HUMBOLDT
Local Agency Formation Commission
670 9th Street, Suite 202, Arcata, CA 95521
(707) 445-7508 / (707) 825-9181 fax
www.humboldtlafco.org

Date: March 11, 2026

To: Presiding Officers of Independent Special Districts
c/o District Clerks and General Managers

From: Colette Santsche, LAFCo Executive Officer

Subject: **Call for Nominations for Special District Members to Serve on Humboldt LAFCo**

The terms of office for one (1) Regular Special District Member and one (1) Alternate Special District Member on the Humboldt Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2026. Commissioner terms are four years and end on June 30. There are no term limits.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 56332, the Independent Special District Selection Committee serves as the appointing authority for the LAFCo special district representatives. The upcoming term of office for the seats subject to election will run from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2030.

Current Special District Members

Designation	Current Member	Term of Office (ends on June 30)
Regular Member	Heidi Benzonelli, Humboldt Community Services District	2024 - 2028
Regular Member	Troy Nicolini, Peninsula Community Services District	2022 - 2026
Alternate Member	David Couch, McKinleyville Community Services District	2022 – 2026

Selection Process
Government Code Section 56332 establishes the process for selecting special district representatives to serve on LAFCo. The statute provides for a meeting of the Independent Special District Selection Committee, comprised of representatives from each independent special district in Humboldt County, unless the Executive Officer determines that such a meeting is not feasible.

Based on the provisions of Government Code Section 56332, it has been determined that convening a meeting of the Independent Special District Selection Committee is not feasible due to the likelihood that a quorum would not be achieved. Accordingly, both the nomination process and the election will be conducted by mail ballot pursuant to Government Code Section 56332(f).

You are therefore invited to submit nominations for the Regular Member and Alternate Member special district seats. The presiding officer (Board Chair/President) of each independent special district may nominate any director currently serving on the governing board of an independent special district within Humboldt County. Formal board action to nominate a candidate is not required under Government Code Section 56332(f); however, districts may choose to confirm nominations through action of their governing board.

About Humboldt LAFCo
The Commission is composed of seven regular members and four alternates representing the county, cities, independent special districts, and the public. Regular Commission meetings are generally held on the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months at 9:00 a.m. in the City of Eureka Council Chamber, 531 K Street, Eureka. Commissioners receive a $20 stipend per meeting and are reimbursed for mileage. Additional information about Humboldt LAFCo is available at: www.humboldtlafco.org. If you have questions, please contact LAFCo staff at (707) 445-7508 or colette@humboldtlafco.org.

Nomination Guidelines and Requirements
A schedule is enclosed together with a list of the 49 independent special districts in Humboldt County eligible to participate. If your district wishes to nominate a board member for the Regular Member and/or Alternate Member seat, the following procedures apply:

1. Each district may nominate one person for the Regular Member seat and/or one person for the Alternate Member seat. Additional nomination forms may be found on the Humboldt LAFCo website under "Special District Vacancies". Nominees must be members of a district governing board, not district staff. A nominee may run for both the Regular Member and Alternate Member seats. If a nominee receives the highest number of votes for both seats, the nominee shall be seated as the Regular Member, and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes for the Alternate Member seat shall be seated as Alternate Member.
2. All nominations must include a completed Nomination Form (enclosed) and be signed by the district's presiding officer or the presiding officer's alternate as designated by the governing body. If an alternate has been designated by the governing body pursuant to Government Code Section 56332(f), documentation of the designation (e.g., meeting minutes or minute order) may be included.
3. A Candidate Information Form (enclosed) or Letter of Interest may be submitted with the nomination. This is voluntary and will be kept on file at the LAFCo office and made available upon request. It will not be distributed with the ballots.
4. All nomination materials must be submitted to: Humboldt LAFCo, 670 9th Street, Suite 202, Arcata, CA 95521, or emailed to the Executive Officer at: colette@humboldtlafco.org.

   The deadline for submitting nominations is 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 1, 2026. Nominations received after this deadline will not be considered.
5. Upon receipt of nominations, LAFCo will prepare and distribute ballots to each district. Ballots will include voting instructions, the return deadline, and information regarding the announcement of election results.

Election Schedule

LAFCo call for nominations letter emailed & mailed	Wednesday, March 11, 2026
Nominations due to LAFCo	**By 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 1, 2026**
Ballots mailed from LAFCo via certified mail	No later than Friday, May 8, 2026
Election Day – Ballots due to LAFCo	By 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 26, 2026
Election results mailed from LAFCo	No later than Friday, July 3, 2026

Independent Special Districts

Big Lagoon CSD
Briceland CSD
Carlotta CSD
Fieldbrook-Glendale CSD
Humboldt CSD
Loleta CSD
Manila CSD
McKinleyville CSD
Miranda CSD
Orick CSD
Orleans CSD
Palmer Creek CSD
Patrick Creek CSD
Peninsula CSD
Phillipsville CSD
Redway CSD
Riverside CSD
Scotia CSD
Weott CSD
Westhaven CSD
Willow Creek CSD

Arcata FPD
Blue Lake FPD
Briceland FPD
Bridgeville FPD
Ferndale FPD
Fruitland Ridge FPD
Garberville FPD
Humboldt No. 1 FPD
Kneeland FPD
Myers Flat FPD
Petrolia FPD
Redway FPD
Rio Dell FPD
Salmon Creek FPD
Telegraph Ridge FPD
Willow Creek FPD

Alderpoint County WD
Hydesville County WD
Jacoby Creek County WD
Humboldt Bay Municipal WD
Garberville Sanitary District
Resort Improvement District No. 1

Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation & Conservation District
Humboldt County Resource Conservation District
North Humboldt Recreation & Park District
Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District
Fortuna Cemetery District
Petrolia Cemetery District