee meetings and provided guidance and expertise on competitive pay practices and plan designs that are consistent with the key objectives of the Corporation's compensation programs. Mercer did not perform any services on behalf of management. In addition, the Committee determined that Mercer was independent and that Mercer's work did not raise any conflict of interest. The Committee made such determinations primarily on the basis of the six factors for assessing independence and identifying potential conflicts of interest that are set forth in Rule 10C-1(b)(4) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The Committee will apply the same factors, together with any factors identified by the New York Stock Exchange and any other factors the Committee may deem relevant under the circumstances, in determining whether any other persons from whom the Committee seeks advice relating to executive compensation matters is independent or whether any potential conflicts exist.

**Benchmarking:** The Committee made a number of decisions regarding 2015 fiscal year compensation for the named executive officers on the basis of the executive compensation benchmarking report prepared by Mercer dated October 2014. The October 2014 report benchmarked the compensation paid by the peer group described below to their executive officers; the compensation data was based on 2014 proxy disclosures aged forward for compensation planning purposes, reflecting the historic nature of the collected data.

As part of the overall compensation review undertaken in 2014, and based on recommendations from Mercer, the Committee approved a new peer group comprised of companies that are U.S. publicly-traded utility companies of similar size and companies that are identified externally as the Corporation's peers. The revision of the peer group



resulted in the elimination of two of the companies that were previously included in the peer group, for benchmarking compensation

27

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decisions made for the 2014 fiscal year (including CH Energy Group which was acquired in 2013) and the addition of four new companies that satisfied the revised criteria. The Committee believes that all of the peer companies represented primary competitors for executive talent and investment capital.

Accordingly, the revised peer group in effect for benchmarking decisions made after April 2014 (including the compensation for the CEO under his amended employment agreement) was comprised of the following companies:

Peer Group

American States Water	American Water Works	Artesian Resources	Aqua America
California Water Service Group	Chesapeake Utilities	Connecticut Water Service	El Paso Electric
Empire District Electric	Gas Natural	MGE Energy	Middlesex Water
Northwest Natural Gas	South Jersey Industries	Unitil	York Water

For the 2015 fiscal year, the Committee targeted total annual direct compensation between the median and the 75th percentile of the new peer group. The table below shows the target total direct compensation for the 2015 fiscal year relative to the new peer group data as was provided by Mercer to the Committee:

Name	Title	Percentile Level of Total Target Direct Compensation for 2015 Fiscal Year	
W. Richard Roth	President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board	62nd	(1)
Andrew R. Gere	Chief Operating Officer (beginning April 29, 2015)	34th	(2)
Palle L. Jensen	Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs	58th	
James P. Lynch	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	57th	
Andrew F. Walters	Chief Administrative Officer	55th	

(1) For purposes of such calculation, the grant-date fair values of equity awards provided to Mr. Roth under the amended employment agreement were annualized over the respective vesting periods.

Mr. Gere's positioning is based on his base salary and target annual bonus opportunity which were set in April 2015 (2) in connection with his appointment as the Chief Operating Officer, and grant date fair value of restricted stock units granted for 2015.

Amendment of CEO Employment Agreement

In July 2014, the Committee negotiated a new compensation package with the CEO and amended his employment agreement. The primary objective of the amended agreement was to retain Mr. Roth's services and his leadership and direction in the achievement of the Corporation's strategic business objectives through the end of the 2017 fiscal year. Therefore the new compensation package utilizes a multi-year equity award structure in lieu of a series of annual grants, and a combination of performance-vesting requirements and service-vesting requirements on the equity awards that are intended to enhance shareholder value, promote the retention of his services, and provide a competitively positioned annualized total direct compensation package over the extended contract term.

The principal terms of the employment agreement, as most recently amended, are summarized in the section entitled "Employment Agreements, Termination of Employment and Change in Control Arrangements" that appears later in this proxy statement. However, for purposes of this discussion, it is important to note the following key points regarding the amended agreement:

• Mr. Roth's annual base salary for the 2015 calendar year was increased to \$710,000, and his annual base salary for the 2016 and 2017 calendar years will be increased by four percent per year to \$738,400 and \$767,936, respectively.

• Mr. Roth's target bonus will remain at 25% of his base salary.

• Approximately 70 percent of his target equity awards are in the form of performance based RSUs, half of which are based on a three-year performance period.

• Mr. Roth's compensation will be subject to clawback in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Equity awards under the revised agreement include the following:

A multi-year performance-based RSU award covering 19,917 target shares of the Corporation's common stock, which vests based on total shareholder return ("TSR") performance relative to eight water utility peers over the period measured from August 4, 2014 to December 31, 2017 (the "TSR Performance Period"), provided Mr. Roth remains in service with the Corporation through the end of such performance period.

