

# The Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

In the matter of recognizing Robert Sewell as the 2018 Labor  
Leader of the Year

Resolution No. 2018/496

WHEREAS, Life-long Contra Costa resident Robert Sewell attended Richmond Unified Schools, graduating high school in June 1977 and beginning his journey as a plumber and labor leader; and

WHEREAS, Bob began his proud career as a plumber with Lescure Company and in July 1979 he joined Plumbers and Steamfitters UA Local 159; and

WHEREAS, Bob completed his apprenticeship in June 1984 and became a journeyman. His first apprenticeship was with Antioch Plumbing, but he soon returned to Lescure Company and spent the next 18 years as a Foreman, General Foreman and then Field Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Bob ran many jobs over the years such as the Concord Police Station, Martinez/Richmond/Walnut Creek Kaiser, Alhambra High School and Hercules Bio-Rad, to name just a few; and

WHEREAS, an active Union member, Bob served on many committees and taught classes to Local 159 journeyman and apprentices; and

WHEREAS, asked by then-Business Manager, Kelly Anschutz, to become a teacher for Local 159, Bob taught Medical Gas installation to the journeyman from 1989 to 2002. He also taught backflow testing from 1994 to 2002; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, he attended the United Association Instructor Training Program in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and graduated in 2001. With the UA Training, Bob taught Steam, Heating and Cooling, to the Local 159 apprentices; and

WHEREAS, Bob was bound for leadership within his Local and his first officer position was on the Building Fund Committee where he served from 1986 to 2002. He also served on the Local 159 Credit Union Supervisory Committee from 1994 to 2004, and was elected to the Executive Board from 1992 to 2001; and

WHEREAS, Bob has served as the Apprentice Coordinator since 2011; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Bob was elected to become Vice President and in 2002, he was elected as the Assistant Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer. In 2016, Bob was elected to the office of Business Manager; and

WHEREAS, in addition to serving his Local, Bob has been the Recording Secretary of the Building Trades Council since 2009. He has served on the West Contra Costa Unified School District Bond Oversight Committee for 2 terms. Bob became a member of IAPMO (International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials) in 2002 where he has now served on the Plumbing and Mechanical Technical Committee since 2016; and

WHEREAS, he has negotiated numerous contracts and Project Labor Agreements, which have provided prevailing wage jobs and apprenticeship opportunities for local residents and veterans; and

WHEREAS, Bob lives in Hercules with his wife Valerie of 40 years. He is a proud father of his 2 adult sons, Jason and Eric.

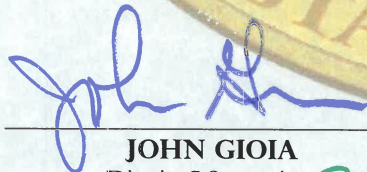
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby honor and congratulate Robert Sewell as the 2018 Labor Leader of the Year.

*PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.*

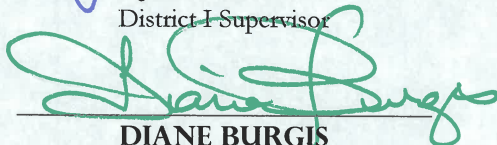


KAREN MITCHOFF

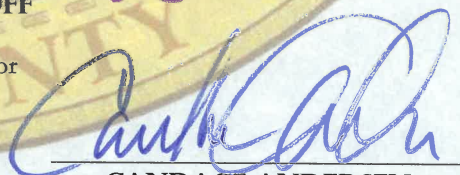
Chair,  
District IV Supervisor



JOHN GIOIA  
District I Supervisor



DIANE BURGIS  
District III Supervisor



CANDACE ANDERSEN  
District II Supervisor

ABSENT

FEDERAL D. GLOVER  
District V Supervisor



I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown:

ATTESTED: September 18, 2018

DAVID TWA, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By Stephanie Melbo, Deputy