



IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT RESOLUTION NO. 8-2022

Resolution in Honor of Henry “Hank” Kuiper

WHEREAS, the Imperial Irrigation District is saddened by the passing of Henry “Hank” Kuiper, who faithfully served the people of the Imperial Valley for many years as a public servant;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kuiper’s dedication includes his service as a member of the Colorado River Board of California, which he held until his death. He was appointed as a public member by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005 to work to protect the interests and rights of the State of California, its agencies, specifically the Imperial Valley and its citizens, in the water and power resources of the Colorado River system;

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Colorado River Board, the river entered a prolonged and severe drought, which has necessitated some major changes to operations and California’s activities. Shortly after Mr. Kuiper’s appointment, California finalized the 2007 Interim Operating Guidelines, a seminal document that still directs operations and shortages on the Colorado River;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kuiper was also appointed by Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt to the Colorado River Flood Way Task Force; his career included a stint in the U.S. Navy, with time stationed at Naval Air Station, El Centro and success in the insurance business and multiple acts of public service. Among them:

- Member of the Joint Powers Insurance Authority, Air Pollution Control Board, Citizens Advisory Committee at Centinela State Prison, Border Trade Alliance and Free Trade Commission;
- Supervisor for the County of Imperial, representing District 2 from 2001-2005, and service on the Imperial County Appeals Board until the time of his death;
- Three terms on the El Centro City Council, serving as mayor three times from 1985 to 1997, during a time when the city saw steady growth; his achievements were recognized in 1997 by a state resolution and by the U.S. House of Representatives for his extraordinary service and devotion to community service;
- Member of the El Centro Regional Medical Center Board, El Centro Chamber of Commerce, El Centro Elks and Rotary clubs and many local civic organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Imperial Irrigation District Board of Directors and staff recognize the invaluable difference made by the late Henry “Hank” Kuiper for his example and unwavering contributions to his fellow citizens and community at the local and regional levels, pledging a great share of his life to the service of others to make the Imperial Valley a better place to live and for his dedication, integrity and persistence in protecting the valley’s interests and rights in the management of Colorado River water resources.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of April, 2022.

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT



James C. Hanks

President

Raquel Najera

Secretary