A multi-year service-based RSU award covering 17,071 shares of the Corporation's common stock which vests in three equal annual installments upon Mr. Roth's completion of each year of service measured over the three-year period measured from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017.

Annual performance based RSU awards in the 2015, 2016 and 2017 calendar years, each award covering 6,639 target shares (subject to adjustment for certain events that occur prior to the grant date of that award), which vest based on the achievement of a return on equity ("ROE") based performance goal, to be determined at the start of each calendar year and measured over the applicable calendar year period (and subject to Mr. Roth's continued service through December 31 of the calendar year).

#### Components of Compensation

For the 2015 fiscal year, the principal components of the Corporation's executive compensation program were as follows:

Base salary

Annual short-term cash incentives

Long-term equity incentive awards

Retirement benefit accruals

As a general guideline, the Committee seeks to target total direct compensation between the median and the 75th percentile for comparable positions at the peer group companies. The Committee believes that this range is appropriate given that the Corporation competes for talent in the highly competitive San Francisco Bay Area and the higher cost of living in the area relative to its peers. There is no pre-established policy for the allocation of compensation between cash and non-cash (equity) components or between short-term and long-term components, and there are no pre-established ratios between the CEO's compensation and that of the other named executive officers. Instead, the Committee determines the total direct compensation of each named executive officer based on its review of competitive market data for his or her position and its subjective analysis of that individual's performance and contribution to the Corporation's financial performance. The Committee may also take into account internal pay equity considerations based on the individual's relative duties and responsibilities within the organization. The named executive officers are also provided with market competitive benefits and perquisites and are entitled to certain severance benefits in the event their employment terminates under certain defined circumstances, as more fully set forth below in this section and in the section entitled "Employment Agreements, Termination of Employment and Change in Control Arrangements" that appears later in this proxy statement.

#### Base Salary

It is the Committee's objective to set a competitive annual rate of base salary for each officer. The Committee believes that such competitive base salaries are necessary to attract and retain top quality executives, since it is common practice for public companies to provide their executive officers with an annual component of compensation that provides a level of economic security and continuity from year to year, without substantial adjustments to reflect the Corporation's performance.

**CEO Base Salary:** Pursuant to his amended employment agreement, the CEO's base salary for calendar year 2015 was set at \$710,000 which represented a 5% increase over his base salary for calendar year 2014.

**Base Salary of the Other Named Executive Officers:** In setting the 2015 fiscal year base salaries for the other named executive officers, the Committee considered each executive officer's tenure and responsibilities with the Corporation, competitive market data for his position, the high cost of living in the San Francisco Bay Area, internal pay equity considerations, and the other components of his total direct compensation for the year. The Committee approved market-based salary adjustments that ranged from zero to 10 percent increases for each of the below-listed named executive



officers. Mr. Jensen's salary was increased by 10 percent in an effort to bring his total compensation in line with the competitive market and to be internally equitable.

Accordingly, the base salary levels in effect for the 2014 and 2015 fiscal years for each named executive officer and the applicable percentage increases for the 2015 fiscal year are as follows:

Name	Title	2014 Salary	2015 Salary	% Increase	
W. Richard Roth	President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board	\$ 676,000	\$ 710,000	5.0	%
Andrew R. Gere	Chief Operating Officer (beginning April 29, 2015)	N/A	\$ 280,000	N/A	(1 )
Palle L. Jensen	Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs	\$ 300,000	\$ 330,000	10.0	%
James P. Lynch	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	\$ 403,000	\$ 403,000	0.0	%(2 )
Andrew F. Walters	Chief Administrative Officer	\$ 350,000	\$ 357,000	2.0	%

(1) Mr. Gere's base salary was increased to \$280,000 in connection with his appointment as Chief Operating Officer in April 2015.

(2) Mr. Lynch's base salary was not increased in 2015 in light of the competitive market data for his position.

#### Annual Bonus

As part of their total compensation package, the Corporation's executive officers have the opportunity to earn an annual cash bonus. The cash bonus awards are designed to reward superior corporate and executive performance while reinforcing the Corporation's short-term strategic operating goals. The potential cash bonuses for the executive officers for the 2015 fiscal year were tied to the Corporation's attainment of the following performance goals: (i) capital additions, (ii) environmental compliance, and (iii) several operational goals. The operational goals represent a mix of quantitative financial and non-financial goals covering key business objectives used to manage the business that are critical to achieving and maintaining superior performance in the public utilities industry. The non-financial operational goals are critical to measuring the successful operation of the business. All financial and non-financial goals are quantitative goals set by the Committee at the start of the fiscal year. The potential bonuses for the named executive officers other than the CEO were also tied to individual performance goals established by the Committee. Each year, the Committee establishes a target bonus for each named executive officer (tied to either a percentage of base salary or a specific dollar amount). The target bonus levels in effect for the 2014 and 2015 fiscal years for each named executive officer and the applicable percentage increases for the 2015 fiscal year are as follows:

