

## Business Manager Russ Burns



Russ Burns was reelected business manager for a fifth three-year term and was sworn in on September 1, 2018. As business manager, he is responsible for the oversight of all Local 3 operations.

As a third-generation operator and Local 3 member, Russ Burns grew up living and breathing Local 3. He started his career with Local 3 in 1979 as a crane operator on various construction projects – high rises, bridges, refineries and large treatment plants throughout Northern California and Reno, Nev. His last position in the field before working for Local 3 was as general foreman for Bechtel at the Shell Clean Fuels Project in Martinez, CA.

Russ began his Local 3 staff career in 1994 as a business representative in the Fairfield District. He was promoted to special representative in charge of the crane industry in 1996, and one year later, he was promoted to special representative to the dredging industry. In 1999, Russ became the Santa Rosa district representative and then transferred to the Fairfield District, where he served six months as district representative and trustee.

In 2000, he graduated from the Harvard Trade Union Program, and in 2001, he was appointed to the Cal-OSHA Standards Board Subcommittee for Certification of Crane Operators. Russ transferred from Fairfield to Sacramento in 2002 and served as district representative and special representative to the business manager until he was appointed treasurer of the union by a unanimous officer vote. Burns served as treasurer until Jan. 2, 2005, when he was sworn in as financial secretary. In 2006, he was elected Business Manager by the membership and sworn in on September 1, 2006.

Russ was appointed to the California Fish & Game Commission in May of 2016 for a term through January 15, 2022. He served on the California High-Speed Rail Authority Board where he was appointed by Assembly Speaker Karen Bass in 2009, a commitment he fulfilled until 2012. He serves as the first General Vice President of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) and serves as board member on the following:

- International Union of Operating Engineers – General Executive Board
- Operating Engineers Local 3 Trust Funds, Board of Trustees
- California Labor Federation, Executive Council
- Foundation for Fair Contracting, Board of Directors
- Coalition of Organized Labor Board
- Basic Craft Alliance, Board of Directors
- Basic Craft Alliance, Board of Trustees
- California Alliance for Jobs and Sustainable Growth, Board of Directors
- Transportation California, Board of Directors