

Agenda Item: 8D



STAFF REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

PREPARED BY: Steven Palmer, PE, General Manager *SP*

SUBJECT: Cast Ballot for Placer County LAFCO Special District Representative

RECOMMENDATION

Board discussion and voting for Special District Representative to the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).

BACKGROUND

Placer County LAFCO is requesting that the member agencies cast a vote for the Regular Voting Special District Representative. The District received the attached LAFCO ballot package requesting that the District cast a ballot before 4 pm on Friday, April 22, 2025. The elected individual will serve until May 2026.

DISCUSSION

The attached ballot package from LAFCO includes a Statement of Qualifications from each of the following nominees:

1. Judy Friedman, Tahoe City Public Utility District Director
2. Pete Gallegos, South Placer Fire Protection District Director
3. Peter Gilbert, Placer Mosquito & Vector Control District Trustee
4. Richard Hercules, Foresthill Fire Protection District President
5. Scott Holbrook, Auburn Area Recreation and Park District Director
6. Jim Holmes, Placer Resource Conservation District Director
7. Christy Jewell, South Placer Municipal Utility District Director
8. Earl Wilson, Auburn Public Cemetery District Trustee

The District Board is asked to vote for one nominee for the regular voting position.

The General Manager also received emails from Judy Friedman, Tahoe City Public Utility District Director, and Sean Barclay, Tahoe City Public Utility District General Manager, requesting that the District Board vote for Judy Friedman. That email correspondence is attached.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact

CEQA ASSESSMENT

This is not a CEQA Project

ATTACHMENTS

1. LAFCO Ballot Package
2. Emails from Tahoe City Public Utility District



Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission
110 Maple Street Auburn, CA 95603 | (530) 889-4097

March 6, 2025

COMMISSIONERS

Cindy Gustafson
*Chair
(County)*

Joshua Alpine
*Vice Chair
(Special District)*

Whitney Eklund
(City)

Shanti Landon
(County)

Sean Lomen
(City)

Susan Rohan
(Public)

Vacant
(Special District)

**ALTERNATE
COMMISSIONERS**

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(City)

Anthony DeMattei
(County)

Judy Friedman
(Special District)

Cherri Spriggs
(Public)

Stephanie
Youngblood
(City)

COUNSEL

Michael Walker
General Counsel

STAFF

Michelle McIntyre
Executive Officer

Amanda Ross
*Acting Assistant
Executive Officer*

Amy Engle
Commission Clerk

Subject: Selection of a LAFCO Special District Representative

To: Placer County Special District Presiding Officers
c/o Clerk of the District

From: Amy Engle, LAFCO Commission Clerk

On January 17, 2025, LAFCO initiated the nomination process for the selection of a Special District Representative, requesting that Special District Presiding Officers submit nominations for a qualified special district board member to fill this open seat. LAFCO received eight nominations.

All eight candidates are listed on the attached ballot. Each candidate submitted a statement of qualifications which is included in your packet.

- **Voting Instructions:** Please complete the attached ballot, clearly indicating your selection.
- **Authorized Signatures:** To be valid, ballots must be signed by the presiding officer of your special district or by another board member specifically designated by your board to cast the vote.
- **Quorum Requirement:** A quorum of Placer County Special Districts must submit ballots for the election to be considered valid.
- **Election Outcome:** The candidate who receives the highest number of votes will be appointed as the Special District Representative.
- **Supporting Materials:** This email includes the ballot and the statements of qualifications submitted by each candidate for your review.
- **Submission Deadline:** Please return your completed ballot via email to lafco@placer.ca.gov no later than **Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 4:00 PM.**



Ballot: Selection of Special District Representation on LAFCO

Please choose one candidate:

- Judy Friedman**, Tahoe City Public Utility District
- Pete Gallegos**, South Placer Fire Protection District
- Peter Gilbert**, Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District
- Richard Hercules**, Foresthill Fire Protection District
- Scott Holbrook**, Auburn Recreation District
- Jim Holmes**, Placer Resource Conservation District
- Christy Jewell**, South Placer Municipal Utility District
- Earl Wilson**, Auburn Public Cemetery District

Name of Special District: _____

Name of Presiding Officer: _____

Signature of Presiding Officer: _____

Date: _____

**Must be received by LAFCO via email at LAFCO@placer.ca.gov no
later than April 22, 2025 by 4pm**

**Judy Friedman
Director, Tahoe City Public Utility District
Candidate for Placer County LAFCO Special District Seat**

I am running for the voting member seat representing Special Districts on LAFCO. I have been serving in the Special District Alternate position for one year, but with the resignation of Rick Stephens, have been a voting member.

I have been a full-time resident of Tahoe City, located in the unincorporated area of Placer County, for over 50 years. I approach this position the unique perspective of being an elected member and President of the of the Tahoe City Public Utility District Board of Directors, Clerk of the Board for the Tahoe City Cemetery District, and volunteer on the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District C.E.R.T. team.

