

**News and Media Contact:** 

David Matson, Assistant General Manager (805) 879-4624 dmatson@goletawater.com

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Date: December 21, 2016 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Goleta Water District Directors Seated New Board President and Vice President Selected

Three returning members of the Goleta Water District (District) Board of Directors were sworn in during the annual organizational meeting held December 13, 2016. Directors Lauren Hanson, Bill Rosen and Rick Merrifield were reelected in the November General Election, and took the oath of office before being reseated. A number of community members were on hand for the evening meeting.

Director Hanson will complete a two-year stint as Board President at the end of this year. During regular business, the Board unanimously elected Director Merrifield to succeed her as Board President in 2017, and Director Meg West to serve as Board Vice President. Director Hanson stated, "It has been a privilege to serve as Board President during this difficult time. We have continuing, challenging work ahead as the South Coast moves into the sixth year of drought." Director Merrifield added, "The District is steadfast in its commitment to help the Goleta Valley manage through this historic drought."

The District is currently in a Stage III Water Shortage Emergency, and the region remains in severe drought. Significant investment in a diverse water supply portfolio, critical well enhancements, local and regional capital improvement projects, and careful conservation by customers are helping to ensure the reliability and sustainability of the District water system. The Goleta Water District provides water to a diverse population of approximately 87,000 in the Goleta Valley area, including residential, agricultural, commercial, industrial, and institutional customers. The District's water system includes over 270 miles of pipelines, a water treatment plant, storage reservoirs, pumping facilities, active wells, a recycled water system, and connections with Lake Cachuma and the State Water Project. For more on the District, visit www.goletawater.com.

###



Photo Identification: left to right: Directors Bill Rosen, Lauren Hanson and Rick Merrifield with certificates of election to the Goleta Water District Board of Directors, December, 2016.