Name	Title	2014 Target Bonus	2015 Target Bonus	% Increase	
W. Richard Roth	President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board	\$ 169,000	\$ 177,500	5.0	%(1 )
Andrew R. Gere	Chief Operating Officer (beginning April 29, 2015)	N/A	\$ 60,000	N/A	(2 )
Palle L. Jensen	Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs	\$ 90,000	\$ 106,000	17.8	%
James P. Lynch	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	0.0	%(3 )
Andrew F. Walters	Chief Administrative Officer	\$ 70,000	\$ 79,000	12.9	%

Mr. Roth's target bonus was set at 25% of his base salary, the same percentage as for 2014, in accordance with the (1) terms of his employment agreement. The increase in target bonus for 2015 is due to the 5% increase in Mr. Roth's base salary for 2015.

(2) Mr. Gere's 2015 target bonus was increased to \$60,000 in connection with his appointment as Chief Operation Officer in April 2015.

(3) Mr. Lynch's target bonus was not increased in 2015 in light of the competitive market date for his position. The potential payout for each such bonus award can range from 0 to 150 percent of target for the CEO, and from 0 to 200 percent of target for the other named executive officers, based on the Corporation's performance against the pre-established performance goals and the Committee's assessment of the officer's performance for such year. CEO's Bonus for the 2015 Fiscal Year: The actual dollar amount of the CEO's bonus for the 2015 fiscal year was tied to the level at which the Corporation attained the corporate performance goals established by the Committee for that year and ranged as follows:

Level of Performance	Below Threshold Performance	Threshold Performance	Target Performance	Maximum Performance
Payout	—	\$88,750 (12.5% of base salary)	\$177,500 (25 % of base salary)	\$266,250 (37.5 % of base salary)

The actual 2015 bonus award approved for Mr. Roth was \$230,927, or 130.1 percent of his 2015 target annual bonus as described further below.

The performance goals set by the Committee for the 2015 fiscal year, together with the portion of the CEO target bonus allocated to each goal and the amount of bonus earned for each goal, were as set forth below.

Performance Criteria	Goals and Minimum and Maximum Thresholds	Allocation of Target Amount (\$)(4)	2015 Actual Bonus Award (\$)
			\$58,634
San Jose Water Company 2015 Capital Additions (1)	<p>Target Goal: \$93,150,000</p> <p>Minimum Threshold: \$82,800,000</p> <p>Maximum Goal: \$103,500,000 or more</p>	\$59,167	<p>Represents 99.1% of \$59,167 based on \$92,960,000 of capital additions (between Minimum Threshold and Target Goal)</p> <p>\$88,751</p>
Compliance (Environmental)	<p>Maximum Goal: No material water quality or environmental violations (Target Goal and Minimum Threshold are not applicable) (3)</p>	\$59,167	<p>Represents 150% of \$59,167 (Maximum Goal attained)</p> <p>\$83,542</p>
San Jose Water Company Operational Goal (2)	<p>Target Goal: Achieve 80% of identified key water industry objectives measured primarily in terms of service, reliability and efficiency</p> <p>Minimum Threshold: Achieve 70% of identified water industry objectives</p> <p>Maximum Goal: Achieve 90% of identified key water industry objectives</p> <p>Total 2015 Actual Bonus Award</p>	\$59,166	<p>Represents 141.2% of \$59,166 based on 88.2% achievement of identified key water industry objectives (between Target Goal and Maximum Goal)</p> <p>\$230,927</p>

(1) "San Jose Water Capital Additions" means San Jose Water Company's 2015 capital expenditures and does not include (i) the cost to retire facilities and (ii) improvements made to the Montevina Treatment Plant. The Target

Goal, Minimum Threshold and Maximum Goal are equal to 90%, 80% and 100%, respectively, of the amount of capital expenditures (not including the cost to retire facilities and improvements made to the Montevina Treatment Plant) approved by San Jose Water Company's Board for the 2015 fiscal year.

San Jose Water Company annually establishes quantitative financial and non-financial operational goals (i.e., performance indicators) that are designed to align management's operating objectives with the primary goals of the Corporation's Strategic Plan. Operational goals are established by the Committee at the start of each fiscal year in (2) terms of specific benchmarks that measure San Jose Water Company's performance in five critical areas: (i) water quality and pressure; (ii) customer service; (iii) infrastructure integrity and reliability; and (iv) efficiency and productivity. For 2015, the operational goals were comprised of 17 key performance indicators, of which 15 (88.2%) were achieved at target level or above.

