

News Release
South Tahoe Public Utility District
1275 Meadow Crest Drive,
South Lake Tahoe CA 96150

Contact: Shelly Thomsen
sthomsen@stpud.us
530-543-6268

General Manager Richard Solbrig Retires from STPUD

South Lake Tahoe (January 9, 2019) – After 28 years serving the community at South Tahoe Public Utility District, General Manager Richard Solbrig retires on January 9, 2019. Solbrig is succeeded by another veteran at the District, Engineering Manager John Thiel.

On January 3, 2019, the District's Board of Directors unanimously approved Resolution No. 3100-19 honoring General Manager Richard Solbrig for his 28 years of service. Solbrig began his career at the District in 1990 and was promoted to General Manager in 2003. According to the Resolution, Solbrig is known for listening to all points of view and cultivating a thoughtful, collaborative and respectful manner to guide the District towards doing the right thing. He has successfully created a culture of openness, respect, and fairness both within the District, and with partner agencies. During the presentation of the Resolution, Board President Randy Vogelgesang said, "I can't express enough our gratitude. We all greatly appreciate your service."

When asked about his biggest accomplishment, Solbrig's answer was simple, "the staff that is here at the District. The culture we created attracts top quality staff. The staff development program expands the horizon on what they already know and prepares them for positions they aspire to. I believe staff feels valued for their efforts, ideas and results. We can meet whatever challenges that come our way if we work as a team."

Under his leadership there have been major improvements to South Lake Tahoe's water, wastewater, and recycled water systems. During the challenges of MTBE groundwater contamination, Solbrig fought to secure \$69 million from the polluters to ensure our community had access to safe, clean drinking water.

By continually adapting to new regulations and community needs through process improvements and high performance wastewater treatment, the District has won numerous prestigious awards under his leadership, including the National Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Year Award from the US Environmental Protection Agency, both in 1994 and in 2001.

Solbrig guided the District to become one of only a handful of agencies in the world that recycles 100 percent of the liquid and solids from the wastewater treatment process. From implementing the recycled water reservoir and agricultural reuse systems in Alpine County to

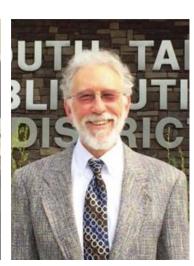


implementing hydro-electric production from the export line, Solbrig has been an avid steward of the community's resources and the environment.

Don Jardine, Alpine County Board of Supervisor and Lahontan Regional Water Board Vice Chair, said of Solbrig, "he cared for the environment, both South Lake Tahoe and Alpine County, and he cared for the community. He is certainly the most approachable person that I've worked with. It's a great loss for the District, but I wish him the very best."







###

3

4

5 6

9

7

10 11

12 13

14 15

16 17

18 19

20 21

22 23

24 25

26

27

28 29

30

South Tahoe Public Utility District

RESOLUTION NO. 3100-19

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT HONORING GENERAL MANAGER, RICHARD SOLBRIG, FOR 28 YEARS OF SERVICE

WHEREAS, Richard Solbrig has worked with distinction for the South Tahoe Public Utility District since 1990 for a total of 28 years, serving in the roles of Engineer, Assistant General Manager and General Manager.

Whereas, during his tenure Richard has implemented major changes and improvements in the water, wastewater, and recycled water systems, adapted to new regulations, causing the District to win numerous prestigious awards, all while managing to provide safe drinking water and prevent harm to the environment.

Whereas, Richard has built and sustained productive relationships within the community and has been held in the highest regard by the General Managers and Chief Executives of all the other organizations and governments in the Basin.

Whereas, as General Manager Richard has dedicated his heart and soul to creating a culture of openness, respect, fairness, staff development, customer service, and excellence as a model public utility.

Whereas, Richard's intelligence, technical, personal, leadership skills, and calm demeanor under difficult circumstances has become a model for all who work under him.

Whereas, he is known for his ability to listen to all points of view and cultivate in a thoughtful, collaborative, and respectful manner before guiding the District towards the right thing to do.

Whereas, Richard has worked for many compositions of Boards of Directors with an uncanny ability to assist them all in balancing the budget as well as getting the important projects accomplished.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Tahoe Public Utility District does hereby express the deepest appreciation, gratitude and respect to our General Manger, Richard Solbrig, for his many years and countless hours of dedicated service to the Board, his employees and the people of South Lake Tahoe.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution No. 3100-19 was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Board of Directors of the South Tahoe Public Utility District at a regular meeting held on the 3rd of January, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:	
NOES:	
ABSENT:	
	Randy Vogelgesang, Board President South Tahoe Public Utility District
ATTEST:	
Melonie Guttry, Clerk of the Board	