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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of  
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (date of earliest event reported): **September 28, 2022**

**CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP**

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**1-13883**  
(Commission file number)

**77-0448994**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

**1720 North First Street**  
**San Jose, California**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**95112**  
(Zip Code)

**(408) 367-8200**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**N/A**  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Trading Symbol(s)</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u>
Common Shares, par value \$0.01	CWT	New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined by Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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**Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On September 28, 2022, the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of California Water Service Group (the “Company”) appointed Martin A. Kropelnicki, the Company’s current President, Chief Executive Officer and a director, to serve as Chairman of the Board, effective at the conclusion of the Company’s 2023 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “2023 Annual Meeting”). Mr. Kropelnicki will succeed Peter C. Nelson, who, in accordance with the Board’s retirement age policy, will be retiring as a director at the 2023 Annual Meeting. The independent directors have selected Terry P. Bayer, who currently serves as a member of the Board, to serve as Lead Independent Director, effective immediately.

A copy of the press release issued on October 4, 2022 announcing these changes is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
<a href="#">99.1</a>	<a href="#">Press Release issued October 4, 2022</a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP**

Date: October 4, 2022

By: /s/ Martin A. Kropelnicki

Name: Martin A. Kropelnicki

Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

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1720 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95112



October 4, 2022  
*For immediate release*

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California Water Service Group Announces

Board Appointments

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SAN JOSE, Calif. — California Water Service Group (NYSE: CWT) today announced that its Board has nominated Terry P. Bayer to assume the role of Lead Independent Director, effective immediately.

As former Chief Operating Officer of Molina Healthcare, Inc., Bayer brings senior leadership, financial, operational, public health, and customer service expertise to this role. She holds a Juris Doctor Degree from Stanford University, a Master's Degree in Public Health from University of California, Berkeley, and a Bachelor's Degree in Communication from Northwestern University.

"Terry has an excellent background in both operations and corporate governance. This, coupled with her eight years of experience on the Board, make her an excellent choice for lead independent director," said Martin A. Kropelnicki, President & Chief Executive Officer.

Group also announced that Chairman Peter C. Nelson will retire in May 2023, in accordance with the age limit set forth in the company's by-laws.

In 1996, Nelson joined the Board of Directors and became the company's President & Chief Executive Officer, a position he held for 17 years. He assumed the role of Board Chair in 2013.

"Pete has been an extraordinary leader, first as President & Chief Executive Officer, then as Director and Chairman. His utility experience, steady hand, and insightful guidance will be sincerely missed," Kropelnicki said.

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CALIFORNIA  
**WATER SERVICE GROUP**  
INVESTING FOR LIFE

1720 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95112



Group has selected Kropelnicki to assume the role of Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer when Nelson retires. He has served as President & Chief Executive Officer of Group, and as a Director, since 2013. When he assumes the role as Chairman, he will lead a Board comprised of nine independent directors, with Ms. Bayer continuing to act as Lead Independent Director.

“We believe that Marty’s industry experience, operational knowledge, and role in executing strategy make him extremely well suited to the Chairman/CEO role. I very much look forward to working with him in my new capacity as Lead Independent Director and together continuing the effective and efficient leadership of the Board,” Bayer said.

#### **About California Water Service Group**

California Water Service Group is the parent company of regulated utilities California Water Service, Hawaii Water Service, New Mexico Water Service, Washington Water Service, and Texas Water Service, a utility holding company. Together, these companies provide regulated and non-regulated water and wastewater service to more than 2 million people in California, Hawaii, New Mexico, Texas, and Washington. California Water Service Group’s common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “CWT.” Additional information is available online at [www.calwatergroup.com](http://www.calwatergroup.com).

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#### **Media Contact**

Yvonne Kingman  
[ykingman@calwater.com](mailto:ykingman@calwater.com)  
310-257-1434

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