"No material water quality or environmental violations" means the absence of citations with material fines issued (3) by state or federal environmental regulators in the 2015 fiscal year in connection with violations which occurred in the 2015 fiscal year or any of the preceding two years. A material fine is deemed to occur if the amount of the fine exceeds \$25,000 in any one instance or \$100,000 in the aggregate for the year.

The actual bonus attributable to each performance goal could have ranged from 0 to 150% of the portion of the (4) target bonus amount allocated to that goal as described above. If the actual level of attainment of any such performance goal was between two of the designated levels, then the bonus potential with respect to that goal would be interpolated on a straight-line basis.

2015 Fiscal Year Bonuses for the Other Named Executive Officers: The actual bonus amount that any other named executive officer could have earned for the 2015 fiscal year ranged from 0 to 200 percent of his target bonus based on the Corporation's performance and the Committee's assessment of the named executive officer's individual performance for such year. The actual percentage within that range was to be determined as follows: (i) up to 150 percent of the target bonus could be earned, weighted 50 percent for the Corporation's performance and 50 percent for individual performance, and (ii) an additional 50 percent could be earned for exceptional individual performance. The Corporation's performance was measured in terms of capital additions, environmental compliance and the attainment of certain operational goals, utilizing the same target for each such goal that was in effect for the CEO's 2015 fiscal year bonus, as summarized in the table above. However, the bonus potential for individual performance goals established for each of the other named executive officer was not pre-allocated in distinct dollar segments among those various individual goals, and the attainment of one or more of those goals did not guarantee that a named executive officer would be awarded any specific bonus amount. Rather, the portion of actual bonus amount payable for the 2015 fiscal year related to the individual goals for each of the other named executive officers was to be determined solely in the Committee's discretion based on its assessment of the named executive officer's individual performance measured against the achievement of specific individual operational goals or completion of specific projects or initiatives.



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The table below summarizes the principal individual goals that the Committee set for the 2015 fiscal year for each of the other named executive officers:

Name	Title	Goals
Andrew R. Gere	Chief Operating Officer (beginning April 29, 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Manage/control operating costs</li> <li>- Execute plan to attain key performance indicators/project milestones</li> <li>- Improve water supply reliability</li> <li>- Enhance IT system utilization by the operations, distribution systems and water quality departments (collectively the "Operations Departments")</li> <li>- Enhance employee retention and succession plan in the Operations Departments</li> <li>- Ensure outstanding customer service by the Operations Departments</li> <li>- Enhance San Jose Water Company's asset management program</li> <li>- Optimize regulatory functions, proceedings, and decisions</li> </ul>
Palle L. Jensen	Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure timely rate recovery of costs and capital investments</li> <li>- Establish/maintain effective regulatory and government relations</li> <li>- Ensure compliance with regulatory rules and requirements</li> <li>- Evaluate and implement strategic customer service initiatives</li> <li>- Optimize capital management and control corporate cost</li> </ul>
James P. Lynch	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Execute financial plan/budgets to achieve targeted results</li> <li>- Integrate/optimize accounting, finance, treasury, and tax functions</li> <li>- Execute investor relations and retirement plan funding strategies</li> <li>- Evaluate and optimize deployment and use of strategic assets</li> <li>- Execute business transaction strategy</li> </ul>
Andrew F. Walters	Chief Administrative Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assist with the identification and implementation of operation and business process efficiencies</li> <li>- Evaluate/execute corporate ventures and specific strategic initiatives</li> <li>- Ensure organizational alignment with strategic plan/key performance indicators</li> </ul>

In February 2016, the Committee determined, on the basis of the Corporation's performance in relation to the performance criteria listed above for the Corporation and the executive officer's individual performance, that bonuses for the 2015 fiscal year should be paid to the above-listed named executive officers in amounts ranging from 117 to 142 percent of target based on (i) reaching 130.1 percent of the target allocated to the Corporation's performance goals, (ii) reaching between 100 and 150 percent of the target allocated to individual performance goals for each of Messrs. Gere, Jensen, Lynch and Walters, and (iii) a special bonus in the amount of \$2,500 in recognition of exemplary efforts by each of the such named executive officers during 2015 in connection with the management of the California drought. The table below sets forth the fiscal year 2015 annual bonus targets and actual bonus payout amounts for each of those named executive officers.