There has been tremendous growth in Placer County. LAFCO is charged with identifying ways to organize, simplify, and streamline government and make sure that services are provided efficiently and economically. That requires thoughtful and creative solutions and well-informed decision makers. We need to work hard to balance quality of life while meeting growing service challenges.

I am committed to representing the Special District's interests on the LAFCO Board, especially where they may differ from the county and city issues. Many of the communities throughout Placer County rely on special districts to serve our unique needs. It is essential that our concerns and interests be heard and addressed as LAFCO becomes more active in our County.

I ask for your vote to serve as Special District Commissioner and appreciate the trust that comes with your support.

Statement of Qualification for LAFCO Nomination

Pete Gallegos Board of Director for South Placer Fire District

To Whom it may concern.

I am interested in the position on the LAFCO Board and feel that I am qualified for the position because of my vast experience in the fire service and being a lifelong resident of Placer County. I started my fire service career as a seasonal firefighter in 1987 for CAL FIRE. I rose through the ranks and retired as the Staff Chief/Administrator of the Command-and-Control Program statewide. I lead the planning, organization, direction, and control of CAL FIRE's statewide Command and Control programs. These programs encompass Command and Control, Operations Support (OAS), and Hired Equipment (HE). In this capacity, I was entrusted with CAL Fire policy development, budgeting, and serving as a subject matter expert for internal and external issues pertaining to these programs. I was responsible for the 23.5-million-dollar budget.

I was the Agency Administrator in the State Operations Center (SOC) during emergencies and natural disasters. This included wildland fires, mud slides, earthquakes, floods and other emergencies.

Yet another example includes my tenure as Battalion Chief (BC) overseeing two local government Schedule A Contracts, (City of Morgan Hill Fire Department and the South Santa Clara Fire Protection District), I held significant operational responsibility and managing budget administration totaling over \$10 million. Notably, I spearheaded and provided fiscal oversight for the creation of the first two-year budget for the City of Morgan Hill, demonstrating my proficiency in strategic financial planning. Furthermore, I provided clear and concise budget reports to both the fire district board and the city council, utilizing various statistical data for the annual financial report adopted by the city, fire district, and County of Santa Clara. Additionally, I played a pivotal role in designing and purchasing multiple apparatus for the city, ensuring alignment with operational needs and financial constraints. My responsibilities also extended to crafting staff reports that analyzed financial situations accurately and recommended effective courses of action. Through these efforts, I upheld fiscal responsibility while facilitating the efficient utilization of resources to support the operational objectives of both contracts. I was responsible for the staffing levels to meet operational needs.

I was raised and currently live in Granite Bay with my wife where we raised our three children. My wife and I have always been actively engaged in the community volunteering as board members in youth sports as well as coaching youth sports. We volunteer at church in the annual Christmas program feeding the hungry and I am currently on the Board of Directors for the South Placer Fire District.

Thank you for your time,

Pete Gallegos

Peter Gilbert

Statement of Qualifications: Placer LAFCO

With extensive experience as a former City Mayor and Councilmember for both the City of Lincoln and Foster City, I have had the privilege of serving on various commissions, boards, and committees over the years, contributing to the growth and development of our communities. Currently, I hold key leadership roles as a Trustee for the Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District, Chair of the Lincoln Planning Commission, and member of both the Sierra College Citizens Oversight Committee and the Lincoln Hills Foundation Board of Directors. In these positions, I provide strategic guidance, expert insights, and thoughtful direction to help shape the future of our local community and region.

I am passionate about representing special districts on the Placer LAFCO Board to ensure that these districts have a strong, unified voice in critical discussions shaping the future of our cities and special districts. Notably, there has never been representation from a mosquito control district on the Placer LAFCO Board, despite the vital role they play in safeguarding public health within our county.

With a wealth of executive management experience, I am confident in my ability to contribute meaningfully to the Placer LAFCO Board. I am a proud graduate of San Francisco State University and honorably served in the U.S. Army Intelligence Corps, attaining the rank of Sergeant. My leadership background also includes serving as the Former President and Treasurer of the Lincoln Hills Community Association, Former President of the League of California Cities Peninsula Division—representing 33 cities across San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties—and Chair of the San Mateo County Criminal Justice Council.

Statement of Qualifications for Election to Placer LAFCO

Richard Hercules, President, Foresthill Fire Protection District

The Opportunity for Placer County

It is certain that the special districts within Placer County will have new challenges in their opportunities and manner in which they provide unique services to the public. These serviced communities need to be bound together to develop organizational solutions for the County. These may be that is different than what exists, but again, to the benefit of the public. New state laws will also affect those districts, governments, and their purposes.

