

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

BOARD RESOLUTION 11-57

WHEREAS, Robert C. Jenne joined the legal staff of the Air Resources Board in 1988 as Senior Staff Counsel, after graduating from Stanford Law School in 1976 and honing his legal skills in a wide spectrum of areas, including land use, open space, and land conservancy; hazardous waste, zoning, and municipal law; and of course CEQA;

WHEREAS, Robert Jenne, disguised as Bob the Carpenter, took a 6-year hiatus from legal practice in 1980 to run his own contracting business and wander the American West, an enduring wanderlust that animated his interest in land use and environmental issues and periodically invades his body and soul;

WHEREAS, during his 18 years as Senior Staff Counsel, Bob has demonstrated a Zen-like ability to remain calm and entertaining under pressure, explain complex legal issues simply and insightfully, quickly pinpoint the real-world needs of competing stakeholders, and find a practical compromise that would secure ARB's interests;

WHEREAS, Bob was promoted to Assistant Chief Counsel in 2007, in recognition of his ability to oversee the development, safe passage through OAL, and implementation of myriad stationary source, and air toxics control measures; to negotiate with U.S.EPA on multifaceted SIP issues with patience, humor, tact, and skill; and to handle with efficiency and aplomb the necessary and demanding minutiae of the regulatory process;

WHEREAS, Bob has made invaluable contributions to air pollution laws in the field of consumer products, including how to distinguish hair moose from hair gel and other styling products;

WHEREAS, Bob's open door policy, vast institutional knowledge, and empathetic mentoring ability have made him an indispensable and well-loved counselor, whether providing guidance to staff on specific legal issues, educating new staff on whom to see for what, debating the implications of various policy choices and legal positions, or expounding on the latest movie themes, advising on the best places to hike, comparing the attributes of stereo equipment or zafu pillows, or listening enthusiastically to colleagues' travel adventures;

WHEREAS, as lead attorney on AB 32, California's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act, Bob has worked tirelessly to keep ARB afloat through multifarious legal challenges from a wide spectrum of challengers while keeping the program and policy people in stitches with his spot-on characterizations of the strength--or lack thereof--of ARB's legal arguments, dispersing tense moments with his tinkling sardonic giggle;

WHEREAS, Bob's creative and practical problem-solving and organizational abilities have spawned several new initiatives, including the development of a new California Environmental Quality Act Unit within the Office of Legal Affairs, to help ensure staff's safe navigation through the intricate guidelines of CEQA as they engage in rulemaking related excursions;

WHEREAS, Bob has been stung by the travel bug and has outfitted his magic new SUV with ingenious equipment that will enable camping anywhere, anytime, and is entering semi-retirement from practicing law; and

WHEREAS, all of us will sorely miss Bob's calm, thoughtful, and entertaining counsel; his openness to interruption and enthusiastic willingness to engage in the impromptu discussions that keep the creative juices flowing; and his overarching generosity, compassion, and humanity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ARB staff wishes Bob the very best of travels and adventures, fun with home repair, and a long lifetime with his partner Pam.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, while we will miss the pleasure of working with Bob on a daily basis and his refreshing ability to put things into perspective humorously and insightfully, we look forward to his many cameo appearances as a retired annuitant, perhaps in saffron robe over carpenter's pants, as long as they do not interfere with his travel plans and other retirement priorities.

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman

James N. Goldstone, Executive Officer