Name	Title	2015 Target Bonus (\$)	2015 Target Bonus (% Salary)	2015 Actual Bonus (\$)	2015 Actual Bonus (% Target Bonus)
Andrew R. Gere	Chief Operating Officer (beginning April 29, 2015)	\$60,000	21 %	\$71,091	118 %
Palle L. Jensen	Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs	\$106,000	32 %	\$144,877	137 %
James P. Lynch	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	\$85,000	21 %	\$120,920	142 %

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Andrew F. Walters	Chief Administrative Officer	\$79,000	22	%	\$92,811	117	%
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33

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### Long-Term Incentive Equity Awards

A significant portion of each named executive officer's compensation is provided in the form of long-term incentive equity awards under the Corporation's Long-Term Incentive Plan ("LTIP"). Long-term incentive awards are typically made to executive officers in the form of restricted stock units ("RSUs") covering shares of the Corporation's common stock. The Committee believes that RSUs are important to encourage the retention of the executive officers and will help to advance the share ownership guidelines the Committee has established for the executive officers. RSUs are less dilutive to shareholders than traditional option grants in terms of the number of shares issuable under those RSU awards and provide a more direct correlation between the compensation cost the Corporation must record for financial accounting purposes and the value delivered to the executive officers. In addition, RSUs continue to have value even in periods of declining stock prices and thereby serve as an important retention tool and also provide a less risky equity compensation program than that associated with option grants that only have value to the extent the price of the underlying stock appreciates over the option term.

The RSUs granted to date have vesting schedules that provide a meaningful incentive for the executive officer to remain in the Corporation's service. In addition, a substantial portion of the CEO's equity grants have historically been performance-vesting RSUs in order to link a greater percentage of his compensation to long-term shareholder return. Effective with the equity awards granted to the CEO under his amended employment agreement and the equity awards granted to the other named executive officers in the 2015 fiscal year, leveraged RSUs are also used to pay out at increasing rates based on the level of attainment of the specified performance goals.

The Committee has followed a grant practice of tying regular-cycle equity awards to its annual year-end review of individual performance and its assessment of the Corporation's performance for that year. Accordingly, equity awards are typically made to the named executive officers on an annual basis during the last quarter of each fiscal year or the first month of the succeeding fiscal year.

**2015 Fiscal Year Grants to CEO:** On January 27, 2015, the CEO was granted an award of RSUs covering 6,639 shares of the Corporation's common stock in accordance with the terms of his amended employment agreement. The RSUs vest based on the attainment of a performance goal based on return on equity ("ROE") measured over the 2015 calendar year period and continued service through December 31, 2015. The ROE goal was 7.41 percent. Based on a return on equity of 10.3 percent for the 2015 calendar year, the award vested in full.

On August 4, 2014, Mr. Roth was granted a performance-based RSU award that vests based on relative total shareholder return measured from August 4, 2014 to December 31, 2017 and a service-based RSU award that vests in equal annual installments over the three-year period measured from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2017, pursuant to his amended employment agreement.

None of the RSU awards granted to Mr. Roth in 2014 and 2015 include dividend equivalent rights.

**2015 Fiscal Year Grants to the Other Named Executive Officers:** On January 2, 2015, Messrs. Jensen, Lynch and Walters and on January 2, 2015 and April 29, 2015, Mr. Gere, were each granted RSUs covering an aggregate number of shares of the Corporation's common stock specified below that vest in three equal installments upon completion of each year of service over the three year period measured from the grant date. The RSU awards are without any dividend equivalent rights.

In addition, on January 27, 2015, Messrs. Jensen, Lynch and Walters and on April 29, 2015, Mr. Gere, were each granted performance based RSUs covering the target number of shares specified below. Each such performance based award will vest based on the level of achievement of a performance goal based on ROE measured over the 2015 calendar year period and continued service through December 31, 2015. The ROE goal for the awards at threshold, target and maximum levels were 6.58 percent, 8.23 percent and 9.88 percent, respectively. The corresponding number of shares issuable to an individual under each such performance-based award will be 50 percent, 100 percent, and 150 percent of the target number of shares specified for such individual at threshold, target and maximum levels of performance, respectively, and no shares will be issued if the minimum threshold level of performance is not attained.

The chart below indicates the number of shares of the Corporation's common stock underlying the RSU awards granted to the named executive officers other than the CEO in January 2015 and in April 2015. No other equity awards were granted to them during the 2015 fiscal year:

Name	Title	Number of Shares subject to Service RSU Award (1)	Target Number of RSUs for ROE Award (1)(2)
Andrew R. Gere	Chief Operating Officer (beginning April 29, 2015)	1,124	501
Palle L. Jensen	Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs	2,397	1,028
James P. Lynch	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	2,789	1,196
Andrew F. Walters	Chief Administrative Officer	2,397	1,028

The number of shares of common stock underlying the service-based RSUs granted to Mr. Gere on January 2, 2015 was determined by dividing \$20,000 by \$32.13, the closing selling price of the Corporation's common stock on the January 2, 2015 grant date of the award. The number of shares of common stock underlying the service-based and performance-based RSUs granted to Mr. Gere on April 29, 2015 was determined by dividing \$30,000 by \$29.95, the closing selling price of the Corporation's common stock on the April 29, 2015 grant date of the awards, (1) allocated 50% for each award. The aggregate number of shares underlying the RSUs granted to Messrs. Jensen and Walters was determined by dividing \$110,000 by \$32.13, the closing selling price of the Corporation's common stock on the January 2, 2015 grant date, allocated between the service-based and performance-based awards as set forth above. The aggregate number of shares underlying the RSUs granted to Mr. Lynch was determined by dividing \$128,000 by \$32.13, the closing selling price of the Corporation's common stock on the January 2, 2015 grant date, allocated between the service-based and performance-based awards as set forth above.

