

2022 June Quarterly Report – Q2 2022

Section Officers

Aman Bains
Director

Steven Johnson
President

Lucy Cheadle
President-Elect

Lex Mitchell
VP Supervisory

VACANT
VP Rank & File

Rebecca Neumann
Secretary

Jeff Kessler
Treasurer

Aman Bains
Web-Cordinator

Your 2021-2022 PECG Fort Sutter Section Officers



FS Director
Aman Bains



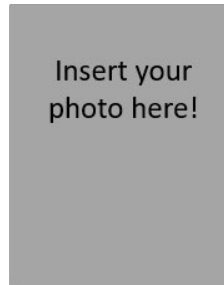
FS President
Steven Johnson



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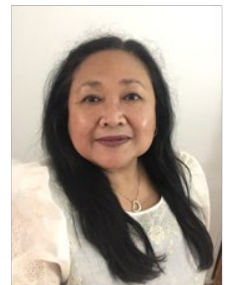
FS VP Supervisory
Lex Mitchell



FS VP Rank & File
VACANT



FS Treasurer
Jeff Kessler



FS Secretary
Rebecca Neumann

If you have questions or suggestions regarding PECG, you can contact any of your elected officers pictured above or reach out to our section at fspecg@gmail.com.

Who We Represent

The Fort Sutter Section represents PECG members from 18 Boards, Offices, and Departments (BDO). Currently, among rank & file, supervisors, and managers we have 884 members and 350 non-members. Since the previous quarterly report, eight (8) new members were added to the Fort Sutter family.

The Fort Sutter Section BDO's include the California Air Resources Board (590 members), California Highway Patrol (5 members), Department of Transportation (1 member), California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (40 members), Department of Consumer Affairs (19 members), Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (23 members), Department of Developmental Services (2 members), Franchise Tax Board (1 member), Housing Finance Agency (3 members), Department of Industrial Relations (34 members), Department of Justice (1 member), Department of Motor Vehicles (5 members), California Environmental Protection Agency (3 members), Department of State Architect (2 members), Healthcare Access and Information (45 members), Department of Toxic Substance Control (109 members), and Department of Veteran Affairs (1 member).

The more members we have, the more bargaining power we have, and the better provisions we can win in our contracts. We are only as strong as our membership!

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Highlights



Thank you and best wishes to Ilonka Zlatar! Ilonka has been serving as the FS VP Rank & File, but recently accepted a new position as Climate Justice Organizer for the Oil and Gas Action Network, so she will be leaving state service and PECG. Ilonka brought a lot of energy and great ideas to the PECG FS Board, and she will be missed! We would like to congratulate her on her new role and wish her well. We know she will continue to do great work for all Californians as she works on climate justice, oil and gas issues, and related social justice efforts.

Open VP Rank & File Position: Since Ilonka will no longer be the FS VP Rank & File, there is now an opportunity for a PECG member to step into that role. The VP Rank & File serves as the section representative for rank and file members and represents the section at collective bargaining committee meetings. As a FS officer, the VP can also lead and be involved in any projects or committees that the FS Board initiates. If you're interested in the opportunity, please submit your candidate statement form by email to fspecg@gmail.com by Thursday, May 26, 2022. If you have any questions, require candidate statement form, or need additional information, please contact us at fspecg@gmail.com.

