

## **JOHN BURKHART, Candidate for Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency**

*What issues of water use and District responsibility in Morongo Basin's desert environment do you believe your Water District needs to focus on in the short- and long-term?*

### SHORT TERM

- 1. Intertie with Hi Desert Water** This intertie will make possible the exchange of water between Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency and Hi Desert Water during times of extreme emergencies such as an earthquake.
- 2. A new water storage basin** in addition to the Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency's Ames - Reche Recharge basin. These infrastructures will assure water storage for use the coming years.
- 3. Establishment of an intertie** connecting the Goat Mountain Improvement District (Landers) and Bighorn-Desert View system thus creating a single system.

In all these projects Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency looks to grants from Federal and State sources thus ensuring the least possible financial burden to the customer.

### LONG TERM

1. Educate our children and families new to desert living about the importance of conservation and how we obtain our water. Events like Water Education Day at La Contenta Middle School gives youth the opportunity to understand how water systems work. And a practical understanding of how water is distributed from wells and what it takes to maintain the infrastructure.

Events like Gubler's Orchids annual festival where Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency participates in activities showcasing water conservation and offers educational activities and discussions that further educate the public.

2. California's ever increasing regulations have imposed more stringent water quality standards than the US Government standards, thus raising the cost of water and water treatment. The public needs to be aware of any new regulations that increase the cost of implementation to the local water districts.
3. Any new water usage regulations, such as a limit per person, must take into account the use of water in the evaporative cooling systems so prevalent in our desert environment.
4. Water quality testing methods need to be standardized to ensure uniform results across the board.