(2) Based on a return on equity of 10.3% for calendar year 2015, Messrs. Gere, Jensen, Lynch and Walters vested in 751, 1,542, 1,794 and 1,542 shares of common stock respectively under the ROE awards.

#### Executive Benefits and Perquisites

The named executive officers are provided with certain market competitive benefits and perquisites. It is the Committee's belief that such benefits are necessary for the Corporation to remain competitive and to attract and retain top caliber executive officers, since such benefits are commonly provided by peer group companies.

**Retirement Benefits:** Executive officers are eligible to receive retirement benefits under San Jose Water Company's Retirement Plan, a tax-qualified defined benefit plan covering a broad spectrum of the Corporation's employees.

Executive officers hired before March 31, 2008 are eligible to receive additional retirement benefits under the Executive Supplemental Retirement Plan ("SERP"), and executive officers hired on or after March 31, 2008 are eligible to receive retirement benefits under the Cash Balance Executive Supplemental Retirement Plan ("Cash Balance SERP"). Both of those plans are non-qualified plans in which only senior officers and other designated members of management may participate, and such individuals remain general creditors of San Jose Water Company with respect to their accrued benefits under those plans. A description of the plans and the benefits payable to each named executive officer upon retirement is set forth in the Pension Benefits table and the accompanying narrative that appears later in this proxy statement.

The pension benefits payable to the executive officers under the SERP will increase in correlation with increases in their compensation levels and years of service. However, the present value of each executive officer's accrued pension benefit under the SERP will not only reflect such increases but will also fluctuate from year to year based on the mortality tables and the interest rate used to discount anticipated future payments so that when interest rates decrease for example, the present value associated with the underlying benefit may increase.

Messrs. Lynch and Walters commenced employment with the Corporation after March 31, 2008 and accordingly participate in the Cash Balance SERP. Under that plan, each participant will receive compensation credits and interest credits on a quarterly basis to the book account maintained for him or her under the plan. The amount of the compensation credit each quarter will be tied to his or her compensation for that quarter and his or her years of credited service, and the percentage of compensation to be credited on such quarterly basis will increase as the participant's years of credited service increase. For Mr. Lynch, the percentage of compensation credited to his Cash Balance SERP account for the first 20 years of credited service will be at 15 percent of his quarterly compensation in lieu of the lower percentage levels in effect for other participants, and he vested in his accrued benefit under such plan after three years of service instead of the regular 10-year vesting schedule in effect for the other participants. Mr. Walters will also vest in his accrued benefit under such plan after three years of service.

For further information concerning the SERP and the Cash Balance SERP, please see the section entitled "Pension Benefits" that appears later in this proxy statement.

**Broad-Based Employee Benefit Plans:** Executive officers are also eligible to participate in San Jose Water Company's Salary Deferral Plan, a tax-qualified 401(k) defined contribution plan. San Jose Water Company matches up to four percent of each participant's contributions, subject to certain statutory limits. Such plan is open to all employees and officers under the same terms and conditions.

**Elective Deferral:** The named executive officers and certain other highly compensated employees may participate in San Jose Water Company's Special Deferral Election Plan pursuant to which eligible participants may defer up to 50 percent of their base salary and up to 100 percent of their bonus or other incentive compensation. The deferred amounts are credited with an annual fixed rate of interest that will not exceed 120 percent of the long-term Applicable Federal Rate ("AFR") determined at the start of each fiscal year, compounded semi-annually. A description of the plan and the amounts deferred thereunder are set forth in the section entitled "Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation," which appears later in this proxy statement.

**Other Benefits and Perquisites:** All administrative employees, including executive officers, are eligible to receive standard health care, disability, life and travel insurance, and professional development benefits. In addition, the Corporation provides certain executives from time to time with (i) vehicles for business use and personal commutes, (ii) club memberships, (iii) reimbursement of relocation and commuting expenses, including lodging and travel expenses, and (iv) reimbursement of certain spousal expenses incurred in connection with business trips taken by such executives. The Corporation also purchases season tickets to sporting and cultural events which the CEO and other executive officers and personnel of the Corporation may use for non-business purposes on occasions. The Corporation does not provide tax gross-ups for any imputed income in connection with providing those particular benefits and perquisites.

