



4699 HOLLISTER AVENUE  
GOLETA, CALIFORNIA 93110-1999  
TELEPHONE 805/964-6761  
FAX 805/964-7002

## PRESS RELEASE

### News Media Contact:

John McInnes, General Manager  
(805) 879-4620  
[jmcinnes@goletawater.com](mailto:jmcinnes@goletawater.com)

DATE: March 8, 2011  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Richard Merrifield Appointed to Goleta Water District Board of Directors**

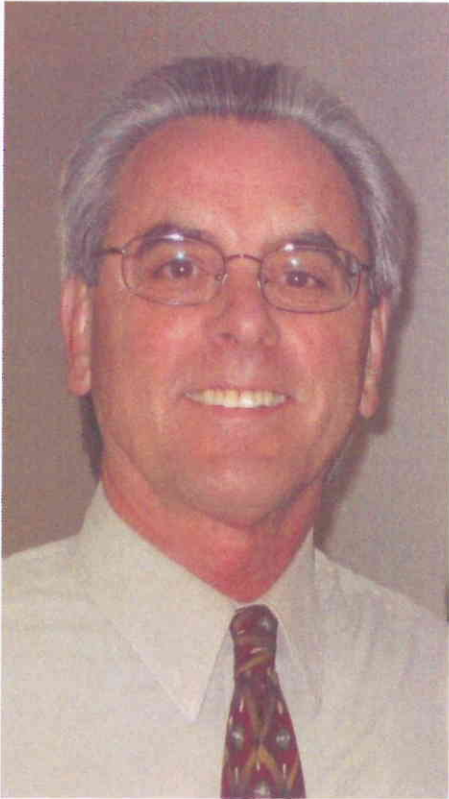
Richard Merrifield, the former Director of Environmental Health for Santa Barbara County, has been appointed to the Goleta Water District Board of Directors, filling a post vacated by Larry Mills on February 1, 2011. Mr. Merrifield was selected from among eight highly qualified applicants.

“I am honored by the support of the Board of Directors, and I look forward to serving the Goleta community” said Mr. Merrifield. “A reliable and healthful water supply is the most basic and essential of infrastructure needs. The Goleta Water District has a long history of providing quality water, promoting conservation, and maintaining reasonable costs for our customer base.”

Board of Directors President Bill Rosen remarked that the applicant pool was particularly strong. “The Board received a wide range of excellent and well qualified applicants,” said President Rosen. “I look forward to working with Mr. Merrifield, and I am confident that his demonstrated skills and experience in this community will benefit our customer base.”

Mr. Merrifield worked for Santa Barbara County’s Environmental Health division for 34 years in a variety of areas, including oversight, plan checking, and consultation regarding domestic water supply systems, wells, and wastewater systems. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree, with an emphasis in Environmental Health from California State University, Northridge. Mr. Merrifield’s appointment is timely, as the Board of Directors will consider several important policy topics in the weeks and months ahead, including a study on customer rates, a Water Supply Management Plan, and the District’s Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget.

The Goleta Water District serves water to approximately 85,000 people, including agricultural, residential, 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. The estimated replacement value of the entire system is approximately \$700 million.



*Richard Merrifield*

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