



AGENDA ITEM 8A

MEETING: July 17, 2024
TO: Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners
FROM: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: **Status of Expiring Commissioner Terms**
The Commission will receive a report identifying members whose elected terms of office are scheduled to expire in 2024.

BACKGROUND

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 states the composition of Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCos) shall generally include seven regular members consisting of county (two), city (two), special district (two), and public (one) representation. Each category represented on LAFCo also has one alternate member. Appointments for the county, city, and special district seats are made by the board of supervisors, city selection committee, and mail ballot processed by LAFCo, respectively. Appointments for public seats are made by the other regular members. The term of office of each member shall be four years and until the appointment and qualification of his or her successor in accordance with Government Code Section 56334.

DISCUSSION

County Member Selection:

County members are appointed annually during the first meeting of the County Board of Supervisors in January. On January 9, 2024, the Board appointed Supervisor Bushnell, Madrone, and Wilson (alternate) to serve on LAFCo for the 2024 calendar year.

City Member Selection:

Commissioner Losey's term of office on LAFCo expired at the end of June 2024. In addition, the Commissioners appointed to the terms ending in 2026 have indicated they are no longer able to serve on LAFCo. The Executive Officer has requested a meeting of the City Selection Committee for the purpose of appointing two regular and one alternate city members (see Attachment B, City Selection Committee Memo). The Committee meeting will likely be held in late July or early August. Commissioner Losey may continue to serve on LAFCo until the seat is filled.

Special District Member Election:

Commissioner Lake's term of office on LAFCo expired at the end of June 2024. LAFCo staff sent out a Call for Nominations on January 24, 2024 and two nominations were received for Heidi Benzonelli (Humboldt CSD) and David Couch (McKinleyville CSD). Ballots were mailed on April 5th and were due by June 7th so that the selected Regular Special District member may be seated at the July 2024 LAFCo meeting. However, a quorum of votes was not received prior to the deadline. As such, staff continued the

voting period until August 9th (see Attachment C, Notice of Ballot Extension)
 Commissioner Lake may continue to serve on LAFCo until the seat is filled.

Public Member Selection: See Agenda Item 6B.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission receive and file this report.

Attachments

Attachment A: Current LAFCo Membership and Terms

Attachment B: City Selection Committee Memo

Attachment C: Special District Ballot Extension Notice

ATTACHMENT A
Current LAFCo Membership and Terms

Member	Designation	Appointed	LAFCo Term (June 30)
Michelle Bushnell	Regular/County	1/9/2024	By Annual appointment
Steve Madrone	Regular/County	1/9/2024	By Annual appointment
Mike Wilson	Alternate/County	1/9/2024	By Annual appointment
Mike Losey	Regular/City	1/28/2021*	2020-2024
Steve Ladwig	Regular/City	2/16/2023*	2022-2026
Jack West	Alternate/City	2/16/2023*	2022-2026
Debra Lake	Regular/District	7/01/2020	2020-2024
Troy Nicolini	Regular/District	10/28/2022	2022-2026
Heidi Benzonelli	Alternate/District	10/28/2022	2022-2026
Ali Lee	Regular/Public	7/15/2020	2020-2024
Gordon Johnson	Alternate/Public	3/15/23*	2022-2026

**Appointed to serve remainder of unexpired term*

Date: June 26, 2024
To: Tracy D'Amico, Clerk of the Board
 Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
From: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer
 Humboldt Local Agency Formation Commission
Subject: Request for City Member Appointments to LAFCo

Humboldt LAFCo has upcoming vacancies on its Commission and is requesting a meeting of the Mayor City Selection Committee for purposes of appointing two regular and one alternate city members to begin one new and two unexpired four-year terms ending June 30, 2028 and June 30, 2026, respectively. The commissioners appointed to the terms ending in 2026 have indicated they are no longer able to serve on LAFCo. A current listing of the city members appointed to LAFCo is provided below.

Current City Members on LAFCo

Designation	Current Member	Term Expiration
Regular Member	Mike Losey, City of Fortuna	June 30, 2028
Regular Member	Steve Ladwig, City of Trinidad	June 30, 2026
Alternate Member	Jack West, City of Trinidad	June 30, 2026

In accordance with California Government Code Section 56335, the Mayor City Selection Committee is responsible for appointing regular and alternate city members to LAFCo. Interested mayors or city council members may provide letters of interest or other pertinent information for consideration by the Committee.

