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# KNDLA Announces Executive Director

January 30, 2025

BAKERSFIELD, CA— Kern Non-Districted Lands Authority (KNDLA) is excited to introduce Jenny Holtermann as Executive Director. KNDLA solicited outside proposals to lead the Authority as it continues to develop and advance. KNDLA Board of Directors selected Holtermann during their December 13th, 2024, Special Meeting. Holtermann's contract went into effect on January 10th, 2025.

KNDLA was established in August of 2024 to manage the non-districted lands of Kern County that do not fall under the authority of a water district as per the requirements for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Holtermann's background in board administration, fundraising management, event planning and firsthand understanding of agriculture made her the ideal candidate.

"We are thrilled to welcome Jenny as our new Executive Director," said Barry Watts, Chair of the Board of Directors. "With her extensive knowledge of agriculture, passion for the farming community and proven track record of success, Jenny is the ideal leader to guide KNDLA into its next phase of growth and impact."

Holtermann is also the Executive Director of the Water Association of Kern County, where she successfully manages the water outreach and education nonprofit. Holtermann's deep understanding of water issues, combined with her strategic vision and collaborative leadership style, makes Holtermann uniquely suited to lead KNDLA as well. Holtermann is also a 4th generation farmer and currently farms almonds with her husband and his family in Shafter & Wasco. As a farmer herself, she is a relatable and relevant voice for KNDLA.

"I am honored and excited to join KNDLA." said Holtermann. "I look forward to working with the Board and landowners to continue to find solutions, create meaningful change, and develop a foundation to approach the hand we have been dealt."

As Executive Director, Holtermann will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of KNDLA, developing and executing the goals set in place by SGMA, and fostering relationships with landowners and key stakeholders.

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