



AGENDA ITEM 9A

MEETING: May 23, 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. The Commission will also consider appointing a subcommittee for purposes of interviewing public member candidates.

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. All LAFCo terms are four years.

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 is set to expire at the end of June 2024. The Executive Officer will reach out to the City Selection Committee to schedule a meeting prior to the July 2024 LAFCo meeting to appoint a new candidate for the Regular City Member seat. This new term extends from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028. It is also anticipated that potential new appointments will be made for Commissioner Ladwig and Alternate Commissioner West's seats.

Special District Member Election:

Commissioner Lake's term of office on LAFCo is set to expire 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 are due by June 7th so that the selected Regular Special District member may be seated at the July 2024 LAFCo meeting. The upcoming term extends from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028.

Public Member Selection:

Commissioner Lee's term of office on LAFCo is set to expire at the end of June 2024. The upcoming term extends from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2028. A public notice and press release were distributed the first week of May and featured in the Lost Coast Outpost and other news outlets. The application deadline is June 14, 2024, and a Commission subcommittee is needed to interview qualifying candidates at the end of June.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission appoint subcommittee consisting of one county, one city, and one district member. The selection committee will review applications, interview candidates, and make a recommendation prior to the Commission voting on the regular public member appointment at its July meeting.

Attachments

Attachment A: Current LAFCo Membership and Terms

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