Humboldt LAFCo is an independent commission created by the State Legislature to encourage the orderly growth and development of local agencies. LAFCo's mission is to facilitate changes in local governmental structure and boundaries that foster orderly growth and development, promote the efficient delivery of services, and encourage the preservation of open space and agricultural lands. LAFCo seeks to be proactive in raising awareness and building partnerships to accomplish this through its special studies, programs, and actions.

The Commission is composed of seven regular commissioners: two county supervisorial members, two city council members, two special district members, and one public member, with an alternate for each category. LAFCo meets on the third Wednesday of odd numbered months at 9:00 a.m. in the City of Eureka Council Chambers. Commissioners receive a \$20 per diem stipend and mileage reimbursements for in-person meetings to help defray the costs of attending meetings.

If you have any questions, please contact the LAFCo office at (707) 445-7508 or email colette@humboldtlafo.org.



Date: June 12, 2024

To: Board of Directors of Independent Special Districts

From: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer

Subject: Independent Special District Election – Voting Period Extension

The term of office for one (1) regular special district member on LAFCo expires on June 30, 2024. Previously, a request for nominations was sent to independent special districts with two nominations received by the deadline. Subsequently, official ballots were mailed on April 2nd, 2024, which provided each district the opportunity to vote for one candidate for the seat. The original deadline for submitting ballots was Friday, June 7th. To date, not enough ballots have been received to achieve a quorum. As such, the deadline for submitting ballots is being extended to Friday, August 9th, 2024.

An updated schedule is enclosed, which provides for an extended balloting period. For those special districts who have not yet submitted their ballots, please contact LAFCo if you need replacement ballots. **Ballots must be returned to Humboldt LAFCo, 670 9th Street, Suite 202, Arcata, CA 95521 on or before August 9th, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.**

All Districts are strongly encouraged to participate in this election process. For an election to be valid, at least a quorum of special districts must submit valid ballots. With 49 independent special districts in the county, a quorum represents 25. Please refer to the enclosed list of participating districts.

If you have questions or need replacement ballots, please contact LAFCo staff at info@humboldtlaoco.org or leave a voicemail at (707) 445-7508.


Election Schedule




















LAFCo call for nominations letter mailed	Friday, January 26, 2024
Nominations due to LAFCo	By 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 29, 2024
Ballots mailed to independent special districts via certified mail	No later than Friday, April 5, 2024
Election Day – Ballots due to LAFCo (<i>quorum not achieved</i>)	By 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 7, 2024
Extended Election Day – Ballots due to LAFCo	By 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 9, 2024
Election results mailed to independent special districts	No later than Friday, August 16, 2024
New special district members seated	At September 18, 2024 LAFCo Meeting

Current Special District Terms

Designation	Current Member	Term of Office (ends on June 30)
Regular Member	Debra Lake, Fruitland Ridge Fire Protection District	2020 - 2024
Regular Member	Troy Nicolini, Peninsula Community Services District	2022 - 2026
Alternate Member	Heidi Benzonelli, Humboldt Community Services District	2022 - 2026

Independent Special Districts

Districts with a  have submitted ballots

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big Lagoon Community Services District  Briceland Community Services District Carlotta Community Services District  Fieldbrook-Glendale Community Services District  Humboldt Community Services District Loleta Community Services District Manila Community Services District  McKinleyville Community Services District Miranda Community Services District  Orick Community Services District Orleans Community Services District  Palmer Creek Community Services District  Patrick Creek Community Services District Peninsula Community Services District Phillipsville Community Services District  Redway Community Services District Riverside Community Services District  Scotia Community Services District Weott Community Services District Westhaven Community Services District  Willow Creek Community Services District
 Alderpoint County Water District  Hydesville County Water District Jacoby Creek County Water District  Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District
  Resort Improvement District No. 1 Garberville Sanitary District | <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Arcata Fire Protection District Blue Lake Fire Protection District Briceland Fire Protection District Bridgeville Fire Protection District Ferndale Fire Protection District  Fruitland Ridge Fire Protection District  Garberville Fire Protection District Humboldt No. 1 Fire Protection District Kneeland Fire Protection District  Myers Flat Fire Protection District Petrolia Fire Protection District Redway Fire Protection District  Rio Dell Fire Protection District Salmon Creek Fire Protection District Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District Willow Creek Fire Protection District
  Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District  Humboldt County Resource Conservation District North Humboldt Recreation and Park District Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District  Fortuna Cemetery District Petrolia Cemetery District |
|---|--|