| <p>PECG – FORT SUTTER SECTION RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01</p> <p>A resolution to condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine and urge the world community to join together in condemning Russia and actions in this regard.</p> | |
|---|--|
| <p>Whereas, On February 24, 2022, Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin announced a "special military operation" in Ukraine. Soon after, the Russian military launched a full-scale invasion of its neighbor, including sending troops into the country and bombing major cities; and</p> | |
| <p>Whereas, This unjustified invasion has already caused needless anguish and loss of life. Ukrainian soldiers have been killed or wounded, and millions of Ukrainian citizens have fled to neighboring countries to escape the bloodshed; and</p> | |
| <p>Whereas, The attack on Ukraine is unprovoked and demonstrates a blatant violation of the Budapest Memorandum, a 1994 agreement between the United States, Russia, and Great Britain. Russia committed to "respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine" and "to refrain from the threat or use of force" against the country;</p> | |
| <p>Whereas, California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) provides pension benefits to state and local government employees and currently holds investments in publicly traded Russian companies, real estate and private equity firms totaling \$900 million to \$1.1 billion at any given time; now,</p> | |
| <p>Therefore, be it Resolved by the Board of Director for the Fort Sutter Section of the Professional Engineers in California Government (PECG) on behalf of its members,</p> | |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PECG – Fort Sutter Section condemns the Russian invasion of Ukraine; and 2. PECG – Fort Sutter Section urges the world community to join together in condemning Russia; and 3. PECG – Fort Sutter Section urges the CalPERS Board of Directors to dis-invest from all investment holdings in publicly traded Russian companies, real estate, and equity firms; and 4. PECG – Fort Sutter Section urges like-minded public-employee unions, the CalPERS Board of Directors, and the legislature of the State of California to likewise condemn Russia; and be it further resolved, 5. Copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the Russian Federation, the Assembly Speaker and Senate President Pro Tempore of the California State Legislature, the Chief Executive Officer of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS), and the PECG Corporate President. | |
| <p><i>Steven P. Johnson</i> Steven P. Johnson PECG – Fort Sutter President</p> | <p><i>Rebecca Neumann</i> Rebecca Neumann PECG – Fort Sutter Secretary</p> |
| <p>Adopted: Date <u>March 17, 2022</u></p> | |
| <p>YES Votes <u>7</u>, NO Votes <u>0</u>, Abstain <u>0</u></p> | |

Ukraine Resolution No. 2022-01: At the March 17th regular meeting of the Fort Sutter Board of Directors, the FS Board adopted a resolution condemning the Russian Federation invasion of Ukraine. In this resolution, the FS Board urged the following: Condemnation of the Russian invasion of Ukraine by the world community; Dis-invest on the part of the Cal-PERS Board of Directors in all investment holdings and publicly traded Russian companies, real estate, and equity firms; and like-minded public employee unions, the CalPERS Board of Directors, and the California State Legislature should likewise condemn the Russian Invasion of Ukraine. Copies of the fully signed and executed resolution were transmitted to the Ambassador Anatoly Antonov of the Russian Federation by way of their embassy in Washington D.C., the Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon and Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Adkins of the California Legislature, California Governor Gavin Newsom, CalPERS CEO Marcie Frost, and PECG Corporate President Cameron Knudson. To date, Governor Gavin Newsom, Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara, a bi-partisan group of California legislators, and the CalPERS and CalSTRS Board of

Directors have all condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Governor Newsom has directed that California's two largest retirement funds, CalPERS and CalSTRS, divest from all Russian-related investments as soon as they are able to do so. As of this report, no other PECG section has adopted a similar resolution condemning the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine.

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Fort Sutter Office Hours: The FS office hours program was created to give members a chance to talk with a PEGC officer each week to ensure that concerns about union-relevant issues (like telework, parental leave, etc.) can be documented and better addressed by the union. Office hours will be happening on different days each week to ensure that all members will have the opportunity to attend. Please see [our calendar](#) to find out when the next FS office hours will take place. Our office hours are intended to be a safe space for members to communicate with one another to share experiences, and to ensure that PEGC officers can adequately represent member views. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for how we can improve our office hours program to make it more effective.

Climate Change Survey: Through the efforts of FS President-Elect Lucy Cheadle, Fort Sutter has continued to engage with other sections throughout the state on the issue of climate change. As of April 2022, 886 respondents from 16 sections have completed the PEGC Climate Change Survey. A summary of the results was emailed out to respondents who requested it—if you did not receive a results summary but are interested, please email Lucy.Cheadle@arb.ca.gov. Many respondents think PEGC should do more to address climate impacts; therefore, FS officers are working with officers from other sections to put together a proposal to the PEGC Corporate President to establish a climate change committee.

