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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lasting Legacy: Longtime Board Member Steps Down From Mojave Water Agency Dais

Board of Director's Meeting Marks End of Lowry's Esteemed Career in Water Management

APPLE VALLEY, CA — With more than three decades of public service under her belt, Barstow resident and revered community leader Beverly Lowry has retired. After a lengthy and impactful run as one of Mojave Water Agency's (MWA) seven Board of Directors, Lowry took her seat at the dais for the last time Thursday morning at her final director's meeting.

For 33 years, Lowry has proven to be a pillar of strength and a champion of the people, serving as the representative of District 6 within MWA's service area.

"Beverly Lowry's contributions to water management in the region cannot be quantified," said Kimberly Cox, MWA Board President. "She helped lead this Agency through some of its most contentious issues with courage and diplomacy."

During her last board meeting, Lowry received plaudits from the rest of the Agency's Board — including commendation from newly elected Board member Jeanette Hayhurst — along with high praise from former California Congressman Jerry Lewis, who presented her with a plaque.

"One of our dear friends introduced me to Beverly because Beverly was known to be a reasonable Democrat," Lewis said in jest. "Beverly recognized that a community working together, not worrying about party (affiliation)...that most of our issues are

solved by people working together.

So, I really wanted to come today to thank Beverly for all these years of service, and particularly the leadership (Lowry has) shown on this Board. Without water, we have nothing in this wonderful, wonderful desert. And it's people, leaders like (Lowry) that assure that we deliver the water by pipeline and otherwise to make certain that we continue to grow and to thrive."

Lowry first entered into public service when she was elected to the Board of Directors of the Barstow Heights Community Services District, where she held office for 26 years. She began her distinguished career in the water industry in 1973, serving her first term with the Mojave Water Agency through 1976. Lowry was later reelected in 1989, and has served continuously holding various positions including that of President of the Board of Directors for a total of eight years.

"All I can say is that I've loved all of the years I've been on (the Board)," Lowry said. "Anything I can do to help people, I'll do it. That's been my main goal... to be fair to the whole agency, to take good care of every division, and I hope that continues."

Throughout her career, Lowry has been instrumental in ensuring a stable and reliable water supply for the region. She has played a large role in bringing in federal funding for key water infrastructure projects, including the 76-mile Mojave River Pipeline that delivers State Water Project water throughout MWA's service area.

"Beverly has helped MWA mature from a small water contractor with little to no facilities and considerable long-term reliability problems, into one that can serve water through the majority of its 5,000 square miles with long-term water supply plans," MWA General Manager Tom McCarthy said. "She is a master in the art of persuasion and has been personally responsible for bringing millions of dollars into the area for projects. "She has made an indelible imprint on the Agency's culture and will be greatly missed."

Over the years, Lowry's extensive public service has garnered widespread recognition, including being named as "Woman of the Year" in 1986 by the Barstow Chamber of Commerce, and "Woman of the Decade" in 1987. In 2016, she was awarded the "H2O Elected Official Water Hero" by the San Bernardino County Water Conference, and in 2018 was named a "Jewel of the Desert" by the Town of Apple Valley in conjunction with the League of California Cities.

Acknowledging the uncertainty of retirement, Lowry jokingly told the audience that she would be "looking for a job as a lobbyist real soon." Though, she was optimistic that the



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Agency would be able to continue her legacy of compassion and fairness.

“I just think that government can be more considerate than it is, I think it can be very helpful to people. There’s no reason why we can’t help a lot of areas. And so, I’m hopeful that it continues. And if it doesn’t, I’ll be back.”

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