



## Resolution No 24-2

**Whereas** Director Altrena Santillanes serves as the Secretary for the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, and in that capacity joined the Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors as a representative thereof in 2017; and

**Whereas** since joining the Authority leadership team in 2021 and being elected President in 2023, Director Santillanes has been instrumental in assisting the Authority in its work around the Salton Sea, addressing the concerns of local stakeholders, and better understanding and mitigating risks to human health and safety as a result of the constantly changing conditions; and

**Whereas** Director Santillanes helped foster the most robust and promising partnership with the federal government since the Authority was created in 1993; and

**Whereas** Director Santillanes marshaled the support of Congress to secure federal legislation authorizing a U.S. Army Corps feasibility study that led to a federal contribution for long-range Salton Sea management; and

**Whereas** Director Santillanes secured federal legislation and obtained the State of California's support for the U.S. Army Corps study; and

**Whereas** Director Santillanes helped facilitate a formal joint agreement among the U.S. Army Corps, the Authority, and California in December 2022. Since then, the partnership has expanded its scope to ensure the study addresses the needs of all Salton Sea communities; and

**Whereas** under Director Santillanes' leadership, the Authority worked with Congress to secure \$3.8 million in federal funding and enact legislation enabling the expansion of the feasibility study; and

**Whereas** under Director Santillanes' leadership, the Authority has continued work with its joint partners and begun working on a project on tribal lands; and

**Whereas** under Director Santillanes' leadership, the Authority was able to successfully secure amendments to current legislation ensuring any entity created therefrom would coordinate with the Salton Sea Authority, make the Authority President its permanent Vice Chair, add each of the Authority's member agencies to its governing board, and require active, collaborative planning by the conservancy to avoid redundancy; and

**Whereas** under Director Santillanes' leadership, the Authority was able to mitigate \$50 million in lost funding for the Salton Sea Restoration project; and

**Whereas** under Director Santillanes' leadership, the Authority was able to preserve \$65 million in funding for the Salton Sea as part of the 2024-25 State budget; and

**Now therefore, be it resolved that** the Board of Directors hereby expresses its gratitude for her tenure and leadership as President of the Salton Sea Authority; and

**Further resolved,** that the Board of Directors commends Director Santillanes for her dedicated service to her tribal nation, the community, and the broader region; and

**Further resolved,** that the Board of Directors wishes Director Santillanes continued success in her pursuit of public service; and

**Further resolved,** that a copy of this proclamation be presented to Director Santillanes as a token of the Board's appreciation and respect.

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Gina Dockstader, President  
Salton Sea Authority