Placer County has been affected by the increased rate of development in most all areas. Special districts will be affected, but are largely managed by elected volunteers and staff that focus on the operations of that district. It is apparent that there are separations between the larger urban districts and the more remote districts, but some effort is expected to better align these groups for the issues of the County. LAFCO, with staff and support from Placer County officials, the special district volunteers and local city officials, can evaluate impacts of growth and development on these districts and urban communities and effect change. Appropriately, citizens of Placer County have expectations of services at many levels, particularly those funded by property taxes and assessment measures.

My Background

Much of my career in private industry was the development, operation of new businesses and organizations to deliver a service or product to a wide range of users. In almost all cases, my skills in these efforts required knowledge in long term planning, policy development, defined organizational structure, and legislative and financial management. Accordingly, conflict resolution and the need to manage negotiations for those opportunities is part of that environment. Further, my experience in mergers and acquisitions has broadened my perspectives in finding solutions beneficial to those parties involved, however disparate.

I have many strengths to work and balance improvements of these services through separation, consolidations or restructuring. While these activities are within the purview of LAFCO, I would apply the reality of the needs of the County and its citizens. In the last 5 years of my work with the Foresthill Fire Protection District board, I can offer that the district is better managed in this period than some of its previous history, and with better engagement and appreciation by the community it serves. This is the type of energy and commitment I would apply to this appointment. I look forward to discuss and understand the particular issues your district is experiencing. I can be reached through the Fire District web site or by telephone.

I thank all for their consideration and hopeful vote for my candidacy for Placer LAFCO. I bring a long history of getting things done. My leadership has led to many great collaborations with other City, County, State & Federal agency creating win wins that may not otherwise have happened. The policies I have been the lead on have worked to create order, consistency and especially long-term fiscal viability.

I think out of the box, keep an open mind, and open ears to develop consensus and solutions that benefit the community and the district. I am not a rubber stamper, and feel I would be a great addition to the Board and would help represent special districts as we move forward in an ever-changing political, environmental and fiscal world.

You got nothing to lose, and a good chance you will gain by putting a checkmark next to my name, you won't regret it!

Again Thanks & as Always Keep Smilin'

Scott Holbrook

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

For

JIM HOLMES

3641 Bell Road, Auburn CA 95603
(530) 305-7070 * USSHolmes@gmail.com

Jim Holmes brings a wealth of experience and a continuous commitment to public service, with a legacy rooted in the heart of Placer County. A descendant of two Pioneer Placer County families, Jim has spent over three decades serving the community, including 18 years as a Director of the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District. He also contributed eight years of leadership as President and Trustee of the Auburn Union Elementary School District Board. Notably, Jim served for 20 years as a member of the Placer County Board of Supervisors for District 3, during which time he was also an active participant on the Placer LAFCO Board.

Throughout his career, Jim has demonstrated his dedication to the agricultural community, having been an influential voice in rural and county matters. As a board member of the Rural County Representatives of California, he helped advocate for policies that benefit these areas. He also founded the Placer County Youth Commission, which offers local youth the opportunity to engage with and learn about government processes.

Further extending his service to Placer County, Jim has held positions on the Placer County Air Pollution Control Board and the First 5 Children and Families Commission, focusing on issues ranging from environmental health to early childhood development. He currently serves as a board member for the Placer County Resource Conservation District, continuing his efforts in environmental stewardship. Additionally, Jim played a pivotal role in collaborating with local fire protection districts—Loomis, Penryn, and Newcastle—to successfully secure the revenue needed for sustaining vital fire services across the county.

Jim is asking for your support to continue his strong commitment to Placer County and Special Districts. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jim directly. Thank you for your consideration.

CHRISTY JEWELL

Rocklin, CA ♦ 916.276.7356 ♦ cjewell@surewest.net ♦ linkedin.com/in/christyjewell

COMMUNITY RELATIONS & CAREER/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM LEADER

Innovative and collaborative community relations leader skilled in providing organizational development through strategic partnerships between regional business, nonprofit, and government leaders.

**Strategic Program Implementation ♦ Communications ♦ Community Engagement
Higher Education/Business Partnerships ♦ Program Management ♦ Project Management**

OWNER/LEAD CONSULTANT

EduBridge Workforce Solutions, Rocklin, CA

9/24 – Present

- ♦ Support local governments and business partners to develop a strong talent pipeline through innovative and regionally-focused partnerships.
- ♦ Capitalize on partnerships to grow awareness of public sector employment opportunities while strategizing to reduce barriers to entry that many federal/state grants unintentionally have in place.

SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER, WORKFORCE & CAREER PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT

Institute for Local Government, Sacramento, CA

1/24 – 9/24

- ♦ Managed the Institute's efforts in growing awareness of, and creating career pathways to, public sector employment opportunities.
- ♦ Worked with partners throughout the State to help attract, recruit and retain a diverse talent pipeline.
- ♦ Led administration of Innovative Pathways to Public Service, working to improve pipelines into public service employment, particularly for underserved communities and individuals.
- ♦ Led the administration of public sector workforce improvement pilot projects to provide local governments with guidance, resources, and a community of practice to improve their internal and external recruitment, hiring, retention, and promotion processes.

DIRECTOR OF CAREER AND LIFE PLANNING

Jessup University, Rocklin, CA

8/11 – 1/24

- ♦ Spearheaded all areas of program development, fiscal management, and implementation related to career services, partner talent acquisition, and business relations for growing University population.
- ♦ Designed, implemented and managed inclusive career counseling/development department operations.
- ♦ Known as a culture influencer, consistently resourced for numerous leadership roles across campus.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Actively serves on Chambers of Commerce and State Boards and committees related to community, education, employment, leadership, workforce and economic development.

Leadership Advisory Council Member, *We Prosper Together* - 2024

Member (Private Higher Education), *Placer County Economic Development Board*, 2022 - 2024

Director/Board President, Ward 3, *South Placer Municipal Utility District* – 2023 - Present

Chair, *Lincoln Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Steering Committee*, 2014 – Present

Vice President, *CA Internship & Work Experience Association (CIWEA)*, 2017 – 2019

Board Member, *CA Internship & Work Experience Association (CIWEA)*, 2014 – 2019

Conference Co-Chair for Four-Year Colleges/Universities, *CIWEA*, 2014 – 2019

Co-Chair, *South Placer Women's Leadership Coalition*, 2017 – 2021

Certified Champion, *Greater Sacramento Economic Council*, 2018

Statement of Qualifications
for Earl Wilson
Special District Representative to LAFCO Nominee

I am Earl Wilson, a member of the Auburn Public Cemetery District Board of Trustees, seeking your vote as the Special District Representative to the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission. I am a retired city manager. During my 40 plus years in this capacity I served in four California cities in four counties - San Joaquin, Merced, Humboldt and Siskiyou. Prior to my becoming a city manager I was employed by the City of Auburn. During that period with Auburn my duties as an administrative assistant included preparing and processing annexations for the City involving non-contiguous (airport and sewer plant), unhabitated and inhabited annexations which required the Placer County LAFCO applications and hearings. My years as a city manager brought me in contact with the various county LAFCOs for such items as annexations and spheres of influence development and update. My education background includes graduating from EV Cain and Placer High, BA from Sacramento State and MPA from CSU Stanislaus. I strongly believe in local government as each jurisdiction has its own personality and LAFCO has a positive role to provide that continuity during these periods of growth. The voice of the special districts on LAFCO provides another local government input to arrive at decisions that best serves all the citizens in Placer County. I have been a part of Placer County over the years having grown up here, my parents remained here until they passed away, and I returned here after retiring. I hope you consider my qualifications when casting a vote for the LAFCO Special District Alternate member. Thank you.

Steve Palmer

From: judy@taoepapertrail.com
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 10:21 AM
To: 'Sean Barclay'; Steve Palmer; 'Sierra Lakes County Water District'
Subject: RE: Placer LAFCO Special District Voting Member

Thanks, Sean.

I'm happy to meet with you, your Boards, whatever you propose! I'm anxious to get the full voting member position so I can take action and make sure Special Districts are well represented. I appreciate your consideration.

Thanks.....Judy

Judy Friedman
The Paper Trail Secretarial & Business Solutions
530-581-5692

From: Sean Barclay <sbarclay@tcpud.org>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2025 9:56 AM
To: Steve Palmer <spalmer@dspud.com>; Sierra Lakes County Water District <slorance@slc wd.org>
Cc: Judy Friedman - TCPUD (judy@taoepapertrail.com) <judy@taoepapertrail.com>
Subject: Placer LAFCO Special District Voting Member

Hi Steve and Shauna,

Hope this email finds you well. I want to make an introduction to Judy Friedman, TCPUD Board President and candidate for the Placer LAFCO Special District voting seat. Director Friedman has been serving as the Special District Alternate member since early 2024 and has filled the vacancy of the voting member since Rick Stephens resigned. She is committed to continuing to serve our local special districts and Eastern Placer County in this important role. The "voting member" seat will allow Director Friedman to vote, whereas the alternate seat does not allow for a vote, unless the "regular" member is not present. I've attached Director Friedman's candidate statement, as well as the Placer LAFCO Ballot and the letter from the Placer LAFCO with voting instructions.

We'd appreciate your vote for Director Friedman, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, or you can contact Judy directly (cc'd on this email).

Sincerely,

Sean Barclay, CSDM
General Manager
Tahoe City Public Utility District
530.580.6051 Direct
530.583.3796 Main Office ext. 351
www.tcpud.org