

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

**MEETING OF JULY 23 AND 24, 2008
Truckee**

ITEM: 13

**SUBJECT: HONORING LEO POPPOFF FOR HIS SERVICE AS A MEMBER
OF THE BOARD AND HIS DEDICATION TO FURTHERING
SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE OF THE LAKE TAHOE BASIN**

BACKGROUND: Leo Poppoff was a former Board member and has been actively involved in understanding and communicating the complexities of Lake Tahoe and the efforts to protect it for over twenty years.

The proposed resolution recognizes his efforts and the outstanding contributions he has made to the Lake Tahoe region.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt resolution.

ENCLOSURE: 1. Resolution

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

RESOLUTION R6T-2008-(PROPOSED)

**Honoring
Leo Poppoff**

**for His Service as Member of the Board and His Dedication to furthering
Scientific Knowledge of the Lake Tahoe Basin**

- WHEREAS, I. G. "Leo" Poppoff passed away on June 9, 2008 in Mountain View, California at the age of 84 and was preceded in death by his beloved wife Betty, and
- WHEREAS, Leo was appointed to the Lahontan Water Board in January 1984 by Governor George Deukmejian and served from 1984 to 1995. He served as Chair of the Board in 1985 and 1993 and as Vice Chair in 1992, and
- WHEREAS, Leo also served on the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) Advisory Planning Commission, the Tahoe Resource Conservation District Board, the Kings Beach Design Review Committee and the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society, and
- WHEREAS, For over twenty years, Leo wrote a weekly article called "Basin Watch" for the Tahoe World covering the most current Lake Tahoe scientific information and land use policies, and
- WHEREAS, Leo received his bachelor's degree in physics from Whittier College in 1947, and
- WHEREAS, Leo directed the Ames Research Center's Earth Science Applications Office from 1971-74, and
- WHEREAS, Leo was chief of stratospheric projects for NASA from 1974-77 and chief of climate and atmospheric research for NASA - Ames Research Center at Moffett Field from 1977-79, and
- WHEREAS, Leo was a consultant in atmospheric chemistry and physics from 1979-84, and

WHEREAS, Leo's education, his professional career as a practicing scientist and his inquisitive mind were invaluable in dealing with the often highly technical and scientific issues that came before the Lahontan Water Board and the TRPA Advisory Planning Commission, and

WHEREAS, Leo was a champion for research in the Lake Tahoe basin. He was a strident advocate who genuinely understood the strength of a science-based approach for managing environmental resources. He worked tirelessly to ensure that these activities were supported, and

WHEREAS, Leo made sure that the results of scientific studies were considered by decision makers. He spent countless hours talking to agency staff and researchers from all fields to understand how their knowledge could be combined to protect Lake Tahoe and its watershed. While he was a kind and patient supporter of science, he knew how to ask penetrating questions and taught the Tahoe basin science community that the public is a most important partner, and

WHEREAS, Leo was on the cutting edge of education and outreach in the Tahoe basin and a critical point of connection between science and the public. His role in furthering the community's understanding of how science can be used to understand and restore the Tahoe basin environment is legendary and sets the bar for current outreach activities.

Now therefore be it resolved that the members of the Lahontan Water Board do hereby wish to express their sincere condolences to Leo's family and hereby recognize and appreciate Leo's outstanding contributions and dedication to the Lake Tahoe Region.

I, Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on **July 23, 2008**.

HAROLD J. SINGER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER