RESOLUTION 23-32

OF THE HELIX WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMENDING GENERAL MANAGER SANDRA L. KERL FOR HER SERVICE TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY AND HELIX WATER DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Sandra L. Kerl is general manager of the San Diego County Water Authority, an agency responsible for providing wholesale water supplies to serve 24 member agencies, 3.3 million people and a \$268 billion regional economy; and

WHEREAS, Sandra L. Kerl joined the Water Authority as deputy general manager in November 2009 and served as acting general manager from March through November 2019 before being appointed by the Board of Directors to her current post; and

WHEREAS, one of Sandra L. Kerl's first challenges as general manager was leading the transition to remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic for about three-quarters of the Water Authority's 250 employees, and commissioned the first employee survey in the agency's history as part of a larger effort to integrate different generations of employees, embrace the diversity of the agency's workforce and empower all employees to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Sandra L. Kerl's career highlights in the water industry include leading the effort to secure financing for the nation's largest seawater desalination plant, a public-private partnership that was hailed as a model for other large-scale water works around the country; and

WHEREAS, some highlights of Sandra L. Kerl's career include receiving local, state and national recognition for creating water resilience in a climate change environment and working with policymakers on what needs to be done next to support not only our region but the state and nation and pioneering the development of the only new large pumped hydro facility in the state to provide electric grid reliability and revenue to offset water rates; and

WHEREAS, Sandra L. Kerl currently sits on the board of the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank, Southern California Leadership Council, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, San Diego Regional Economic Development Council, and the California Urban Water Agencies, which represents the water suppliers that serve more than two-thirds of California's population, as Chair. Throughout her career she has been active in the International City Management Association; and

WHEREAS, Sandra L. Kerl's career included 41 years of public service where she also served as City Manager for the city of La Mesa where she helped to lead their downtown redevelopment renaissance and massive infrastructure investment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED by the Helix Water District Board of Directors that Sandra L. Kerl be commended for her extraordinary achievements and her tireless effort on behalf of the Helix Water District, its employees and its customers, as well as the entire water community.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED unanimously this 21st day of June 2023.

Kathleen Coates Hedberg, President Daniel H. McMillan, Vice President	
Mark Gracyk, Director Joel A. Scalzitti, Director	_
ATTEST:	
Andrea Beth Damsky, Director Jessica V. Mackey, Assistant Board Secretar	- У