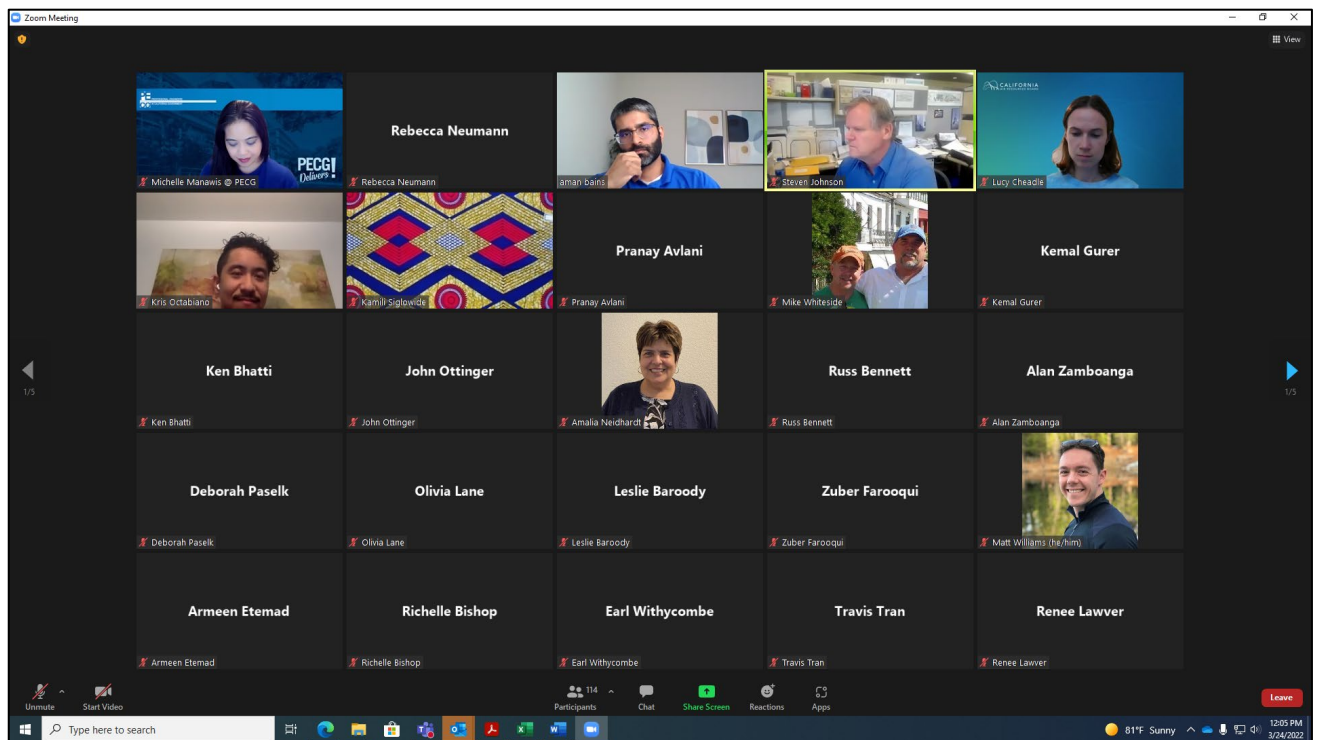
Telework Updates: We have heard from many members about their concerns regarding return-to-work policies. PEGC is currently aware of telework concerns, and we will continue to work with the State in an effort to relax their stance towards in-office attendance. We cannot unilaterally force the State to allow everyone to stay home, but we are doing our best to explain why it benefits them to maximize telework for as many Unit 9 employees as possible as often as possible. A mandatory policy to have employees in the office two and three days a week contravenes the big picture objectives from the first page of the statewide policy, and will not allow the State to reduce their footprint, congestion, and greenhouse gas emissions.

If your department has adopted, or is considering, a permanent telework policy mandating that employees return to work a specific number of days each week – and has put the plan in writing – please share that information with PEGC via pecg@pecg.org. That will help us make the case to the Newsom Administration and state departments that this approach is not consistent with the statewide telework policy established last October. At this time, we encourage you to work directly with your managers to establish a telework policy that works for you, and to document and submit to PEGC the reason that any such telework request was denied.