#### **Risk Assessment**

The Committee, with the input and assistance of the Corporation's Human Resources Department, reviewed the various compensation programs maintained by the Corporation and its subsidiaries to determine whether any of those programs, including those maintained for the named executive officers, encouraged excess risk taking that would create a material risk to the Corporation's economic viability. Based on that review and the fact that the Corporation operates in a heavily-regulated environment, the Committee concluded it was not reasonably likely that any of the Corporation's compensation programs, including the executive officer compensation programs, would have a material adverse effect upon the Corporation. For further information concerning the overall compensation risk assessment process, please see the section to this proxy statement entitled "Executive Compensation and Related Information - Risk Assessment of Compensation Policies and Practices," which appears later in this proxy statement.

#### **Executive Severance Plan and Severance Programs**

**Executive Severance Plan:** The Corporation maintains an Executive Severance Plan under which the CEO and the other named executive officers will become entitled to certain severance benefits on a so-called double trigger basis in

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36

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event their employment were to terminate under certain defined circumstances in connection with a change in control of the Corporation. Accordingly, such benefits would be triggered in connection with such a change in control only if the executive officer's employment is terminated by the Corporation other than for good cause or such executive officer resigns in connection with (i) a significantly adverse change in the nature or the scope of his or her authority or overall working environment, (ii) the assignment of duties materially inconsistent with his or her present duties, responsibilities or status, (iii) a reduction in the sum of his or her base salary and target bonus, or (iv) a relocation of his or her principal place of employment by 55 miles or more.

The Executive Severance Plan is designed to serve two primary purposes: (i) encourage the executive officers to remain in the Corporation's employ in the event of an actual or potential change in control transaction and (ii) align the interests of the Corporation's executive officers with those of the shareholders by enabling the executive officers to consider transactions that are in the best interests of the shareholders and provide opportunities for the creation of substantial shareholder value without undue concern over whether those transactions may jeopardize their employment or their existing compensation arrangements.

The Executive Severance Plan also allows the Corporation to maintain a standard set of severance benefits for new and existing executive officers and limit the instances where one-off arrangements will be negotiated with individual executive officers.

Based on the foregoing considerations and the many years of service that most of the executive officers have rendered to the Corporation, the Committee believes that the benefits provided under the Executive Severance Plan, including any tax gross-up payment to cover the parachute payment taxes the executive officers may incur under the federal tax laws with respect to one or more severance benefits provided under the plan, have been set at a fair and reasonable level and appropriately balance the respective interests of the various stakeholders.

For further information regarding the Executive Severance Plan and the severance benefits provided thereunder, please see the section entitled "Employment Agreements, Termination of Employment and Change in Control Arrangements" that appears later in this proxy statement.

Severance Benefits for Mr. Roth and Mr. Lynch: Pursuant to the terms of his original employment agreement, Mr. Roth will become entitled to severance benefits should his employment terminate under certain defined circumstances in the absence of a change in control. Mr. Lynch will, as part of his negotiated compensation package with the Corporation, become entitled to severance benefits should his employment terminate under certain defined circumstances in the absence of a change of control. The Committee believes that such protections are typical for chief executive officers and chief financial officers in the peer group companies. For further information concerning Mr. Roth's and Mr. Lynch's potential severance benefits, see the section entitled "Employment Agreements, Termination of Employment and Change in Control Arrangements" that appears later in this proxy statement.

## Executive Officer Security Ownership Guidelines

In 2006, the Committee established a policy requiring named executive officers to achieve specific security ownership guidelines within five years. The Committee believes that such a policy is consistent with its philosophy of encouraging executive officer stock ownership and will serve to further align the interests of the executive officers with those of shareholders. Pursuant to the policy, executive officers are expected to own shares of the Corporation's common stock with an aggregate value equal to two times the annual base salary for the CEO and one times the annual base salary for the other named executive officers. Shares of the Corporation's common stock owned outright, shares underlying RSUs, and shares underlying deferred stock units, including deferred shares resulting from dividend equivalent rights, all count as shares owned for purposes of the guideline. Until the guideline is met, each executive is required to hold any shares of the Corporation's common stock issued upon the vesting of RSUs (net of any shares withheld or sold to cover statutory withholding taxes and other applicable taxes). As of December 30, 2015, all the named executive officers, except for Messrs. Gere and Walters, had complied with the policy. Messrs. Gere and Walters have until April 2020 and January 2019, respectively, to comply. The following table shows each named executive officer's share ownership as of December 30, 2015:

Name	Title	Security Ownership (\$)(1)	Security Ownership Guideline (\$)(2)
W. Richard Roth	President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board	\$8,354,809	\$1,420,000
Andrew R. Gere	Chief Operating Officer (beginning April 29, 2015)	\$267,595	\$280,000
Palle L. Jensen	Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs	\$587,458	\$330,000
James P. Lynch	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	\$593,259	\$403,000
Andrew F. Walters	Chief Administrative Officer	\$204,856	\$357,000

(1) This amount is calculated by multiplying (i) the sum of the shares of the Corporation's common stock actually owned, the shares underlying restricted stock units and shares underlying deferred stock units, including deferred shares resulting from dividend equivalent rights, by (ii) \$30.53, the closing selling price of the common stock on December 30, 2015.

