



**SALTON SEA AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 21-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SALTON SEA AUTHORITY POSTHUMOUSLY HONORING KEVIN E. KELLEY
FOR HIS DEDICATION AND DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE**

WHEREAS, Kevin E. Kelley was an exceptionally talented advocate, writer and public servant, deeply respected within the Imperial and Coachella valleys and the broader Colorado River Basin community;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley used his prodigious talents as a communicator to bring high profile attention to the public health and environmental perils at the Salton Sea, convincing opinion influencers like the *Los Angeles Times* editorial board of the Salton Sea's value;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley was relentless in his efforts to ensure that the State of California abide its Salton Sea responsibilities under the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA), and was instrumental in securing State Water Board Order 2017-0134 to place additional significance and weight of law behind those long-neglected Salton Sea obligations;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley was a forceful advocate in Congress, supporting the effort with federal legislators to include Salton Sea public health and environmental protections to federal Drought Contingency Plan legislation, to enact 2018 Farm Bill legislation to prioritize federal funding for the Salton Sea, and to introduce the Salton Sea Public Health and Environmental Protection Act to create a federal Salton Sea restoration mandate.

WHEREAS, in the highly polarized politics of the Colorado River Basin, Mr. Kelley epitomized civility, able to disagree forcefully without being disagreeable in his advocacy for the Salton Sea.

WHEREAS, upon retirement as the General Manager of the Imperial Irrigation District, Mr. Kelley dedicated his time and talents to writing the story of the Imperial Valley and Salton Sea, which promised to be a gift to his community and one that we hope to see published.

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelley was one of the most sought after experts on Colorado River matters and the Salton Sea, and his talents will be both remembered and sorely missed for years to come at the local, state and federal levels.

WHEREAS, the Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors will strive to honor the contributions, passion, and commitment Mr. Kelley brought to his work by redoubling our efforts to bring to life his vision for a revitalized Salton Sea.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors, in remembrance of Mr. Kelley’s unparalleled dedication and leadership, express deep gratitude to his family for Mr. Kelley’s powerful contributions to protecting the Salton Sea.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of February 2021.

SALTON SEA AUTHORITY

Alex Cardenas, President

Luis A. Plancarte, Secretary

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