Your Telework Stipends for October 2021 through March 2022 should have been processed. Please check and inform PEGC via pecg@pecg.org of any discrepancies or issues. Employees should expect to receive their April 2022 Telework stipend with the end of the May pay period.

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Membership Meeting: On March 24th the Fort Sutter Section held its first members meeting for the year through ZOOM. We had over 110 members in attendance. Guest speakers were Kemal Gurer (PECG Legislative Committee member) and Mike Whiteside (Chair, PECG Political Liaison Committee). They provided an overview of their duties and benefits to PECG members. As a Legislative Committee member, Kemal reviews committee, assembly, and senate bills for potential benefits and impacts for PECG members. Mike provided an overview on how the Political Liaison Committee increases awareness of PECG by meeting with State and local elected officials. Those relationships play a role when negotiating for MOUs, allocating funding for agencies, and protecting benefits for PECG members. Kris Octabiano (PECG staff and attorney) was also in attendance to answer any questions that members had during the question and answer portion of the meeting.



Fort Sutter Section Website: We recently updated the Fort Sutter Section Website, <http://fortsutterpecg.org>. On the website, members will find: Overview of services & programs, PECG history, Fort Sutter officers and their duties, FAQs & reports, committees, a link to PECG member discounts, and a link to the PECG Corporate website.

Members Benefits: PECG provides a variety of discount services to its members. Benefits are available online after logging in on the password-protected members only section of this website: <http://pecg.org/benefits/consumer-discounts/>. Please call the PECG Sacramento office at (916) 446-0400 to acquire a member password if you do not have one.

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History of the Fort Sutter Section: In an attempt to obtain information on the founding of the Fort Sutter Section, we reached out to the PECG Historian Roy Flores. Roy found that the Fort Sutter Section was authorized to create PECG's 16th Section at the October 1981 Annual Meeting. Fort Sutter was chartered the following year. Initially, the Fort Sutter Section was primarily tasked to "serve the needs of PECG members employed by the Air Resources Board." A PECG Informer published April 9, 1982 has the first mention of a Fort Sutter Section where it listed the VP Rank & File as "Sydney Thornton, Air Resources Board." Since its charter, the Fort Sutter Section is proud to have expanded to serve PECG members in an additional 16 California departments, boards, and agencies. As a result of this timely research, Fort Sutter is proud to celebrate 40 years of representation of members of the section.



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Goals for 2021-2022

Fort Sutter has settled on a series of goals for 2021-22. These goals are:

- Host virtual or in person office hours where members can chat with FS officers and ask questions. **--COMPLETED**
- Publish a monthly or bi-monthly newsletter to keep the members informed of actions taken by the Fort Sutter Board and to alert the members of issues of concern. **--COMING SOON**
- Continue active membership recruitment efforts. **--ONGOING EFFORTS**
- Host membership appreciation event(s).
- Define roles for FS officers more clearly and make the process of becoming an officer more transparent and accessible.
- Improve our election processes to increase voter participation. **--BYLAW CHANGES PENDING**
- Update the Fort Sutter webpage. **--COMPLETED**
- Complete the parental leave fact sheets and post them on our webpage. **--COMPLETED**
- Analyze and share results from the climate change survey and collaborate with other sections to implement next steps based on the results. **--COMPLETED**
- Complete the Fort Sutter Section Telework Survey, tabulate the results, and share the results with the Fort Sutter members and with PEGC Corporate. **--COMPLETED**

The Fort Sutter Board is in the process of setting up committees (where appropriate) and assigning these goals to FS Board members or other interested FS members. Please contact FS President Steven Johnson at Steven.Johnson2@cdcr.ca.gov if members are interested in working on any of the goals.

If you have any thoughts about what you would like to see from our section this year, contact fspecg@gmail.com.

For More Information, Visit Us

<http://fortsutterpecg.org>