(2) This amount is equal to two times the base salary in effect for the CEO for the 2015 fiscal year and one times the base salary in effect for the other named executive officers for such year.

## Policy Governing Hedging and Pledging of Common Stock

The Corporation has adopted policies that preclude the executive officers and certain employees and other individuals, including family members residing in the same household, from engaging in hedging or monetization transactions in the Corporation's common stock such as put and call options and short sales and from pledging the Corporation's common stock or holding such stock in margin accounts. Accordingly, the executive officers bear the full risk of economic loss, like any other shareholder, with respect to their equity holdings, whether in the form of actual shares of the Corporation's common stock or restricted stock units that will convert into such shares following the satisfaction of the applicable vesting requirements.

## IRC Section 162(m) Compliance

As a result of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, publicly-traded companies such as the Corporation are not allowed a federal income tax deduction for compensation paid to the CEO and the three other highest paid executive officers (other than the Chief Financial Officer) to the extent that such compensation exceeds one million dollars per officer in any one year and does not otherwise qualify as performance-based compensation. The Corporation's Long-Term Incentive Plan ("LTIP") is structured so that compensation deemed paid to an executive officer in connection with the exercise of stock options should qualify as performance-based compensation that is not subject to the one million dollar limitation. In addition, RSUs with performance-vesting goals tied to one or more of the performance criteria approved by the shareholders under the LTIP may also be structured to qualify as



performance-based compensation for

38

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Section 162(m) purposes. However, RSUs subject only to service-vesting requirements will not qualify as such performance-based compensation. Other awards made under the LTIP may or may not so qualify.

In establishing the cash and equity incentive compensation programs for the executive officers, it is the Committee's view that the potential deductibility of the compensation payable under those programs should be only one of a number of relevant factors taken into consideration, and not the sole governing factor. For that reason the Committee may deem it appropriate to continue to provide one or more executive officers with the opportunity to earn incentive compensation, including cash bonus programs tied to the Corporation's financial performance and restricted stock units awards, which may be in excess of the amount deductible by reason of Section 162(m) or other provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. It is the Committee's belief that cash and equity incentive compensation must be maintained at the requisite level to attract and retain the executive officers essential to the Corporation's financial success, even if all or part of that compensation may not be deductible by reason of the Section 162(m) limitation.

## Summary Compensation Table

The following table provides certain summary information concerning the compensation earned for services rendered in all capacities to the Corporation and its subsidiaries for the years ended December 31, 2013, December 31, 2014, and December 31, 2015 by the Corporation's Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Corporation's other most highly compensated executive officers whose total compensation for the 2015 fiscal year was in excess of \$100,000 and who were serving as executive officers at the end of the 2015 fiscal year. No executive officers who would have otherwise been includable in such table on the basis of total compensation for the 2015 fiscal year (exclusive of any amounts that would have been reportable in column (h) of such table) have been excluded by reason of their termination of employment or change in executive status during that year. The listed individuals shall be hereinafter referred to as the "named executive officers."

Name and Principal Position (a)	Year (b)	Salary (\$)(1) (c)	Bonus (\$)(1)(2) (d)	Stock Awards (\$)(3) (e)	Option Awards (\$)(3) (f)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)(1)(4) (g)	Change in Pension Value (\$) (h)	All Other Compensation (\$)(8) (i)	Total Compensation (\$) (j)
W. Richard Roth	2015	\$710,000	—	\$228,116	—	\$230,927	\$380,200	(6) \$19,883	\$1,569,126
President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of SJW Corp.	2014	\$676,000	—	\$1,204,635	—	\$253,500	\$1,138,973	(7) \$28,826	\$3,301,934
	2013	\$650,000	—	\$380,007	—	\$189,860	—	(7) \$32,089	\$1,251,956
Andrew R. Gere	2015	\$271,969	(5) \$32,500	\$47,146	—	\$38,591	\$127,955	\$18,346	\$536,507
Chief Operating Officer of San Jose Water Company (beginning April 29, 2015)									
Palle L. Jensen	2015	\$330,000							